



**AGENDA**  
CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN  
MERIDIAN TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION  
November 21, 2019

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1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER
2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA
3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES
  - A. August 22, 2019
4. PUBLIC REMARKS
5. COMMUNICATIONS
  - A. Received and on file
    - Commissioner Hudson – Public transportation
6. APPROVAL OF 2020 SCHEDULE
7. PRESENTATION
  - A. Capital Area Transportation Authority (CATA)
8. COMMISSION DISCUSSION
  - A. Items for 2020
9. NEXT MEETING DATES
  - A. January 23, 2020 Central Fire Station Community Room
  - B. Township Board Meeting December 3, 2019
10. ADJOURNMENT

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Individuals with disabilities requiring auxiliary aids or services should contact Director of Community Planning and Development Mark Kieselbach, 5151 Marsh Road, Okemos, MI 48864 or 517.853.4506 - Ten Day Notice is Required.  
Meeting Location: 5000 Okemos Road, Okemos, MI 48864 Central Fire St.

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# DRAFT

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN  
MERIDIAN TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION (MTC)  
MEETING MINUTES OF AUGUST 22, 2019

PRESENT: Chair Hackbarth (6:15 p.m.), Vice-Chair Vagnozzi, Commissioners Deschaine (6:35 p.m.), Potter, Lovell and Kolbasa.

ABSENT: Commissioner Hudson.

STAFF: Derek Perry, Director of Public Works and Engineering, Ken Plaga, Chief of Police, Jerry Richards, Planning Commission Representative and Mark Kieselbach, Director of Community Planning and Development.

OTHER: Kelly Jones, Director of Engineering, Ingham County Road Department (ICRD), Will Randle, True North Development and Genti Hegimi, HRC

## 1. Call Meeting to Order

Vice-Chair Vagnozzi called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m.

## 2. Approval of Agenda

Commissioner Potter moved to approve the agenda.

Seconded by Commissioner Kolbasa.

VOICE VOTE: Motion carried unanimously.

## 3. Approval of Minutes

Commissioner Lovell moved to approve the minutes of June 27, 2019 as written.

Seconded by Vice-Chair Potter.

VOICE VOTE: Motion carried unanimously.

## 4. Public Remarks

None

## 5. Communications

None

## 6. Commission Discussion

### A. Okemos Road bridge replacement.

Kelly Jones outlined the changes to the bridge design since the last Transportation Commission meeting. The new design is being called the "Preferred Alternative". The Preferred Alternative includes:

- Removal of both existing bridges.
- Construction of a single five-lane bridge.
- Center turn lane to serve the park entrances.
- Eight foot wide north bound sidewalk on bridge deck.
- Preservation of green space in the median north and south of the new bridge.
- Eliminate need to purchase additional right-of-way on east side of Okemos Road.
- Could allow a pedestrian pathway to be constructed under the bridge to connect Wonch and Ferguson Parks.
- Estimated construction cost of \$5.7 million and is within the ICRD budget.

Commissioner Potter moved the Transportation Commission recommend the Township Board support the Preferred Alternative design.

Seconded by Vice-Chair Vagnozzi.

VOICE VOTE: motion carried unanimously

#### B. Bike lanes – Village of Okemos

The Village of Okemos developer Will Randle updated the Commission on the status of the project. He stated due to the existing width of the right-of-way on Okemos Road bike lanes could not be provided. Instead an eight foot wide sidewalk will be installed on both sides of Okemos Road. The sidewalk could be used by pedestrians and bicycles. The transmission line is proposed to be buried so there will not be utility poles in the sidewalk. They are also proposing to install a boardwalk from Liverance Street south to Wonch Park.

#### C. Okemos / Hamilton intersection truck-turning.

Kelly Jones stated the ICRD would like the Township to amend its Truck Route ordinance for Hamilton Road from Okemos Road to the roundabout at Marsh Road.

- With the proposed improvements to the Okemos / Hamilton intersection a semi-truck could not make a right turn from northbound Okemos Road to eastbound Hamilton Road without encroaching into the westbound lane of Hamilton Road.
- Currently Hamilton Road east of Okemos Road has two eastbound lanes and two west bound lanes.
- The proposed design would have one eastbound lane and three westbound lanes to allow for dual left turns at the intersection.
- Additional road right-of-way would be needed at the southeast corner of the intersection to allow a semi-truck to make a right turn.
- ICRD recommendation would prohibit trucks on eastbound Hamilton Road from Okemos Road to the roundabout at March Road.
- Trucks could still use westbound Hamilton Road from the roundabout at Marsh Road to Okemos Road.

