

News

*Macomb County
Board of Commissioners*



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Macomb County Hosts 2011 Southeast Michigan Regional Summit *Washtenaw & St. Clair Counties Join Summit; Topics Include Regional Collaboration and the Formation of a Regional Transit Authority*

MOUNT CLEMENS, Mich. — The Macomb County Board of Commissioners is pleased to host this year's Southeast Michigan Regional Summit from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., September 30, 2011 at the Lorenzo Cultural Center in Clinton Township and Rojo Mexican Bistro at The Mall at Partridge Creek.

Traditionally, the summit has allowed officials from Oakland, Wayne, and Macomb counties and the City of Detroit a venue to develop relationships and address common issues affecting the region. This year's summit includes first-time participants, Washtenaw and St. Clair counties, and focuses on regional collaboration and mass transit as areas of discussion and opportunity in the coming months.

A desired outcome of this year's event is to collectively support the creation of a Regional Transit Authority (RTA), and to form a work group which speaks with a unified voice to promote the issue to state legislators.

Transit officials from Denver, Colo., have also been invited to give a presentation and participate in a panel discussion on the benefits of mass transit, obstacles overcome and "lessons learned" while developing their own regional transit system. As a result of its transit system, Denver reports a \$4 return for communities on every \$1 invested in mass transit.

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Also part of the day's agenda:

- A talk on regional collaboration and Metro Detroit Youth Day from Chairman of the Michigan Food and Beverage Association, Ed Deeb
- A presentation on creative leadership and teamwork from best-selling author and public speaker, John U. Bacon
- Macomb County will also "hand-off" the event to the Detroit City Council, which will host the 2012 summit

A luncheon and informal discussion will follow the morning's presentations from 12 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. at Rojo Mexican Bistro at The Mall at Partridge Creek (17420 Hall Road) in Clinton Township.

Macomb County hosted its last summit in 2007, aboard The Ovation, with a focus on water quality. Hosting duties alternate between participants yearly, with all event costs paid for by summit sponsors. The first summit was hosted in 1998 by Wayne County, the Michigan State Fair, and the Michigan Association of Counties.

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******EDITOR'S NOTE:******

Members of the media are encouraged to attend. So that we may best accommodate, please confirm your attendance by 5 p.m. September 28, 2011 with Lisa Martino at (586) 469-5713 or Lisa.Martino@MacombCountyMI.gov