

Monday, Aug. 22, 2016 | 10:23 a.m.

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Posted: 8:00 a.m. Sunday, Aug. 21, 2016



Job fair to help Butler County employees learn bus route, find job

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By Eric Schwartzberg

Staff Writer

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BUTLER COUNTY — A job fair later this month aims to help people find jobs that are accessible via public transit, especially a new route that serves a job-dense area with many open positions.

A Transit Job Fair on Aug. 29 is designed to help local residents learn how to ride Butler County Regional Transit Authority buses and find out about jobs available along BCRTA's new route, the R6-Job Connector.

"The goal of this is really to connect people who don't really have reliable transportation with jobs that are unfilled," Dutkevicz said. "There's lots of employers in the Hamilton-Fairfield area that are having some trouble filling some positions.

"Obviously, we want to drive ridership, but we (also) want all the stakeholders to see a value in the money that they've invested in transit and we want to connect our community to good-paying jobs."

Introduced this spring, the R-6 route runs from downtown Hamilton's Market Street Hub to Tri-County Mall, with 18 stops in between.

Employers signed up for the Transit Job Fair include ThyssenKrupp Bilstein, StarTek, Barclaycard, FinPan, Vinylmax, Interstate Warehousing and more.

"This is kind of a weird, unique model," Dutkevicz said, "that we're putting the job seekers and agencies who connect people with jobs on the bus and we're going to take them and show them how to ride the bus and show them the route and then we're going to allow the employers to jump on and kind of give an elevator pitch at the different bus stops about the jobs that they have open and available," Dutkevicz said.

Also during the job fair, representatives from OhioMeansJobs Butler County, Community Behavioral Services and Supports to Encourage Low-income Families will provide information to job seekers on interview etiquette, dressing for interviews and more.

Once the bus returns to the job fair, participants may walk across the street from the Market Street Hub and complete online applications at the Lane Tech Center.

BCRTA also is adding an incentive to attend the Transit Job Fair: a free lunch and a free 30-day bus pass to ensure participants get started on the job without any transportation issues.

Finding employees has become a challenge for many employers, Dutkevicz said.

"The thing we hear all the time is getting people to pass background checks, drug tests and then transportation," he said. "So it's right at the top of the list."

BCRTA formerly had a job shuttle that could be accessed via an advance phone call. While the program was successful, it was ultimately canceled after federal funding was removed, Dutkevicz said.

IF YOU GO

WHAT: Transit Job Fair will help local residents learn how to ride Butler County Regional Transit Authority buses and find out about jobs available along BCRTA's new route, the R6-Job Connector.

WHEN: 10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Aug. 29

WHERE: Starts at Market Street Station between North Second and North Third streets in downtown Hamilton.

MORE INFO: Call 513-785-5237, email @butlercountyrta.com

REGISTER: Online at www.butlercountyrta.com/jobfair. Registration isn't required, but participants that do register will receive a free lunch and bus pass at the end of the day.

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Also, let us know if you land that job!

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