Commissioner Lovell moved the Transportation Commission support the recommendation from the ICRD and recommend the Township Board amend the Township Truck Route ordinance to prohibit trucks on eastbound Hamilton Road from Okemos Road to the roundabout at Marsh Road. Seconded by Vice-Chair Vagnozzi.

VOICE VOTE: motion carried unanimously

#### 7. Commission Comments

Commissioner Deschaine updated the Commission on the recently approved Redi-Ride millage. Due to the ballot language CATA has agreed to have the payments start in 2021.

Director Perry stated with the approval of the Local Road millage the Township will be moving forward on the bond. He also was working on the plan for the road improvements.

Commissioner Potter stated he had attended the Corridor Improvement Authority (CIA) meeting. The CIA was discussing the type of improvements they would like to see along Grand River Avenue. Commissioner Potter recommended the Transportation Commission should schedule a meeting with staff from Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) to discuss MDOT's plans for the repairs and improvements in 2023 to Grand River Avenue.

Chair Hackbarth mentioned that the Commission at its November meeting would be discussing the items they would like to address in 2020.

#### 8. Next Meeting Dates

Transportation Commission's next meeting is October 24, 2019 at the Central Fire Station Community Room. The Township Board's next meeting is September 3, 2019.

#### 9. Adjournment

Chair Hackbarth moved to adjourn the meeting.

Seconded by Commissioner Deschaine.

VOICE VOTE: Motion carried unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 7:24 p.m.

**Mark Kieselbach**

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**From:** Karla Hudson <hudson.kc@live.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 29, 2019 10:57 AM  
**To:** Mark Kieselbach  
**Subject:** Info for the next transportation packet

Hello all,

I continue to carry the banner for improved and innovative ideas in public transportation that are efficient and cost the tax payer less. So again I share with you a new transportation option with AAATA. This type of forward thinking gives individuals more flexibility in planning out their day when using public transportation. I really encourage township manager and supervisor to discuss these concepts with CATA during CATA regular updates to township staff and

board members. As much as some in this township do not want to recognize these innovative ideas they are happening and to ignore them is at the detriment to both the user of transportation services and the tax payers of the township. Please begin researching these kind of transit options that give individuals more options and flexibility in their community transportation service. Actually making some of these changes to Redi-ride as a pilot in our township could put us on the map for a new creative transit option in Ingham County. Let us not just “kick the can” down the road until the next millage.

Karla Hudson

# AAATA replaces two Pittsfield Township bus routes with on-demand rideshare service

SHARE     



A FlexRide van.MODE



Among several adjustments to its fall service schedule, the [Ann Arbor Area Transportation Authority](#) (AAATA) has changed two of its traditional bus routes to an on-demand shared-ride service similar to Uber and Lyft.

Route 61 (Airport-Avis Farms) and Route 67 (Platt-Michigan Ave.) in Pittsfield Township both changed from traditional routes to AAATA's [FlexRide](#) service as of Aug. 25. The FlexRide ridesharing service is designed to provide public transportation where traditional routes may be underutilized.

"It's basically an easy and effective way to connect people to our fixed routes and to get them to wherever they need to go," says Samantha Potter, AAATA's marketing and communications coordinator.

The new FlexRide routes will provide passengers connections to routes 5, 6, and 66 at Meijer's Carpenter Road location and Route 6 at Costco.

Public input was taken into account before the changes were set in motion.

"When deciding what to do with any of our routes, we look at a variety of factors. Primarily, we determine what ridership is looking like and how a route is being used during peak times," Potter says.

Potter says FlexRide service has seen steady growth in Ypsilanti Township, where it launched in the fall of 2017.

"We anticipate the Pittsfield Township service will also be very well received," she says.

Part of the service's success lies in the fact that it's quick and simple to use. Costing only \$1 each way, with a reduced fare option for those who qualify, it's also economical.

All users require a reservation (advance or same-day). AAATA recommends making a reservation at least 45 minutes before a pickup is needed, although it often takes less time for a vehicle to arrive.

A FlexRide vehicle can be booked through the MODE Car app, by calling (734) 794-0377, or by visiting [myflexride.org](http://myflexride.org) for details. A complete list of all recent AAATA changes can be found in the Ride Guide, at (734) 996-0400, and on [TheRide.org](http://TheRide.org).

