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# NEWS RELEASE

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## **Local Youth Step Up to Keep Ypsilanti Transit Center Clean**

*Ozone House participants join Adopt-A-Stop partners  
to clean and maintain grounds*

**ANN ARBOR** – Today kicks off a cleaner, more vibrant future for the Ypsilanti Transit Center thanks to a community partnership with the Ozone House.

Ann Arbor Transportation Authority (TheRide) and Ozone House officials announced today that participants from its Youth Making an Impact program have adopted the transit center and will be performing weekly community service activities including tending to landscaped areas and picking up litter.

“This opportunity gives the kids in our program a chance to strengthen their connection to their community, work together for the greater good and create meaningful relationships with local organizations and community members,” says Katie Doyle, Executive Director of Ozone House. “The Ozone House’s Youth Making an Impact group is excited to offer this opportunity to local teens and share it with TheRide.”

Ozone House is a nonprofit agency that provides high-quality housing and support programs and services for runaway, homeless, and high-risk youth and their families. Its Youth Making an Impact group provides community service and activism projects for teens 18 and younger.

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More than 75 businesses, community organizations and even families have adopted more than 100 bus stops through the Adopt-A-Ride program to improve Washtenaw County's public transportation system.

"TheRide is grateful to the Ozone House and our Adopt-A-Stop partners who volunteer their time to keep our community clean and enhance the public transit experience," said Michael Ford, CEO of TheRide. "These dedicated volunteers are not only supporting TheRide, they are contributing to a more beautiful Washtenaw County."

The Adopt-A-Stop program is a partnership with local volunteers to keep areas surrounding bus stops and neighborhoods clean. During the winter, sponsors can help brush snow off a bench seat or clear snow between the bus stop and the street. In exchange for their efforts, sponsors receive a thank-you gift, one litter container installed by TheRide, an Adopt-A-Stop sticker affixed to the container recognizing their care for the bus stop, and inclusion on the list of sponsors on TheRide.org.

To volunteer or to learn more about TheRide's Adopt-A-Stop program, visit [www.TheRide.org](http://www.TheRide.org).

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*The Ann Arbor Transportation Authority (TheRide) was chartered in 1969 by the City of Ann Arbor, Michigan, as a not-for-profit unit of government. AATA operates the local public transit system for the greater Ann Arbor-Ypsilanti area, enabling the area's residents to reach their destinations at reasonable cost, and offers the region efficient, environmentally sound transportation alternatives. For more information, please visit [www.TheRide.org](http://www.TheRide.org).*

*TheRide's Board of Directors has endorsed a 30-year Transit Master Plan for Washtenaw County. Updates on the progress of the plan are available at [www.MovingYouForward.org](http://www.MovingYouForward.org).*

*E-mail and text message updates on bus routes, schedules, detours and other news from TheRide are available by free subscription to MyRide at [www.TheRide.org](http://www.TheRide.org).*

*Connect with TheRide via social media at [www.facebook.com/CatchTheRide](http://www.facebook.com/CatchTheRide) or [www.twitter.com/CatchTheRide](http://www.twitter.com/CatchTheRide).*