

# Your Guide to Public Transportation in Passaic County



**NJTIP @ Rutgers**  
*Expanding Mobility  
for People with Disabilities and Seniors*

## Introduction

### Your Guide to Public Transportation

New Jersey, and Passaic County in particular, enjoys the benefits of an excellent public transportation system. NJTIP @ Rutgers has developed Passaic County: Your Guide to Public Transportation to help older adults in Passaic County understand available local transportation resources.

Public transportation is a safe and economical way to visit family and friends and to travel to stores, doctors' offices, restaurants, and many other destinations.

Public transportation helps people to be independent. Transit riders can make travel decisions without having to rely on others.

For those who drive, using public transportation may be a way to save money, utilize travel time better or serve as a mobility alternative.

# RUTGERS

Edward J. Bloustein School  
of Planning and Public Policy

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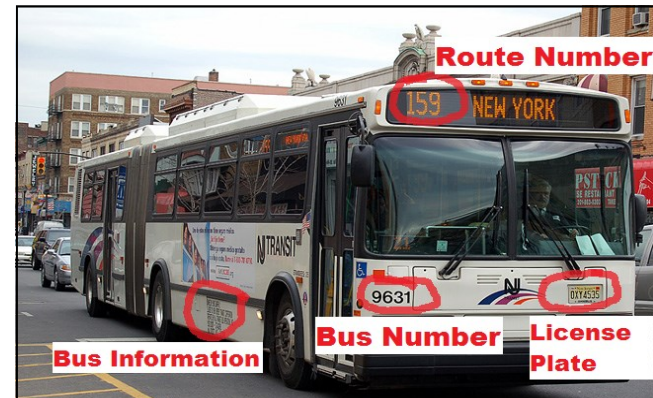
**Local Bus Service in Passaic County**

Many local NJ TRANSIT bus routes travel through Passaic County, NJ. Many routes operate seven days a week, but schedules can vary on weekends and holidays.

All NJ TRANSIT buses are accessible:

- Buses “kneel” to lower the height of the first step.
- Buses have lifts for any riders who cannot use steps.
- Riders must ask bus operator for lift and kneeler.
- Buses have audio and visual alerts for routes, destinations, and upcoming stops.
- There is priority seating for seniors and people with disabilities in front by the door and bus operator.

Passengers must ask the bus operator (driver) to kneel the bus or to use the lift.



Refer to [njtransit.com](http://njtransit.com) or call 973-275-5555

## NJ TRANSIT Reduced Fare Program

Individuals age 62 and over as well as people with disabilities can save at least 50% on NJ TRANSIT by using the Reduced Fare Program.

<i>NJ TRANSIT Local Bus Fares</i>			
	1 Zone	2 Zones	Transfer
Full Fare	\$1.60	\$2.55	\$0.75
Reduced	\$0.75	\$1.10	\$0.35

To receive the reduced fare there are two options:

- Show the bus operator or train conductor an ID that is proof of your age (driver’s license or Medicare card) and ask for “the reduced fare”
- You may also apply for a Reduced Fare ID Card by calling NJ TRANSIT at (973) 491-7112

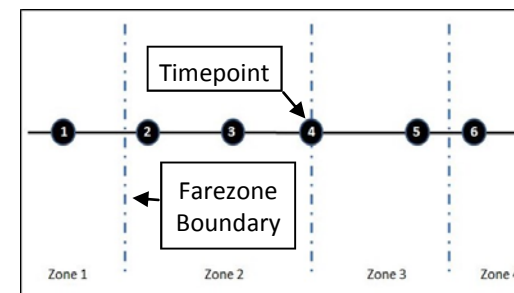


## NJ TRANSIT Bus Fares

### What are “Fare Zones”?

Your bus fare is determined by zones, which are based on the distances travelled. Zones are shown on the bus schedules with a special line and notation so you know your fare in advance. You may also call 973-275-5555 to confirm bus fares and other travel information. Bus operators will tell you your cash fare when boarding. Transfers can be purchased when travelling from one NJ TRANSIT bus to another.