**Jaishree Drepaul-Bruder is a freelance writer and editor currently based in Ann Arbor. She can be reached at**

**Meridian Transportation Commission Meeting Dates  
2020 Schedule**

**RESOLUTION**

At a regular meeting of the Meridian Transportation Commission of the Charter Township of Meridian, Ingham County, Michigan, held at the Central Fire Station, in said Township on the 21st day of November, 2019 at 6:00p.m., Local Time.

PRESENT: \_\_\_\_\_

ABSENT: \_\_\_\_\_

The following resolution was offered by \_\_\_\_\_ and supported by \_\_\_\_\_.

WHEREAS, Public Act 267 of the Public Acts of 1976 requires the publication of the meeting schedule of every municipal board at least once a year; and

WHEREAS, the Meridian Transportation Commission (MTC) desires to announce the time, date, and place of all regular meetings of the MTC, pursuant to the provisions of Act 267 of the Public Act of 1976.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MERIDIAN TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN, INGHAM COUNTY, MICHIGAN as follows:

1. The Meridian Transportation Commission will meet for regular meetings on certain Thursdays, in 2020 in the Community Room of the Central Fire Station, 5000 Okemos Road, Okemos, MI 48864.

2. The specific dates for meetings are as follows:

January	23
February	20
March	19
May	21
June	25
August	20
October	22
November	19

3. Meetings will begin at approximately 6:00 p.m.

**Meridian Transportation Commission Meeting Dates  
2020 Schedule  
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4. Special meetings of the Meridian Transportation Commission may be called pursuant to the applicable statute.
5. Regular meetings may be canceled, recessed, or postponed by members of the Meridian Transportation Commission pursuant to the applicable statute.
6. A summary of this resolution stating date, place, and time shall be posted in the Meridian Municipal Building within ten (10) days after the first regularly scheduled meeting of the year in accordance with MCL 15.265.

ADOPTED: YEAS: \_\_\_\_\_

NAYS: \_\_\_\_\_

STATE OF MICHIGAN )

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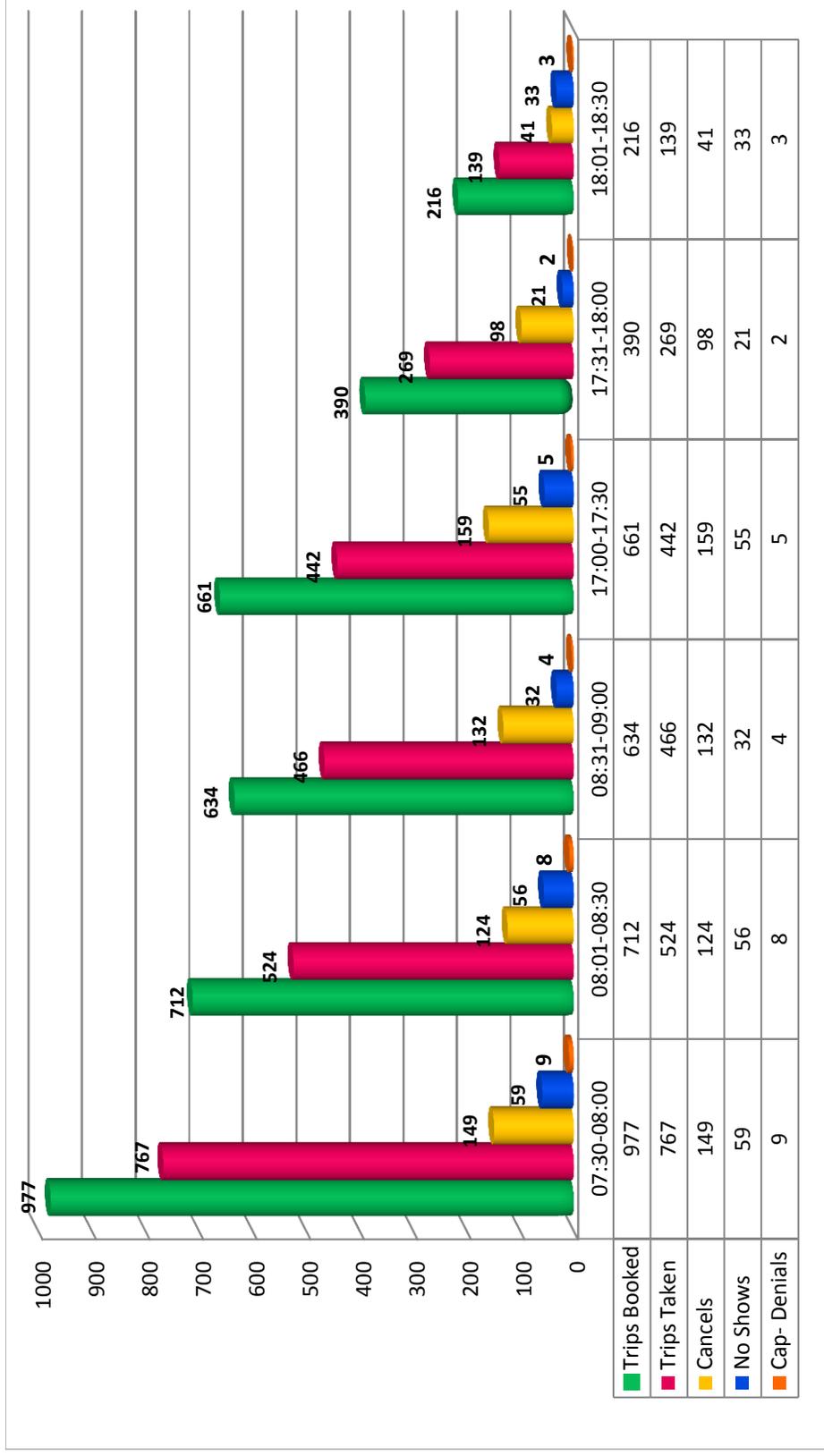
COUNTY OF INGHAM )

