

*COMMERCE ROAD AND
NEWTON BRIDGE ROAD
LOOP BUS ROUTE*

TSPL0ST 2026

PROJECT NO. 44

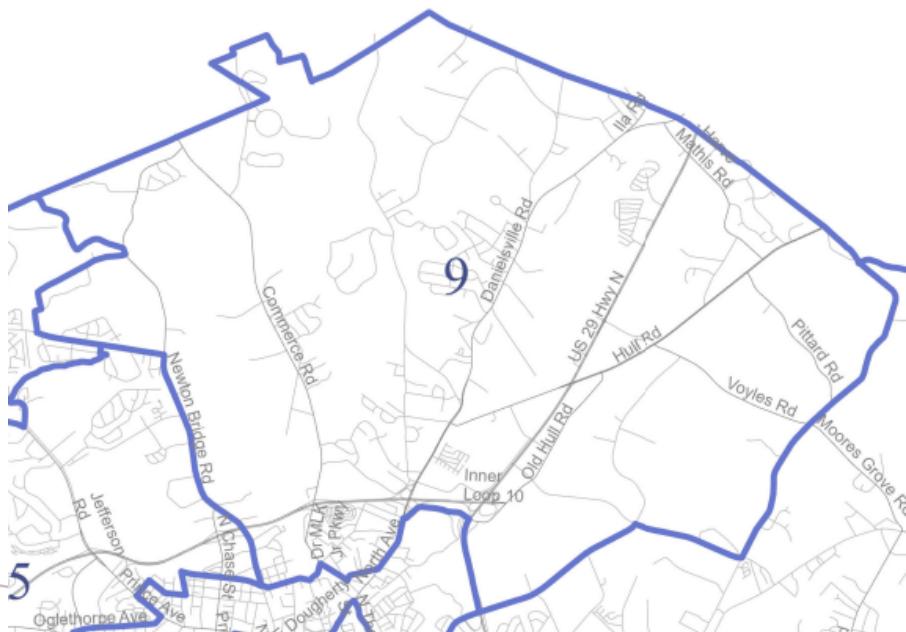
PROJECT GOALS

- The Commerce Road and Newton Bridge Road Loop Bus Route proposes an approximate 11-mile loop beginning at the Multi-Modal Center and looping along Commerce Road and Newton Bridge Road providing free transit to public parks, essential public services, growing attainable housing market, and access to vital small businesses. Including covered bus stops, crosswalks, and pedestrian improvements.