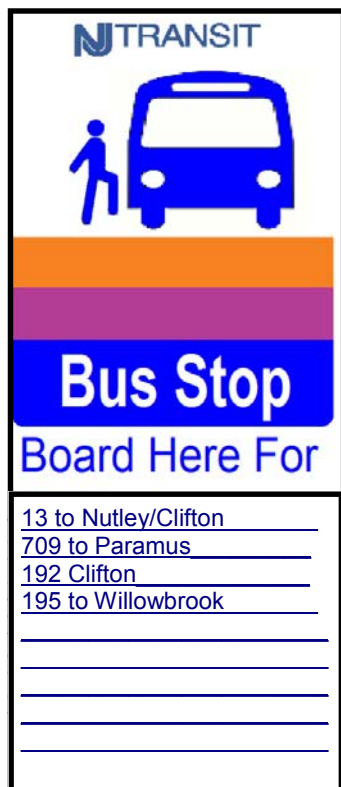
The fare zone diagram below shows round dots with numbers called “timepoints” or selected stops along the bus route. When planning a trip you begin a trip in one zone. After crossing a fare zone boundary (a dash/dot line) you pay fare for another zone. Fares and transfers are paid at the beginning of each bus ride.



On exact fare bus routes the bus operator does not carry cash and cannot make change. On full service bus routes (mostly NJ - NY commuter routes) bus operators can give change. When travelling from Port Authority tickets must be purchased in advance.

## How to ride an NJ TRANSIT Bus

- Find a local bus schedule or use njtransit.com
- Look for your local bus stop as seen to the right
- Hail the bus to board
- Request accessible features (lift, kneeling)
- Tell the operator your destination
- Ask for a transfer if needed for a second bus
- Pay your fare (Exact Fare, Full Service Lines)
- Take a receipt or a transfer
- Watch for landmarks
- Press the yellow strip or red button for your stop
- Wait for the bus to stop and then exit



### NJ TRANSIT “mybus”

The “mybus” service tells customers when the next buses are estimated to arrive at local bus stops using GPS to track bus locations. Text or call with stop ID using directions on the sign.



## Making Connections in Newark

Newark Penn Station is a major transportation hub and transfer point in downtown Newark. Newark Penn Station is served by three NJ TRANSIT Rail Lines including the Northeast Corridor, North Jersey Coast Line and the Raritan Valley Line. Connection to these lines from Passaic County is only available via transfer from bus to train.

Local bus service is provided by NJ TRANSIT and Coach USA along many bus lines at the station and a few blocks away at Broad St. and Market St. in Newark. Amtrak rail service, Greyhound, NJ TRANSIT and other bus lines also provide intercity and interstate service.

Port Authority Trans Hudson (PATH) trains also provide subway service to destinations in Hudson County, NJ and into the World Trade Center Station and by transfer to stations along the 33rd Street line. NYC’s MetroCard may be used to ride PATH Trains.

NJ Transit’s Newark Light Rail provides service between Penn Station and Broad Street Station, and on a separate line travelling through downtown Newark, terminating in Bloomfield at Grove Street Station.

Broad Street Station in Newark is served by the Montclair-Boonton and Morris & Essex Rail Lines, the Newark Light Rail and multiple bus lines, including some that serve Passaic County. Transfers are available for Hoboken, Manhattan and Secaucus Junction.

## Bus Routes to NYC from Passaic County

Many of the NJ TRANSIT bus routes in Passaic County travel to the Port Authority Bus Terminal in New York City. Only the 171 bus serves George Washington Bridge Bus Terminal. Travel time from points in Passaic County to NYC ranges from 45 minutes to 1.5 hours.

Individuals with a Reduced Fare Card are eligible for Reduced Fare on interstate buses. Fares can be paid to the bus operator in NJ. Tickets must be purchased before boarding in New York City.