I, the undersigned, the duly qualified Chairperson of the Meridian Transportation Commission of the Charter Township of Meridian, Ingham County, Michigan, DO HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing is a true and complete copy of a resolution adopted at a regular meeting of the Meridian Transportation Commission held on the 21st day of November, 2019.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chris Hackbarth  
Meridian Transportation Commission Chairperson

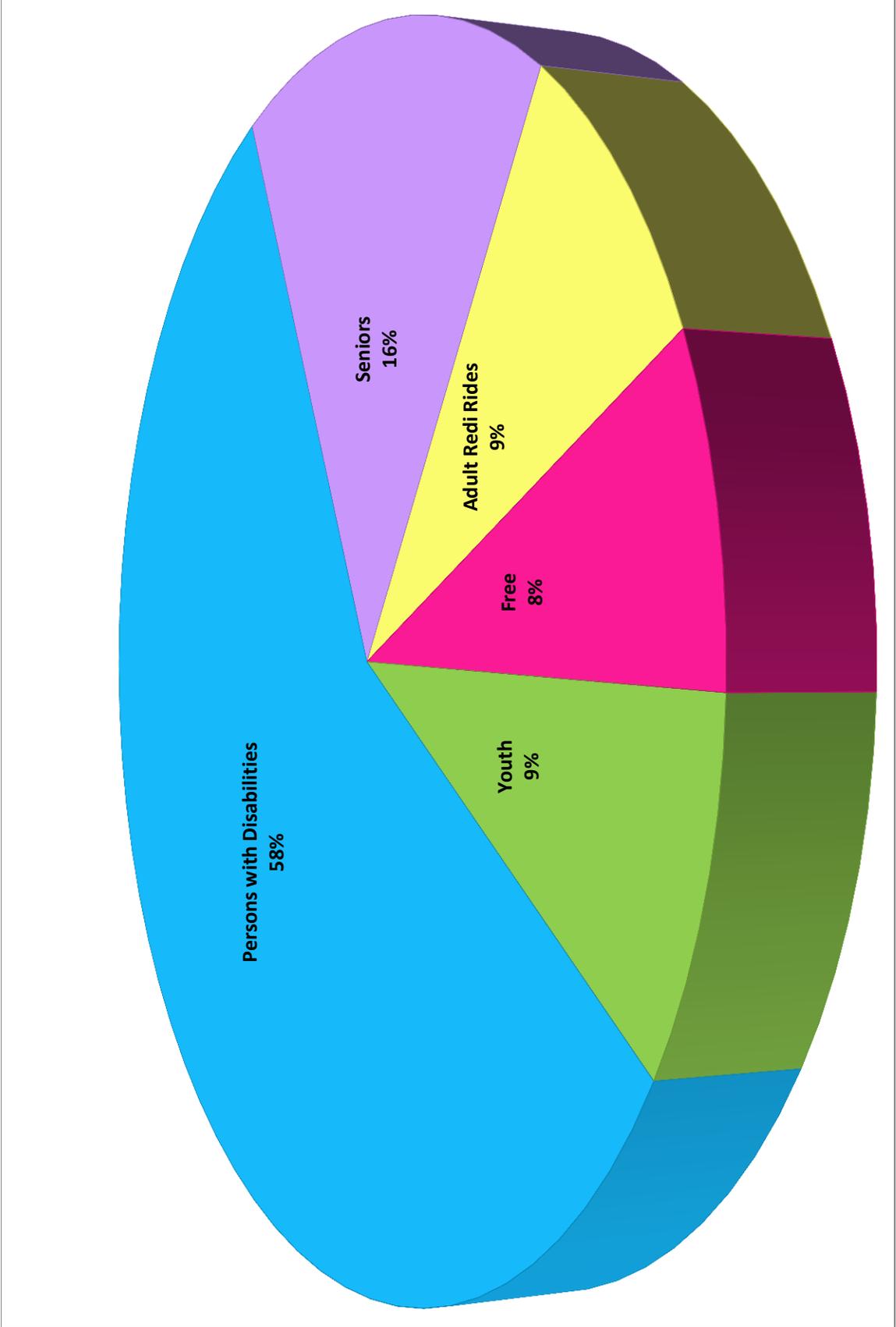


# Meridian Redi-Ride extended hours ridership August 27, 2018 – September 30, 2019



Meridian Redi-Ride ridership in half hour increments includes trips booked, trips taken, cancels, no-shows and capacity denials

**Meridian Redi-Ride by type. August 27, 2018 – September 30, 2019**



*August 27, 2018 through September 30, 2019*

Meridian Redi Ride Ridership August 27, 2018 through September 30, 2019

Time	Trips Booked	Take	Cancel	No-Shows	Cap-Denials	Refusals
14:00-15:00	3217	2413	612	178	14	2
15:01-16:00	3234	2394	555	242	37	5
<b>Total</b>	<b>6451</b>	<b>4807</b>	<b>1167</b>	<b>420</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>7</b>

Daily average of 32 students were picked up on Meridian Redi-Ride during this time period.

Meridian Redi-Ride Student Ridership Extended Hours Aug 18 - Sep 19

Time	Trips Booked	Taken	Cancels	No-Shows	Cap-Denials	Refusals
7:30 - 8:00	669	550	65	45	7	1
