



CITY OF WAUKESHA

Administration

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Committee: None	Date:
Common Council Item Number: 20-0451	Date: 4/9/2020
Submitted By: Brian Running	City Administrator Approval: Kevin Lahner, City Administrator
Finance Department Review: Rich Abbott, Finance Director Click here to enter text.	City Attorney's Office Review: Brian Running, City Attorney BER
Subject: Ratification of Metro Transit policy and schedule changes relating to the COVID-19 outbreak.	
Details: <p>In response to the COVID-19 outbreak, Metro Transit instituted several emergency changes:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Unlimited rides/all-day rides were suspended as of March 18. This means that passengers have to get off the bus after one full round trip, and cannot just stay on the bus and ride all day long. Time of exposure to an infected person is a crucial part of the transmission of the virus, so passengers can't spend unnecessary time on the bus. 2. Payment of fares was suspended as of March 21. By suspending the payment of fares, drivers no longer have to have contact with passengers as they board the bus and no longer have to handle money. This allows passengers to board and leave by the rear door, minimizing drivers' contact with passengers. This change was made primarily for the safety of drivers. This will require the passage of an ordinance to suspend WMC 31.08, which requires the payment of a fare. An ordinance is attached. 3. Weekday service hours have been reduced to the Expanded Saturday Schedule, as of March 30. This is due to decreased ridership as a result of the coronavirus, and a concern that there will not be enough drivers available to maintain a full schedule. 4. Changes to Route 7 that have already been approved are delayed to June 1. This is because the change to an Expanded Saturday Schedule eliminates Route 7 temporarily. <p>Further explanation will be presented by the Transit Manager at the meeting.</p>	
Options & Alternatives: There are no recommended alternatives.	
Financial Remarks: There will be a loss of revenue from the suspension of fares. Fares currently subsidize about 20% of Metro Transit's operations..	
Executive Recommendation: Ratify the changes to Metro Transit policies and schedules, and approve the ordinance creating WMC section 31.081 suspending the requirement of fares during the duration of the COVID-19 outbreak.	