### Port Authority Bus Terminal

Port Authority Bus Terminal (PABT) is an endpoint and major hub for interstate and commuter transportation to and from New York City. The station is operated by the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey (PANYNJ). It consists of two buildings between 40th and 42nd Streets between 8th and 9th Avenues in Manhattan. Connections can be made to the Subway on the 7th & 8th Avenue lines, and to MTA Bus Routes.

There are 223 departure gates in the PABT. There are now touch screens to help you navigate through the terminal to the gate for your bus. Only some gates are accessible to people with disabilities. If the bus lift is needed, an individual must alert the bus driver, contact NJ TRANSIT or dial 54 on in-station phones at PABT.

For more information go to [panynj.org](http://panynj.org) or call 212-502-2200 or 212-564-8484

## Rail Service from Passaic County

Passaic County has nine train stations that serve different areas. All stations within Passaic County are served by the NJ TRANSIT Montclair-Boonton Line and the Main Line with service into Hoboken and New York. Time to and from New York’s Penn Station is about 60 minutes. Tickets can be obtained at Ticket Vending Machines at each station or riders age 62 and older may pay on the vehicle with no surcharge. 78 of the 165 NJ TRANSIT Rail stations statewide are fully accessible.

### Accessible Features of NJ Transit Rail System

- Elevators
- Ramps
- Mini high level platforms
- Portable lifts
- Bridge plates
- Detectable warning edges on platforms
- Priority seating near doors
- On board station stop announcements

### Accessible Stations

- Montclair State Univ.
- Mountain View—Wayne
- Wayne Route 23
- Paterson

### No Level Boarding

- Hawthorne
- Passaic
- Clifton
- Delawanna
- Little Falls

**Planning & Paying for Rail Trips**

NJ TRANSIT Rail Schedules

- Rail schedules are available at train stations, and online. For station specific schedules, you can call and get trip plans and a schedule mailed to you.
- Rail schedules change frequently so planning your trip the day you plan to travel is important.

Planning NJ TRANSIT Rail Trips

- Njtransit.com has station to station schedules.
- App: The “Transit App” provides information for transit services in NJ. When opened the app can tell you what is available in the area with real time tracking.

NJ TRANSIT Rail Fares

- Rail Tickets and Passes can be purchased at ticket windows and Ticket Vending Machines or TVM’s.
- A rider can use a credit or debit card as well as cash at the TVM.
- Reduced fare and trip tickets must be purchased as two one-way tickets on the TVM.
- Riders with a reduced fare card can purchase tickets ahead of time or on the train directly from the conductor. Those without a reduced fare card will be charged \$5 extra for purchasing tickets on the train.

<b>NJ TRANSIT Rail Fares to New York</b>		
	<b>Wayne Rt 23</b>	<b>Paterson</b>
<b>Full Fare</b>	<b>\$9.75</b>	<b>\$7.75</b>
<b>Reduced</b>	<b>\$4.65</b>	<b>\$3.55</b>

**Trip Planning**

NJ TRANSIT’s “Information Center” Hotline

**Phone: 973-275-5555 Website: njtransit.com**

Customer Service operators can assist in trip planning, accessibility questions, lost & found, and filing complaints and commendations. Automated service is available 24/7 and operators are available daily from 8:30 AM to 5:00 PM.

NJ TRANSIT has several Trip Planning tools that are designed for cell phone use, which are helpful when a customer is already out and about or when something unexpected happens during a trip. These tools include “mybus”, NJ TRANSIT App and Google Maps Mobile. Local rail stations and major bus terminals carry NJ TRANSIT schedules which are also available on njtransit.com

NJ TRANSIT App

Using NJ TRANSIT’s App riders can plan trips, see schedules, DepartureVision, mybus, and contact Police or customer service. One can purchase rail tickets and bus/rail passes on a smartphone with a credit/debit card. Refer to the NJTIP @ Rutgers Tech Sheet for the most up to date information on apps and trip planning tools.

