



## **Job Access & Reverse Commute Program**

Buses and vans soon will link more inner-city residents with employers in booming suburban counties desperately looking for workers.

The U.S. Department of Transportation awarded Greater Cincinnati more than \$784,000 to help pay for “reverse” commute bus and van routes, which can deliver Hamilton County workers to the doorstep of Warren and Butler county businesses. This is part of the Job Access and Reverse Commute Program.

Metro buses will meet Warren County Transit vans and Butler County Regional Transportation at about a half-dozen drop-off points. Those services will then deliver employees to businesses. The program is to start soon.

The Warren County, reverse-commute service – service that takes employees in Hamilton County to jobs in Warren County – would:

- Three van routes will take people to employers in southwest Mason, northeast Mason and Lebanon, near Fujitech. Provide on two routes Warren County Transit vans that would meet Metro buses near the Mason-Montgomery and Western Row Roads intersection. A third van would connect with Metro on Kings Center Drive.
- Increase Metro service, taking workers from downtown Cincinnati to Warren County, to 16 trips daily.
- Buses will run every half-hour between 6 a.m. and 9:30 a.m. and every 35 minutes between 2:30 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. Service will run seven days a week.
- Route to provide service from downtown Cincinnati, Bond Hill, Swifton and Roselawn. They are areas with high unemployment.

The money will also help Butler County as the Butler County Regional Transit Authority (BCRTA) prepares to launch buses on four fixed routes in Hamilton and a park-and-ride lot in Fairfield – May 24.

The grant will help BCRTA:

- Boost service at the Fairfield park-and-ride at the Tri-County Assembly of God in Fairfield, which later this month will take people Hamilton on an express bus or to Fairfield businesses up to three miles away via vans.
- Create a similar park-and-ride service in West Chester, with service to Hamilton and businesses within three miles. The West Chester lot will likely be at McGinnis Park in Union Township.
- Create a similar point in Sharonville new Interstate 75, where Metro would drop off employees.
- The location isn’t determined yet, but public transportation will take people to jobs within a three-mile radius. Date to be announced.