PROJECT SPONSORS

District 9 Community Members



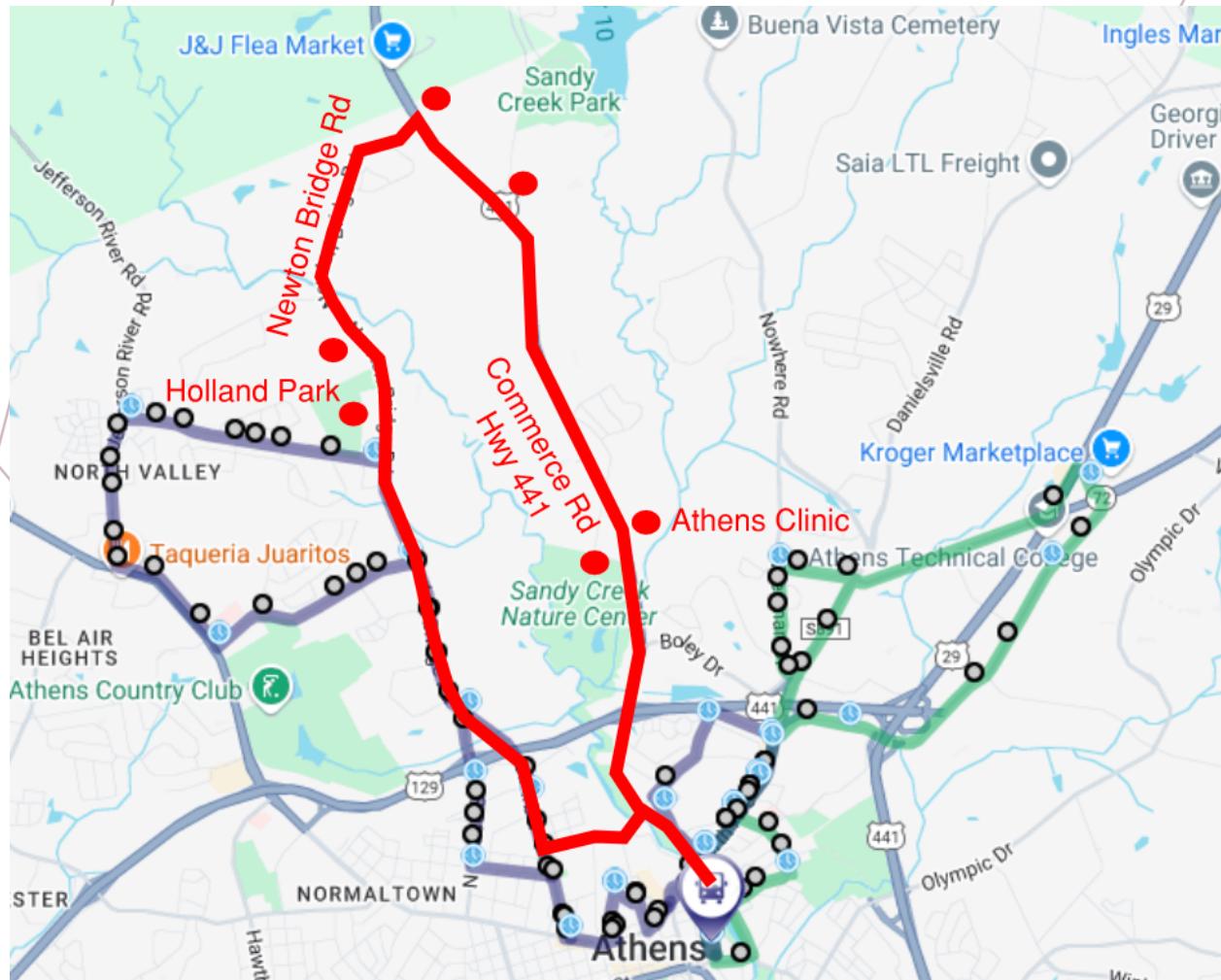
Athens Clinic



ATHENS CLINIC

- DM & ADR, Inc. is located right outside the perimeter in Athens, GA. Our clinic opened in August of 1999 and continues to grow as we serve Athens-Clarke County and surrounding areas. We are fully accredited by the Joint Commission for the Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations (JCAHO) and are fully staffed with certified and licensed addiction counselors, licensed practical nurses, a licensed Nurse Practitioner, an on-site Psychiatrist, as well as a highly qualified administrative staff.
- 1710 Commerce Road

PROPOSED BUS ROUTE



- ❖ Athens Clinic
- ❖ Hidden Pines Homes
- ❖ Sandy Creek Nature Center
- ❖ Sandy Creek Park
- ❖ J&J Flea Market
- ❖ New Covenant
- ❖ Holland Park
- ❖ Food Bank of Northeast Georgia
- ❖ Planned Residential Developments

Project Cost \$3,896,000
Operating Cost \$540,000



January 10, 2025

To Whom It May Concern:

Re: Letter of Support for Athens Transit Line Expansion on Route 441

The purpose of this letter is to express our interest and support for an expansion of our local public transit system routes. More specifically, we feel the establishment of an additional bus line ranging out to the DM & ADR Clinic located at 1710 Commerce Road would provide a necessary support and benefit for those in our community with the highest levels of need. We applaud DM & ADR's work and mission to improve the lives of those in our community. At Advantage, we operate as a safety net provider for individuals and families with behavioral health needs. Those we work with typically have a long list of additional needs for support due to their lack of many things that the larger population may take for granted, i.e. reliable transportation, stable housing, health insurance, and strong support networks. It is imperative that we work together as a community through effective partnerships to develop a strong community response to the needs of our most marginalized populations.

We consider the work of DM & ADR to be extremely valuable to our community. They have been instrumental in providing evidence-based clinical and recovery support to clinic participants struggling for stability and independence. Many of the individuals served at this location face significant barriers to accessing the support and care they need, and lack of reliable transportation remains consistently one of the most pressing challenges. The addition of an Athens Transit line would directly address this issue, ensuring that participants can reliably access DM & ADR facilities, resources, and programs.

In summation, we strongly support and encourage the addition of this transit line extending out to 1710 Commerce Road as this will provide an additional, much needed support to individuals active in working to achieve long-term recovery. Thank you in advance for your time and consideration of this issue. We would welcome further discussion if desired and are willing to provide additional information if requested.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Evan Mills".

Evan Mills, MSW
Director of Housing & Development
Advantage Behavioral Health Systems

SUPPORT

- Evidence based clinical and recovery support
- Safety net for families and individuals
- Access to individuals with barriers to support and care
- Reliable transportation critical



Western Judicial Circuit Felony Drug Court

*Serving Athens-Clarke &
Oconee Counties*

*325 E. Washington Street, Suite 210
Athens, Georgia 30601*

*Coordinator: Nicole Bates 470-739-7272
Case Manager: Laura McCoy 706-333-8359*

01/09/2025

To Whom It May Concern,

Subject: Letter of Support for Athen Transit Line to Serve DM & ADR on Route 441

On behalf of The Western Circuit Felony Drug Court, we are pleased to provide this letter of support for establishing a line of Athen Transit to serve DM & ADR along Route 441. As an organization dedicated to promoting wellness and recovery, we recognize the critical role that accessible transportation plays in supporting individuals on their journey toward improved health and stability.