NJ Find A Ride - njfindaride.org

NJ Find A Ride is an online directory of public and accessible transportation options. The website offers a searchable database which can be used to research and plan trips between locations.



## Travel Safety Tips

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- Plan your trip in advance using a trip planner at [njtransit.com](http://njtransit.com) or [googlemaps.com/transit](http://googlemaps.com/transit)
- Plan your trip with NJ TRANSIT Customer Service by calling **973-275-5555**.
- Look at schedules online at [njtransit.com](http://njtransit.com)
- Keep copies of the schedules for the lines you use. You can order schedules from NJ TRANSIT Customer Service.
- Bring exact fare and extra change with you.
- Bring any medications you may need during a trip, your ID Card, the address of your destination, and emergency phone numbers.
- Always get to the bus or train stop early. It is better to be 15 minutes early than 15 seconds late!
- When taking the bus, sit near the bus operator, to communicate, see the road ahead, and hear any announcements.
- Keep aisles clear of bags or packages.
- Tell a friend or family member where you are going and when you plan to return.
- Never plan to take the last bus home.

## Other Options

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### Newark Liberty Airport & AirTrain

Newark Liberty Airport is located on the border of Newark and Elizabeth, NJ. Newark Liberty has three major terminals: A, B and C. AirTrain Newark provides speedy access to New Jersey Transit trains into Newark, New York City and points south via Amtrak's national rail network. A \$5 surcharge applies when connecting between the rail station and the AirTrain. Thousands of daily riders also use AirTrain Newark for free to travel between passenger terminals and to connect to parking lots and rental car areas.

NJ TRANSIT also serves the airport via the Northeast Corridor and the North Jersey Coast Line. Both lines can be accessed by travelling to Penn Station or Secaucus Junction. The monorail system known as the AirTrain provides service from the train station to the airport's terminals.

For more Newark Airport information go to [panynj.org](http://panynj.org) or call toll-free 888-EWR-INFO (397-4636).

### New York Waterway

New York Waterway provides trans-Hudson ferry service with connections available at Hoboken Terminal, Port Imperial, Exchange Place, Pavonia-Newport and other locations along the Hudson waterfront.

For information, call 1 (800) 53-FERRY

## Taxis & E-Hailing Services

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### Local Taxi Cabs

Taxi Cabs services in the Passaic County area vary by municipality.

If you feel you cannot find affordable taxi service you may want to contact your municipality to see if there are ordinances that regulate what taxis can charge within the municipality and also what companies can pickup riders in the municipality. Some municipalities have started taxi voucher programs which can help to defray the cost of a ride.

### E-Hailing Services

Many taxi and car service companies have apps for smartphones to “e-hail” a car for a ride. Other national and international companies have gotten into the e-hail business and these may be an alternative for many trips.

One drawback is that these companies have variable levels of service and you may want to check how they are supposed to work in your municipality. The two largest providers are Uber and Lyft and both require a smartphone for e-hailing and paying for a ride.

Uber, Lyft and many other apps are available for Apple iOS devices at the App Store and for Android devices on Google Play.

## Access Link

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NJ TRANSIT operates Access Link for customers with disabilities who cannot use the fixed route NJ TRANSIT bus. Some people with disabilities may be eligible for Access Link.

Access Link operates on the same days and hours as the fixed route NJ TRANSIT bus and “shadows” the local bus routes.

Access Link has special features:

- Small buses and cars provide “curb-to-curb” service.
- Appointments for trips must be made by the rider or other designee at least 24 hours in advance.
- Access Link can be used for any type of trip including but not limited to: medical, social, shopping, etc.

### The Access Link Assessment Process

- Potential riders must have an in-person transportation assessment interview.
- To arrange an assessment interview call Access Link at **800-955-2321**.
- A certification specialist will explain the assessment process over the phone.
- You may bring an advocate to help you.
- If you need transportation to the interview, Access Link will pick you up for a round-trip fare of **\$4.00**.



