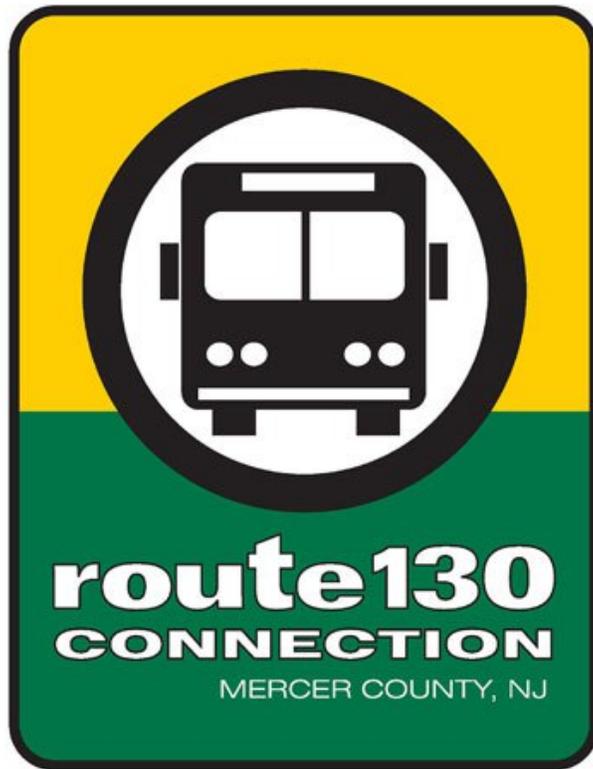


## Route 130 Connection Bus Prepares for Back to School With New Service to MCCC



### Quick Links

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for Employers](#)

[NJ Smart Workplaces](#)

[Commuter Tax  
Benefit](#)

[Commuter Rewards](#)

[Carpooling](#)

[Vanpooling](#)

[Zline](#)



On August 1, 2016, officials announced a new service to the Route 130 Connection bus line. A collaborative effort, shared by Mercer County, the college, and Greater Mercer TMA (GMTMA), the service enables Mercer County Community College students from Hightstown and East Windsor to get an inexpensive lift to the college campus in West Windsor.

“Finding ways to help students overcome barriers to college is central to college success,” said Mercer County Executive Brian M. Hughes. “Increased access to employment and educational opportunities is the purpose of realigning and expanding service for Mercer County’s Route 130 Connection bus route, and we are so pleased to partner with the college and the TMA to add additional transportation options.”

The primary routing change is new access to the Mercer County Community College (MCCC) West Windsor Campus from the East Windsor Township/Hightstown area.

"Looking at the numbers, it just made sense," said Cheryl Kastrenakes, Executive Director of TMA. "After meeting with MCCC staff and reviewing current enrollment and census data from the area, it was apparent there was a need for transportation service from the eastern part of the County and we wanted to see that gap filled."

Besides the new service to MCCC, other highlights of the new route include:

- Increasing the number of trips from two to three between Trenton and the warehouses at exit 8A, with limited stops along the way on weekdays.
- Connections to the ZLine bus that serves Matrix Business Park/Amazon at Hamilton Marketplace.
- More frequent service throughout the weekday and on Saturday. Currently, the route does not operate during the middle of the day.
- Saturday service will operate from East Windsor Township/Hightstown bus stops to Hamilton Marketplace, only. Connections to NJ TRANSIT bus routes at Hamilton Marketplace will allow passengers to travel to other locations in Mercer County. The travel time between locations is reduced from every 45 minutes to 35 minutes.

The new schedule can be found at <http://www.gmtma.org/pg-bus-merc-er.php>  
More info at [gmtma.org](http://gmtma.org).

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## Save the Date!



The graphic features a background of overlapping blue and green geometric shapes, primarily squares and rectangles, creating a dynamic, abstract pattern. In the top left corner, there is a logo for "GREATER MERCER TMA". The main text is centered and reads: "SAVE THE DATE" in large green letters, followed by "GMTMA Annual Luncheon, RideProvide 10th Anniversary and NJ Smart Workplaces Awards" in smaller green and blue text. Below this, the date and time are listed: "October 28, 2016 11:00AM - 1:00PM" and the location "Hyatt Regency Princeton". At the bottom, it says "Invitation to follow".

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## Calling for NJ Smart Workplaces Nominations

Applications are now being accepted for the 2016 New Jersey Smart Workplaces (NJSW) awards. NJSW recognizes employers who demonstrate leadership by providing and promoting quality commuter benefits to their employees, therefore reducing congestion and improving air quality. Last year eighteen private and public entities achieved recognition.

[Click here](#) for online registration. Awards will be presented at GMTMA's annual meeting in

## Back to School Safety Month

August is Back to School Safety Month and Greater Mercer TMA would like to remind everyone to safely share the road. Pay attention around school zones and near school bus stops, lookout for children that walk and bike to school. Stop and stay stopped for all pedestrians in crosswalks. Always stop when the school bus has the stop sign and the red flashing lights on when the bus is stopped for children to get on or off.

Parents should remind children:

- o to stay away from the curb while waiting for the bus
- o wear a seat belt if they ride in a car
- o remind teenagers driving themselves to school to not use their cell phone, avoid drinking or eating, or any other distractions
- o always wear a helmet if they bike to school
- o always cross the street at an intersection, in a crosswalk, or with a pedestrian signal



You can find more info [here](#).

For safety presentations and Safe Routes to School programs, please visit [www.gmtma.org](http://www.gmtma.org).

*Photo: Shutterstock/wavebreakmedia*

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## REI Princeton Receives Employer Wheels Award and Bicycle Friendly Business Recognition

On Friday July 15, 2016, representatives from Greater Mercer Transportation Management Association (GMTMA), League of American Bicyclists, and New Jersey Bike & Walk Coalition were present at REI Princeton for a celebration event. At the event, REI Princeton was recognized with two awards for their efforts to support bicycling in our community and among their employees.



GMTMA's Executive Director, Cheryl Kastrenakes presented REI Princeton the Employer Wheels Award for winning the Bike to Work Week Employer Challenge held from May 16 – May 20. The League of American Bicyclists recognized REI Princeton with the

"Bicycle Friendly Business" award for providing safe accommodations and encouraging people to bike for both transportation and recreation.

More info [available here](#).

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## NJ Walking School Bus App



Planning on how the little one are going to get to and from school is a click away. Last fall Greater Mercer TMA launched the NJ WALKING SCHOOL BUS APP to help make your planning easier. NJ Walking School Bus APP is a free app that helps to keep kids healthy, active, and safe while going back to school.

The app makes it easy for parents to find other families interested in walking, create and plan walks to and from school and assign parent leaders to walk with the children. The app is free and available for both Android and iOS. Parents can search by elementary school for existing walking groups, create walking groups and invite neighbors to join, plan walks to and from school, assign parent leaders to walk with students, group text within the app, and alert parents when students have arrived safely at school!

Available on Google Play and Apple App Store under New Jersey Walking School Bus.

More information about Walking School Bus and GMTMA @ [gmtma.org](#)

### Download the app:

iOS: <https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/new-j...>

Android: <https://play.google.com/store/apps/de...>

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## Spread the Word

Bring your questions about biking for fun and utility to a free talk at the **Princeton Whole Earth Center on Tuesday, September 20 at 7pm**. Jointly sponsored by Whole Earth Center and Greater Mercer TMA, we'll discuss the bike, clothing, traveling tips, how and where to best ride safely, and whatever other biking topics people want to talk about!

Please see the [flyer](#) for more information. To register for this free event go to [Eventbrite.com](https://www.eventbrite.com).

Hope to see you there!

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