



MDOT PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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MDOT, Amtrak and Greyhound to host groundbreaking for new Pontiac Transportation Center

WHAT: The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT), Amtrak, Greyhound and the city of Pontiac will host a groundbreaking for the new Pontiac Transportation Center, which will serve both passenger rail and intercity bus passengers. The intermodal station is expected to be finished by summer 2011. Located at 51000 Woodward Ave., the facility will serve as a hub for mass transit, including Amtrak's *Wolverine* service to Chicago.

WHO: State Transportation Director Kirk T. Steudle
Thomas Carper, Amtrak Board Chairman
Pontiac Mayor Leon Jukowski
Heather Carmona, Executive Director, Woodward Avenue Action Association
State, county and local officials
Business and community representatives
Interested public

WHEN: **FRIDAY**, July 16, 2010
10 a.m.

WHERE: 51000 Woodward Ave., southbound
Pontiac

BACKGROUND: Pontiac's central location is an important asset to the community. It is at a transportation crossroads, serving passenger rail, intercity bus and local transit customers, with easy access to I-75 and M-59, and Oakland County International Airport. SMART, which serves local transit passengers in Oakland, Wayne and Macomb counties, stops within sight of the facility on Woodward Avenue.

The previous transportation center was demolished in 2008. The

new energy-efficient, fully accessible facility will be built with 100 percent state funds.

During construction, tickets must be purchased online from Amtrak or Greyhound, or from a kiosk or agent in another facility. When the new facility opens, a Greyhound ticketing agent will assist bus passengers.

Greyhound has eight daily schedules that go through Pontiac. The top five destinations of travelers from Pontiac are Chicago, Indianapolis, Saginaw, Lansing and New York. Greyhound has 160 locations throughout the state of Michigan.

As the nation's intercity passenger rail operator, Amtrak connects America in safer, greener and healthier ways. Amtrak also is the partner of choice for state-supported corridor services in 15 states, including Michigan. Amtrak has three routes in Michigan, including the *Blue Water* to East Lansing and Port Huron, the *Pere Marquette* to St. Joseph and Grand Rapids and the *Wolverine* to Detroit and Pontiac. Ridership on Amtrak services in Michigan is up over last year, with more than 300,000 passengers on the *Wolverine* so far this year.

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MDOT: Working with our partners at airports, bus systems, marine and rail to find innovative solutions for Michigan's transportation systems.