



For Immediate Release
January 17, 2019



"BOOKS ON THE BUS" YIELDS TRAVELING COLLECTION

Richland Library & The COMET to Station Books on Area Buses

Columbia, SC- Get ready to **catch your next read on The COMET. Richland Library is carpooling** with the local transit service **to offer** a traveling collection, titled **Books on the Bus**.

Starting January 22, riders can borrow a book from a collection basket on The COMET to read en route or take with them to their travel destination. Once they're finished, riders can return the book on The COMET or a library location closest to them.

"This is an example of our commitment to provide the community with a meaningful and educational experience on our transit system," said The COMET Executive Director/CEO John Andoh, "and it's another way how we can be a meaningful part of the community."

More than 1,000 books are available through *Books on the Bus*, which Richland Library staff handpicked. There are close to 20 books in each collection basket, and they cover all age groups - children, teens and adults.

"Learning can happen anywhere, any time," said Richland Library Executive Director Melanie Huggins. "Our staff want to make it easy for local residents to engage in small, daily actions that make life and learning more enjoyable."

The collection baskets are accessible on 58 of The COMET's 81 buses, which make up nearly 70 percent of its fleet. They're located along some of the more heavily-traveled bus routes in Richland County.



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For questions, please contact Emily Stoll at 803-587-3637 or email estoll@richlandlibrary.com.

About Richland Library

Awarded the National Medal in 2017 by the Institute of Museum and Library Services, Richland Library is a vibrant, contemporary organization that provides resources and information that advance the Midlands. Offering state-of-the-art technology, a variety of literary and cultural programs and 12 bustling facilities located throughout the county, Richland Library provides a truly customizable, modern library experience for residents and visitors alike.

About The COMET

The COMET is a service of the Central Midlands Regional Transit Authority and provides countywide public transit services on 38 fixed routes, two ReFlex services and DART ADA complementary paratransit service throughout Richland and western Lexington Counties. The COMET transports approximately 2.8 million passenger trips a year on a fleet of 81 buses and vans. Transit services are provided under contract with Transdev Service, Inc of Lombard, Illinois. For additional The COMET information, please call (803) 255-7100, TDD/TTY: 711 through the relay service, email: info@catchthecomet.org or visit www.catchthecomet.org.

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