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Hudsonville mayor pushes for expanded public transportation

By Matt Vande Bunte, The Grand Rapids Press

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HUDSONVILLE -- Public transportation "will be a stimulant to future growth" in Hudsonville, Mayor Don Van Doeselaar says in a video produced by a Holland nonprofit that studied the need for bus service in eastern Ottawa County.

Disability Network Lakeshore completed a grant-funded study and posted results, along with the video, at transitmeansmore.org. Kathryn Gillen, the group's public policy specialist, said the organization now is talking with The Rapid about expanding transit services.

"We know that the need is there; we know the support is there. But what is the cost?" Gillen said. At a video screening this month, Van Doeselaar said it would be nice to bridge The Rapid's services with transit systems in Holland and Grand Haven.

"Someone could go from Grand Rapids all the way out to the lakeshore if there was some common connection in Ottawa County," he said.

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