## County & Municipal Services

### Passaic County Para-Transit

**Phone: 973-305-5756**

Passaic County Para-Transit is a curb to curb service for senior citizens and people with disabilities residing in Passaic County. Seniors are eligible at 60 years of age.

- Call Monday—Friday 8 AM—4PM to reserve a trip.
- Please call 3-8 days in advance of your trip date.
- Trips can be one way, round trips or recurring trips.
- Trips are scheduled on a first come first served basis.
- There is no fee but a \$1 donation is requested.
- Residents of Passaic, Paterson & Clifton should call their municipal paratransit provider listed below:

Clifton	Clifton Outreach	<b>973-470-2235</b>
Paterson	Senior Services	<b>973-653-5932</b>
Passaic	Senior Affairs	<b>973-365-5754</b>

For the following municipalities please call the main line for Passaic County Para-Transit: Bloomingdale, Haledon, Hawthorne, Little Falls, North Haledon, Pompton Lakes, Prospect Park, Ringwood, Totowa, Wanaque, Wayne, West Milford, and Woodland Park.

## Transportation Management Associations

Transportation Management Associations or TMAs are non-profit organizations that work with businesses, commuters, county and local governments, and state agencies to implement programs that reduce traffic congestion and improve air quality. All the TMA's offer programs on carpooling, vanpooling, transit and more.

### EZ RIDE TMA

**Phone: 201-939-4242 Web: ezride.org**

Serves urban areas of Passaic County

### EZ RIDE Community Cars Program

**Phone: 201-939-4242 Website: ezride.org**

The Community Cars program offers seniors curb-to-curb transportation from volunteers.

- Operates: Monday - Friday, 8 AM - 4 PM.
- Schedule your ride 24 hours in advance.
- Membership is \$15 per year.
- Initial ride fee of \$2.50.
- Mileage Fees (deducted from a special account).
- \$1.00 per mile for trips within 10 miles.
- \$1.25 per mile for trips beyond 10 miles.
- No money is exchanged with drivers.
- EZ RIDE Cars are marked with a logo.

**Volunteer Drivers are always needed.**

**Please call to volunteer today!**

### TransOptions TMA

**Phone: 973-267-7600 Web: transoptions.org**

Serves suburban areas of Passaic County

## Transit Park & Rides

### Willowbrook Mall Park and Ride

Location: Outermost Parking lot between Lord & Taylor and Bloomingdale's

Phone: 973-275-5555

Time to/from NYC: 50 min—1 hr

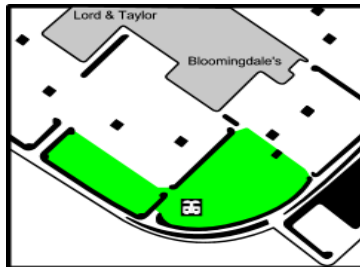
Parking: \$2 per day

One Way Fares to/from NYC:

Regular: \$8

Reduced: \$3.80 each way

**Park in green spots only!**



### Park & Rides and Terminals in Passaic County

- West Milford Park & Ride
- Ringwood Park & Ride
- Stockholm Park & Ride
- Butler Park & Ride (Meadtown SC)
- Mothers Park & Ride
- Wayne Rt 23 Transit Center
- Willowbrook Mall Park & Ride
- Allwood Park & Ride
- Clifton Commons Park & Ride
- Broadway Terminal
- Passaic Bus Terminal

## Pedestrian Safety

- Always cross at corners and intersections. Use marked crosswalks where available.
- Before crossing look left, right, then left again.
- Use pedestrian buttons and begin crossing the street on the “Walk” signal.
- Use sidewalks or walk facing traffic where there are no sidewalks.
- When crossing, always stop at curbs, scan the intersection and cross at crosswalks when possible.
- Cross when cars are a safe distance away or stopped for you and wear bright colors.
- Pay attention when crossing driveways and walking through parking lots.
- Watch out for vehicles turning right on red.
- Be visible at night and during inclement weather.
- Walk sober.
- Eliminate all distractions.

