

Charter Township of Ypsilanti

Resolution No. 2013-25

Requesting Charter Township of Ypsilanti Membership In the Ann Arbor Area Transportation Authority

WHEREAS, the Ann Arbor Area Transportation Authority (AAATA) has provided bus service to the Charter Township of Ypsilanti continuously since 1983 through annual Purchase of Service Agreements; and

WHEREAS, in 2012 The Charter Township of Ypsilanti Board of Trustees voted to participate in the formation of the PA 196 authority known as the Washtenaw Transportation Authority; and

WHEREAS, the Ann Arbor Area Transportation Authority (AAATA) in collaboration with local leaders, has developed an urban core transit plan based upon individual community needs for urban core transit services; and

WHEREAS, the Charter Township of Ypsilanti has participated in many public meetings with other urban municipal leaders and residents to create a plan for expanded transportation services within the urban core of Washtenaw County; and

WHEREAS, the Charter Township Board of Trustees directed the Township Supervisor, Clerk and Treasurer to continue discussions with AATA to find a solution to Countywide Transportation issues at the November 26, 2012 Ypsilanti Township Board meeting; and

WHEREAS, the Ann Arbor Area Transportation Authority (AAATA) held many meetings with public, business and education leaders, attended community events, presented at public meetings across Washtenaw County, including several meetings with the Charter Township of Ypsilanti residents to create a Five-Year Transit program; and

WHEREAS, the Charter Township of Ypsilanti residents, expressed interest in expanded transit services through public meeting input, emails, and postcards; and

WHEREAS, bus service in the Charter Township of Ypsilanti can be improved to more efficiently meet the transportation needs of Township residents by increasing frequency and hours of current operations, as demonstrated by a 30 percent ridership increase on AATA Route 4 and further expanded urban core bus service improvements such as an additional route to service the Ypsilanti District Library and residents in the southern part of Ypsilanti Township, increased frequency and hours on routes in the north, west and east parts of Ypsilanti Township, a new Park and Ride lot and the institution of Ypsilanti Township-wide Dial-a-Ride Service for all Ypsilanti Township seniors and disabled are needed and identified as a part of the future Urban Core transit expansion plan; and

WHEREAS, the Charter Township of Ypsilanti wishes to join AAATA in return for continuing to contribute general fund dollars equal to the cost of providing services represented by Purchase-of-Service Agreement costs to AAATA; and

WHEREAS, AAATA is a transit authority formed by the City of Ann Arbor under the State of Michigan Public Act 55 of 1963 and PA 55 specifies a procedure for political subdivisions like the Charter Township of Ypsilanti to join AAATA; and

WHEREAS, expanding the AAATA to include the Charter Township of Ypsilanti will strengthen the authority and provide opportunities to improve bus service in the most cost effective method in Ypsilanti Township in addition to the City of Ann Arbor and City of Ypsilanti; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Charter Township of Ypsilanti Board of Trustees requests membership in the Ann Arbor Area Transportation Authority in accordance with the State of Michigan Public Act 55 of 1963 and asks the AAATA Board of Directors to approve the request.