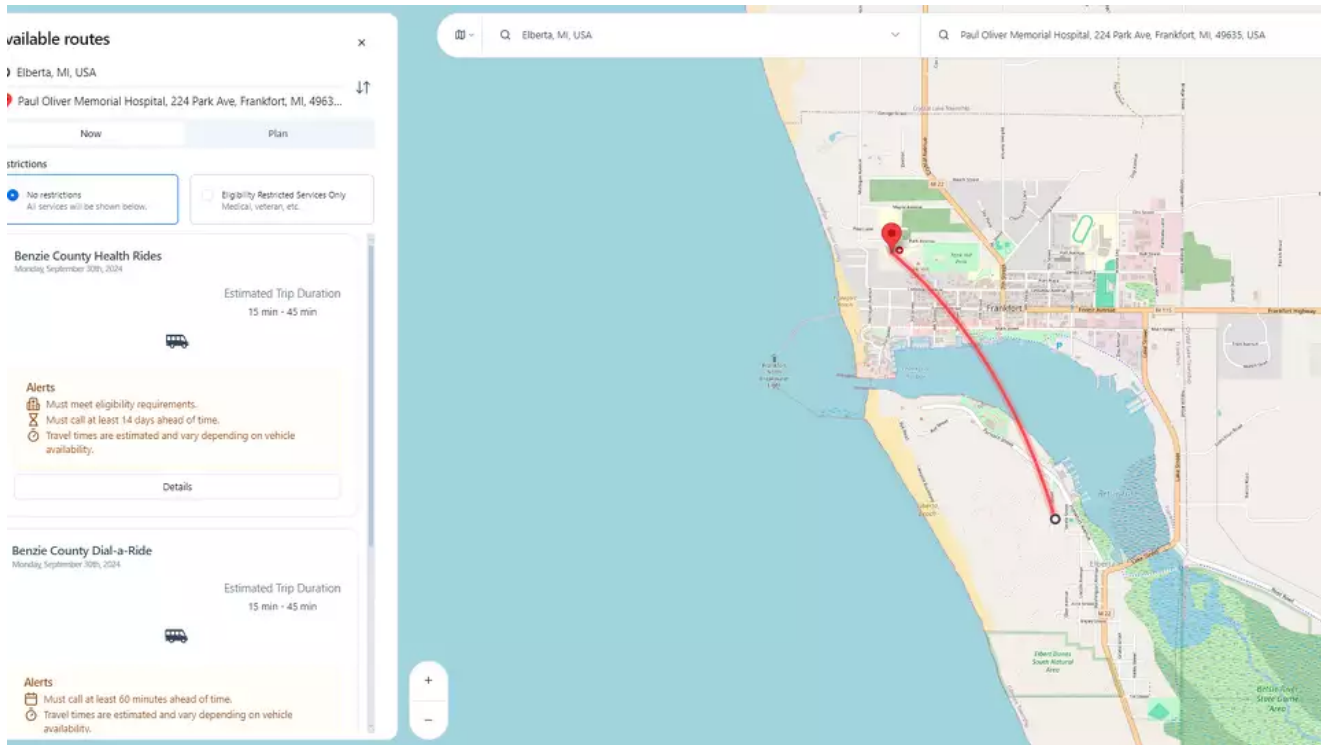


Benzie Bus launches new online trip-planning tool

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Record Patriot Staff

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Benzie Bus is launching a new online trip-planning tool to enhance rural transit access, as part of the Advancing Rural Mobility pilot project.
Submitted photo/Jessica Carland, Benzie Bus

Benzie Bus has launched a new online [trip-planning tool](#) as part of the [Advancing Rural Mobility pilot project](#). This initiative, funded through a United States Department of Transportation [Smart grant](#), aims to improve transportation access and efficiency for riders across rural Michigan.

Benzie Bus is one of four public transit agencies participating in this project, alongside Charlevoix County Transit, Roscommon County Transportation Authority and WexExpress.

The new trip planner tool is designed to enhance the user experience by simplifying the process of navigating transportation options, increasing awareness of Benzie Bus services, and facilitating seamless connections with other transit providers.

Users can enter their starting location and destination, along with desired departure or arrival times, to receive personalized route options.

For example, if a person needs to get from Elberta to Paul Oliver Memorial Hospital in Frankfort, they would enter a starting point, destination, and desired departure or arrival time.

The tool generates a list of available transit services, including bus routes and schedules, allowing users to choose the most suitable travel option.

Additionally, the trip planner offers real-time updates on transit services, ensuring users stay informed about any delays or schedule changes.

The tool allows users to access information on routes, schedules and connections. Additional information is available online at mitripplanner.org/help.

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