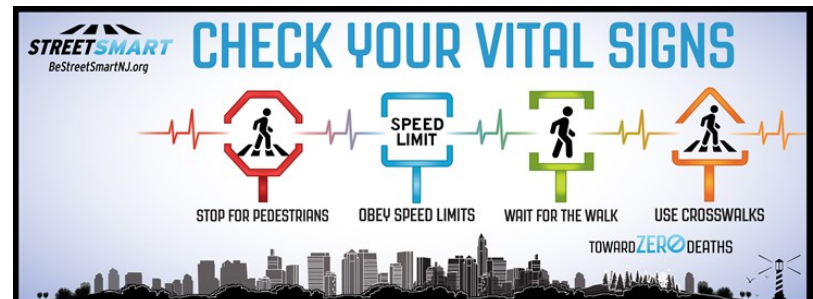


### Pedestrian Walk Signals

White Walk Signal: Look for oncoming cars

Red Flashing Signal: Do not begin to cross

Red Solid Signal: Do not cross



## Driving Safely

These programs help older adults drive safer longer.

### AARP Driver Safety Program

Driver safety courses teach you:

- Current rules of the road.
- Defensive driving techniques.
- Managing personal changes.
- For more information go to [aarp.com](http://aarp.com)

### CarFit®

Created by the American Society on Aging and developed in collaboration with AAA, AARP and AOTA.

The program is designed to help older drivers:

- Find out how well they fit their personal vehicle.
- Highlight possible improvements to fit.
- Promote conversations about safety & mobility.

For more info on driving safer longer refer to AAA's senior driving website: [SeniorDriving.AAA.com](http://SeniorDriving.AAA.com)

The site is broken down into topics such as:

- Evaluating your driving ability.
- Understanding mind & body changes.
- Improving your driving skills.
- Maintaining mobility & independence.

**Kessler Institute for Rehabilitation** is a local provider of driver rehabilitation services.

**Phone: 973-731-3900**

Drivers with special medical considerations may benefit from working with a driver rehabilitation specialist.

## Contact Information

### NJ TRANSIT

**Customer Service:** 973-275-5555

**Reduced Fare:** 973-491-7112

**Access Link:** 800-955-2321

**Passaic County Paratransit** 973-305-5756

**Clifton** Clifton Outreach 973-470-2235

**Paterson** Senior Services 973-653-5932

**Passaic** Seniors Affairs 973-365-5754

**EZ RIDE TMA** 201-939-4242

**Community Cars** 201-939-4242

**TransOptions TMA** 973-267-7600

**Port Authority Bus Terminal** 212-564-8484

**United Way NJ 211** 211

**NJ Travel Information Hotline** 511

**NJTIP @ Rutgers** 848-932-4499

## NJTIP @ RUTGERS

**Our mission** is to increase the independence and self-sufficiency of people with disabilities, older adults and others by empowering them to use the public transit system safely and independently.

### One-on-One Travel Instruction

Each customer is paired with a travel instructor and the instructor teaches travel skills by riding on the bus or train with the customer until the customer is ready to travel independently.

### Small Group/In-School Travel Instruction

Our Small Group Travel Instruction Familiarization & Orientation programs benefit senior citizens and people with disabilities who do not need one-on-one training and enjoy the camaraderie of learning in a group setting.

### Connect to Transit Seminars

NJTIP offers seminars to teach interested professionals and volunteers from social service agencies, schools and senior residences to learn about travel instruction, or to become more familiar with public transportation.

Please contact us with any questions.

**Phone: (848) 932-4499**

**Email: [njtip\\_info@njtip.rutgers.edu](mailto:njtip_info@njtip.rutgers.edu)**

**Website: [njtip.rutgers.edu](http://njtip.rutgers.edu)**

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