DM & ADR have been instrumental in providing essential resources, services, and support to participants striving for wellness and recovery. Many of the individuals we serve face significant barriers to accessing the care and programs they need, and transportation remains one of the most pressing challenges. The addition of an Athen Transit line along Route 441 would directly address this issue, ensuring that participants can reliably access DM & ADR facilities, resources, and services.

We believe this initiative aligns with our shared mission of fostering healthier communities and empowering individuals to achieve long-term recovery. Reliable transportation not only facilitates access to treatment and support programs but also promotes independence and reduces disparities in healthcare access.

We strongly encourage the implementation of this transit line and are committed to supporting its success. Should you require additional

SUPPORT

- Promotes wellness and recovery
- Fosters healthier communities
- Empowers long-term recovery
- Promotes independence
- Reduces disparities
- Accessible transportation critical



01/09/2025

To Whom It May Concern,

Subject: Letter of Support for Athen Transit Line to Serve DM & ADR on Route 441

On behalf of Divergent Recovery Center, we are pleased to provide this letter of support for establishing a line of Athen Transit to serve DM & ADR along Route 441. As a 12 to 18-month residential recovery center for women, we recognize the critical role that accessible transportation plays in supporting individuals on their journey toward improved health, stability, and recovery.

DM & ADR have been instrumental in providing essential resources, services, and support to our residents striving for wellness and recovery. Many of the women we serve face significant barriers to accessing the care and programs they need, and transportation remains one of the most pressing challenges. The addition of an Athen Transit line along Route 441 would directly address this issue, ensuring that our residents can reliably access DM & ADR facilities, resources, and services.

We believe this initiative aligns with our shared mission of fostering healthier communities and empowering individuals to achieve long-term recovery. Reliable transportation not only facilitates access to treatment and support programs but also promotes independence and reduces disparities in healthcare access.

We strongly encourage the implementation of this transit line and are committed to supporting its success. Should you require additional information or wish to discuss further, please feel free to contact us at [Your Contact Information].

Thank you for your consideration of this vital initiative. Together, we can continue making strides in improving wellness and recovery for our community members.

Sincerely,

Mary Dembeck
Program Manager
Divergent Recovery Center
Mary@divergentrecoverycenter.org

SUPPORT

- Recovery for women
- Healthy, stable, recovery journey
- Fostering healthy community
- Accessible transportation critical



January 9, 2025

Dear TSPLOST Committee members,

This letter is express support of using TSPLOST funds to extend the bus route to the 441 end of Newton Bridge Road.

First of all, extending the route would allow people in our community who need transportation to attend our services and get connected to our church. When people are involved in a faith community, they are resourced with vital tools that help them become better citizens. Their families are strengthened, their immediate physical needs are met, and they are connected to a faith-based, encouraging community.

Secondly, a bus route would decrease the number of pedestrians who walk Newton Bridge Road. We see people walking by our property regularly where there is no safe pathway.

Lastly, although this reason does not directly impact us, I think the J&J Flea Market would benefit greatly from a bus stop at the end of Newton Bridge Road. A red light and crosswalk already exists at that intersection.

Thank you for your service to our community.

Sincerely,

David Hutchinson

SUPPORT

- Vital tool for recovery
- Strengthens families
- Access for pedestrians
- Accessible transportation critical

PROJECT SELECTION GOALS

Goal Area 1: Good Neighbors

- Section D: Drive community transformation with a focus on creating spaces that are respectful and welcoming
- Section E: Support & Promote healthy lifestyle: moving, eating, forming healthy relationships, physical and psychological care

PROJECT SELECTION GOALS

Goal Area 5: Safely Move Around Athens

- Section C: Expand multi-modal Transit access to reduce auto dependency and provide greater mobility for Athens residents
- Section D: Create more usable and aesthetically pleasing corridor connections between residential and commercial areas
- Section E: Enhance safety for all modes of transportation

PROJECT SELECTION GOALS

Goal Area 6: Built and Natural Infrastructure

- Section A: Develop well-planned new infrastructure according to future land use values and framework
- Section B: Ensure equitable access to infrastructure to enhance safety and identity
- Section C: Provide adequate funding for maintenance of existing and newly constructed infrastructure
- Section D: Follow through on commitment to 100% Clean and Renewable Energy resolution
- Section E: Address ecosystem health, infrastructure sustainability, and resilience