

Tompkins County
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

320 West State Street
Ithaca, New York 14850

Mr. Joe Mareane
Tompkins County Administrator
125 East Court Street
Ithaca NY 14850

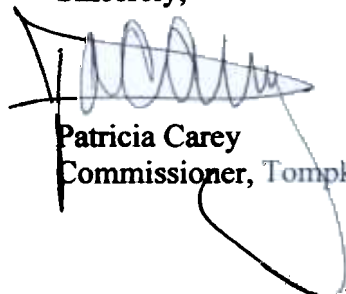
Re: ITN Everywhere

Dear Mr. Mareane,

I am writing to express the support of Tompkins DSS for ITN Everywhere Development Proposal. A significant challenge faced by on a wide range of clients served by DSS is the lack of flexible transportation services that enable low-income families, persons with disabilities, rural youth and seniors easy access to employment and services throughout the county. ITNEverywhere is an innovative transportation program that has the potential to developing services to fill this need. In particular, ITNEverywhere provides clear strategies for developing much needed volunteer driver pool to provide transportation, software for better coordinate other existing transportation options and a demonstrated business model for freeing these transportation services from the need for public funding sources..

The ITNEverywhere Development Proposal provides Tompkins County in general and DSS in particular with the opportunity to assess in-depth the feasibility of the implementation of this model in meeting transportation needs. The research and development project will provide DSS and community partners with invaluable information that will enable us to better utilize and coordinate resources to meet the mobility needs of low-income persons and vulnerable populations. Thus, I enthusiastically support this proposal and look forward to working together with our community partners and ITNEverywhere on this project.

Sincerely,


Patricia Carey
Commissioner, Tompkins DSS



November 19, 2010

Mr. Joe Mareane,
County Administrator
Tompkins County
125 E. Court Street
Ithaca, NY 14850

Re: ITNEverywhere Development Proposal

Dear Mr. Mareane:

I am writing to ask Tompkins County to support the ITNEverywhere Development Proposal. One of the most pressing issues that has been identified in Tompkins County is the limited availability of cost-effective transportation services in the county, especially in rural towns. Independent Transportation Network (ITN) is an innovative grassroots transportation program that has proved to be successful and has been replicated in a number of major metro areas throughout the country.

As the Executive Director of the Finger Lakes Independence Center that provides advocacy, information and education to people with disabilities in Tompkins County, I support the collaborative effort to explore the development of ITNEverywhere. This 18 month research and development project will allow for the exploration of how to adapt this program to provide mobility options for all ages in Tompkins County.

I look forward to collaborating with Tompkins County, Gadabout and other local agencies in the development of a more accessible, affordable, seamless and sustainable community transportation system in Tompkins County.

Sincerely,



Lenore Schwager
Executive Director

Tompkins County Office for the Aging

320 N. Tioga Street
Ithaca, NY 14850
607-274-5482
www.tompkins-co.org/cofa

Mr. Joe Mareane,
County Administrator
Tompkins County
125 East Court St.
Ithaca, NY 14850

November 19, 2010

Dear Mr. Mareane:

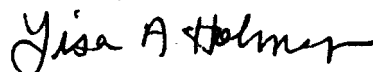
The Office for the Aging is pleased participate in a research and development project with ITN Everywhere. The goal of this project is to conduct a landscape analysis and test an existing transportation model for use in Tompkins County.

There is an unmet need for affordable, flexible transportation options for all ages in Tompkins County, and senior citizens are no exception. Some of the unmet transportation needs of seniors include door-to-door transportation services on evenings, weekends, and to regional medical centers across county lines. Existing senior transportation providers are hard pressed to meet current demands, and as the population ages this problem will only intensify.

The Independent Transportation Network (ITN) model is rooted in senior transportation services. ITN Everywhere provides a business model and software infrastructure for volunteer-based transportation. The project will involve the collaboration of existing transportation providers to coordinate existing community resources. Through participation in ITN Everywhere, organizations in Tompkins County will be able to apply this model to our community, with the ultimate goal of expanding transportation options for people of all ages.

The Office for the Aging looks forward to participating in this project. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,



Lisa A. Holmes
Director



Ithaca-Tompkins County Transportation Council

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On the web at: www.tompkins-co.org/itctc

Policy Committee:
Herb Engman, Chair
Dooley Kiefer, Vice Chair
Carl Ford, Secretary

Executive Director:
Fernando de Aragón, AICP

Planning Committee:
Sue Poelvoorde, Chair
Dan Kwasnowski, Vice Chair

November 18, 2010

Mr. Joe Mareane,
Tompkins County Administrator
125 E. Court St.
Ithaca, NY 14850

RE: ITNEverywhere

Dear Mr. Mareane,

This letter is written in support of efforts to implement the ITNEverywhere program in Tompkins County. The Ithaca-Tompkins County Transportation Council is interested in expanding overall mobility in the County. Of particular concern is the ability to reach rural areas with programs that help reduce dependency on the private automobile as the primary form of transportation.

ITN Everywhere will partner with Tompkins County, Gadabout and other local agencies, including the ITCTC, on an 18-month research and development project to develop a plan for community mobility services in Tompkins County. Through this process, ITN and its local partners will explore how to adapt ITNEverywhere's business model to provide mobility options for all ages in Tompkins County, by creating incentives for ridesharing, providing an infrastructure for volunteer driver services, and enabling agencies, community groups and faith-based organizations to coordinate their resources to serve local mobility needs. ITNEverywhere is being designed for implementation in small urban and rural areas.

The ITCTC is excited about the potential of ITNEverywhere to offer a new transportation option for hard to reach populations. We fully expect this program to be complementary to existing TCAT service and other mobility programs, such as Ithaca Carshare, in order to help to address the varying transportation needs of individuals.

I encourage the Tompkins County legislature and administration to join the ITCTC in supporting this initial phase of ITNEverywhere.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Fernando de Aragón', is written over a white background.

Fernando de Aragón, AICP, Staff Director
Ithaca-Tompkins County Transportation Council

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