

**For Immediate Release**

## **News Release**

Northwest Indiana public transit riders can plan, pay and navigate journeys, all from easy to use phone app.

Gary, IN...(June 2021) Gary Public Transportation Corporation is giving public transit users new mobile ticketing platform options for trip planning, easy payments and connections. Starting today, riders can plan, track, purchase and validate transit tickets, all from within the Moovit app. The trip planning app will also give access to other local transit routes, so riders can seamlessly plan and pay for a single bus trip, transfers and trips made through multiple transit agencies.

Once a rider launches the app, inputs their destination and selects their transportation route, the mobile ticketing platform will display the total cost of the trip, enable in-app ticket purchasing and provide a unique QR code for ticket validation on the rider's phone. Moovit's free iOS, Android and Web app combines official information from transit agencies as well as crowdsourced information to calculate the best route for each journey with urban mobility options. Multimodal journey planning, coupled with mobile ticketing, will enable riders to easily plan, pay, and ride on Gary Public Transportation Corporation, The South Shore Line, East Chicago Transit, Chicago-area transit and beyond.

"GPTC's new trip planning functions are possible by work done by TransLoc, which was hired by both GPTC and East Chicago Transit to upload schedule information to companies like Moovit, the Transit App and Google Transit," says David Wright, planning and marketing manager for Gary Public Transportation Corporation.

Mobile ticketing offers a significant benefit in keeping both passengers and transit agency employees safe. By providing contactless fare payment that can be visually inspected or scanned at validation units, public transportation riders, and transit agency employees, no longer need to handle cash, cards or interact with ticketing infrastructure, enabling them to maintain social distancing.

The interactive app also provides users real-time arrival information so they know exactly when their bus or train is arriving, a live directions feature with get-off alerts to provide step-by-step guidance for the entire journey and service alerts so they can avoid disruptions on usual lines and plan their journey accordingly.

GPTC is launching trip planning ability on its website at: [www.gptcbus.com/trip-planner](http://www.gptcbus.com/trip-planner). This page allows riders to plan trips and review stops for each of GPTC's transit routes—as well as routes from nearby agencies. From the website, riders will be able to click on destinations on the map and get multiple route options for making their trip.

To empower people across the disability spectrum to use public transportation with more assurance, the app also incorporates accessibility features. The Moovit app is optimized with screen reading features for low vision users, including talkback/voiceover capabilities, identifies wheelchair-accessible routes and stations and calculates step-free routes. Moovit's app is also designed with optimized menus and buttons for those with hand-motor disabilities.

"This partnership exemplifies the kind of collaboration that GPTC has been so effective at facilitating," said Teresa Torres, director of Everybody Counts. "So many people in our community will benefit by the ability to more effectively utilize public transportation."

The Moovit app is available for download from the App Store or Google Play. Please visit [www.garytransit.com](http://www.garytransit.com) for more information.

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### **Gary Public Transportation Corporation**

GPTC provides fixed-route transit in Gary and other communities in Northwest Indiana. GPTC also provides complementary curb-to-curb paratransit service to those who are, due to a disability, unable to use its fixed-route service. Follow GPTC on Twitter (@GaryTransit) and on Facebook (keyword "GaryTransit") for service alerts and announcements. Call 219.884.6100 x 0 or message the GaryTransit Facebook page for any questions.