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## Night Move bus rolls into city scene with green goals

BY STEVE NEAVLING • FREE PRESS STAFF WRITER • OCTOBER 12, 2008

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The Night Move is no ordinary bus.

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Fueled by a biodiesel engine and decked out in starry decals over a metallic-gray body, the bus will streak along Woodward carrying nightlife seekers at all hours of the night every weekend.

The creator, 26-year-old Chris Ramos, said his bus is the green answer to mass transit in a metropolitan area desperately in need of it. The bus started rolling Friday night.

Unlike the SMART bus system, the Night Move operates only on Fridays and Saturdays from 8 p.m. to 4 a.m., offering round-trips to and from Detroit, Royal Oak and Ferndale for \$12. The bus provides maps of restaurants and bars and information on attractions and events in Detroit's reemerging social scene.

"We hope to be a tour guide," said Ramos, who was tired of spending \$30 to \$40 on taxis from Detroit to his home in Ferndale. "We want to encourage general commerce in Detroit. It makes my blood boil when I hear people talk bad about Detroit. It's a great city."

The bus runs on a blend of diesel and soy, corn or pond algae to reduce harmful emissions. And all of the company's promotional material is made from recycled products, he said.

In an area that has longed for regional transit for decades, the Night Move is an exciting -- if modest -- development for many metro Detroiters.

For Alexis Clark, 25, of Royal Oak, the bus means she and her friends will no longer have to walk a mile to Ferndale on the weekends.

"I think it's such a good idea," Clark said. "This feels like it could be the start of something big."

The bus stops at different locations in Royal Oak, Ferndale and along Woodward. But riders must book a seat online at [www.thenightmove.com](http://www.thenightmove.com), which also lists the schedule and bus stops.

State and local leaders in the area looking to provide more regional transit opportunities in southeast Michigan have had trouble finding enough private and public funds for viable options to



WILLIAM ARCHIE/DFP

Chris Ramos, 26, of Ferndale says his new shuttle bus, the Night Move, is the green answer to mass transit. "We want to encourage general commerce in Detroit. ... It's a great city," he said.

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batwoman34 wrote:

I think this is a fantastic idea, I wish the bus traveled to other suburbs and did night runs for all the drunk patrons from Downtown to Royal Oak.

As far as mass transit is concerned, I would really like them to bring back commuter rail trains from the suburbs/Detroit to Ann Arbor and around the state. I think they should invest some money and do away with the bus system and put in a rail system, trains are far more appealing than trying to figure out where the bus stops.

10/16/2008 10:36:01 p.m. EDT

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