

PRESS RELEASE

September 30, 2024

CENTRO BEGINS RURAL BUS SERVICE IN ONEIDA COUNTY

Utica, NY – Starting October 7, 2024, Centro will begin bus service connecting Utica, Rome, and the Turning Stone Casino. The bus route, ***UT33 Utica-Rome-Turning Stone***, will provide six round trips (Mon-Sat) between 7:45am and 5:07pm, focusing on job-access for Oneida County residents.

“This service will connect residents of Oneida County’s two largest cities with employment opportunities at Turning Stone Casino and large companies along the Route 49 – Old River Road corridor,” said Centro Deputy Chief Executive Officer Christopher Tuff. “It will also connect Utica with the Rome MVCC campus, which is a request we’ve often received from students and college administrators.”

In addition to the MVCC Rome campus, the bus route will include stops at the Utica and Rome Transit Hubs, Turning Stone Casino, Marcy Correctional Facility, and Walmart Distribution Center.

“Access to reliable transportation is critical for our residents and our economy,” said Oneida County Executive Anthony J. Picente Jr. “This new bus service provided by Centro, will open up significant opportunities for Oneida County residents, especially those in rural areas, by connecting them to major employers like Turning Stone Resort Casino, Marcy Correctional Facility, and the Wal-Mart Distribution Center. It will also ensure that our workforce has the means to pursue both employment and education by linking Utica to the Rome MVCC campus. This initiative strengthens our communities, supports local businesses, and enhances the quality of life for everyone in our county.”

Passenger fares will be \$3 for adults and \$1.50 for seniors 65+, individuals with a disability, and children 6-9 when accompanied by a paying adult. Riders who wish to board the bus at non-designated stops outside the cities of Rome and Utica, can simply wave the bus down along the route. The new bus schedule and timetable are now available on Centro’s website at https://www.centro.org/service_schedules/schedules-rome. Anyone with questions can contact Centro’s Call Center at 315-442-3400.

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www.centro.org