Chairman: Larry C. Inman
Workforce Development

Board Chairman: David R. Adams

**CEO: Elaine Wood** 

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## Website Connects Commuters With Rides in Northwest Michigan

TRAVERSE CITY, MI—The Northwest Michigan Ride Share Connection website has been updated to make it easier for commuters to find or offer rides in northwest Michigan. NMRide.net can help local residents reduce traffic, save energy, and make friends who value smart commute options. The website is a project of the Northwest Michigan Council of Governments (NWMCOG) and is aligned with The Grand Vision.

"For a variety of reasons, including cost, ease, and safety, more and more people are considering carpooling," said Matt McCauley, NWMCOG director for regional planning & community development. "NMRide.net is a collaborative effort by a variety of public and private stakeholders in the region wishing to provide an easy-to-use tool for those wishing to explore a viable commuting option."

NMRide.net allows people looking for rides or riders to enter information about where they are driving to and from and when they are leaving and returning. Along with information about local rides there is also an option for people doing single trips to places like Lansing, Grand Rapids, or Detroit. Other NMRide.net resources include links to public transit agencies, a park & ride map, and tips for commuters.

NMRide.net is funded in part by the Michigan Department of Transportation and the Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians.

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NOTE to Media: Images are oftentimes available upon request by e-mailing Tom White at <a href="mailto:tomwhite@nwm.cog.mi.us">tomwhite@nwm.cog.mi.us</a> and stating preferences for resolution (300 dpi?), file format (.tif? .jpg?) and file size (1MB or less?). Or, phone (231) 929-5044. Check our online Media Room at: <a href="mailto:nwm.org/media">nwm.org/media</a>

Founded in 1974, the Northwest Michigan Council of Governments (NWMCOG) facilitates and manages various programs and services for the 10 county region. These programs include Northwest Michigan Works, YouthBuild, Small Business & Technology Development Center, Procurement Technical Assistance Center, various business services, and many different regional planning initiatives in response to our communities' requests and needs. You will see the broad spectrum of workforce, business and community services NWMCOG offers if you visit our web site, <a href="https://nwm.org">nwm.org</a>

NWMCOG's member counties are: Antrim, Benzie, Charlevoix, Emmet, Grand Traverse, Kalkaska, Leelanau, Manistee, Missaukee, and Wexford.