8:01 - 9:00	359	235	79	41	4	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>1028</b>	<b>785</b>	<b>144</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>2</b>

Meridian Redi-Ride School Trips Taken August 2018 - September 2019

<b><u>School</u></b>	<b><u>Trips Taken</u></b>
Kinawa Middle	1166
Okemos HS	816
Hiawatha Elem	777
Chippewa Middle	757
Central Elem/ Public Montessori	500
Edgewood	174
Cornell	152
St Martha's	79
Wilkshire	58
Ralya	55
Haslett HS	12
Murphy	3
Bennett Woods	1
Haslett Middle	0
TOTAL	4550

## **Meridian Redi-Ride Extended Locations Ridership**

August 2018 through September 2019

<b><u>Location</u></b>	<b><u>Drop Offs</u></b>	<b><u>Pick Ups</u></b>	<b><u>Total</u></b>
College Fields	10	10	20
EL Aquatic Cntr	0	0	0
Costco	5	3	8
MSU Clinical	72	68	140
Meijer Bath	390	386	776

**Meridian Redi-Ride Ridership August 2018 through September 2019**

<u>Time</u>	<u>Disabled</u>	<u>Youth</u>	<u>Seniors</u>	<u>Adults</u>	<u>Free</u>
14:00-15:00	1168	1077	250	131	15
15:01-16:00	1001	1760	166	158	7
<b>Total</b>	2169	2837	416	289	22

Meridian Redi-Rider Ridership - Actual Rides Taken  
August 2018 - September 2019

<u>Month</u>	<u>Number of Rides</u>
August, 2018	1483
September, 2018	1585
October, 2018	1904
November, 2018	1717
December, 2018	1512
January, 2019	1597
February, 2019	1631
March, 2019	1785
April, 2019	1648
May, 2019	1820
June, 2019	1411
July, 2019	1378
August, 2019	1377
September, 2019	1616
TOTAL	22,464