



City of Waukesha
201 Delafield Street
Waukesha, WI 53188
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waukesha-wi.gov

City of Waukesha Cover Sheet

Committee: Transit Commission Meeting	Transit Commission Meeting Date: 3/19/26
ID Number: #26-03134	Ordinance/Resolution Number (if applicable): 2026-3
Department Submitting: Public Works - Transit	Council Submission Date: 4/9/26
Agenda Item Title: Review and Act on Proposed Service Changes Effective June 15, 2026	

Issue Before the Council:

This item is to review and act on proposed service changes that would be effective Monday, June 15th, 2026 that include changes to Route 3, 4, 5, 6, 8 & 9 and slight changes to the Weekend Metrolift Service Area. The proposed changes are to reallocate existing resources to areas of greater ridership and to reduce expenses by eliminating some low performing trips. The number of passengers benefiting from these changes will likely be higher than those negatively impacted. Total revenue service hours would decrease by 3% and result in approximately \$75,000 in reduced costs annually. The proposed changes to Route 6 Sundays and Route 9 Saturdays require a public hearing. Details and reasoning for the changes are listed below. Approval of these changes would include approving a resolution modifying Routes 5 and 9.

Elimination of Route 6 Sunday Service

It is proposed to eliminate Route 6 service on Sundays. Route 6 Sunday service in 2025 averaged just 3.3 riders per hour by far the lowest of all routes for any day of service. Route 6 Sunday Service hours were reduced in January 2026 to improve efficiency but there has been no improvement.

Route 5 Changes

Elimination of the Route 5 afternoon West High School trip is proposed due to very low ridership throughout the 2025-2026 school year. Metrolift would still operate to West High School. Route 5 8:50 pm trip on Sundays is proposed for elimination for cost and operational efficiencies.

Route 9 Changes

Route 9 weekday 5:55 am and 1:20 pm trips are proposed for elimination to create greater

operational efficiency and reduce costs. On Saturdays, Route 9 is proposed to operate a shorter route with no service north of Silvernail Rd. In addition Route 9 would operate outbound (from the Transit Center) like Route 8 until Delafield north of W. Moreland Blvd. A shortened Route 9 on Saturdays was recommended in the 2023-2027 Transit Demand Plan due to very low ridership north of Silvernail Rd. and for faster more efficient service. A Saturday roundtrip on Route 9 would reduce to 30 minutes from the current 60 minutes. This will allow Metro to use the other 30 minutes per hour to operate a second Route 4 bus which has high demand on Saturdays. It should be noted that neither WCTC nor the City of Pewaukee provide funding for Waukesha Metro or Metrolift so these proposed Saturday changes reallocates service back into the City of Waukesha.

Weekend Metrolift Service Changes

Due to the proposed change to Route 9 on Saturdays, the northwest portion of the Metrolift service area on weekends north of I-94 in the City of Pewaukee would be very limited and not include WCTC. Areas in the City of Waukesha north of I-94 would continue to have weekend Metrolift service.

Route 4 Changes

As listed above in the Route 9 detail, the shortened of Route 9 on Saturdays would allow to have a second Saturday Route 4 bus operating during the day meaning Route 4 would operate every 30 minutes from 8:50 am-4:50 pm on Saturdays vs. its current every 60 minutes. Route 4 has high demand on Saturdays and at times is difficult to operate given the passenger load and high use of mobility devices, etc. The second bus would help to alleviate this. It is also proposed to eliminate the Route 4 7:50 pm and 8:20 pm Saturday trips due to low ridership in the evening. It is also proposed that Route 4 operate every 30 minutes from 9:50 am-2:50 pm on Sundays due to the elimination of Route 6 as Route 5 and 6 are operated by one bus and are paired together alternating every 30 minutes.

Route 3 & 8 Changes

Route 3 5:05 pm & 5:50 pm Saturday and Route 8 6:15 pm Weekday trips are proposed to be eliminated due to low ridership.

Bus Stop Changes

The proposed service changes include eliminating the bus stops at West High School and Sunset at Fox River Parkway that are only on the West High School Trip and adding a bus stop at the southeast corner of Delafield St. at W. Moreland Blvd. for the re-configured Saturday Route 9.

Options & Alternatives:

One option is to reject all of the proposed changes and leave service the same which would be beneficial to the passengers negatively impacted by the proposed changes, however, none of the benefits to passengers, efficiencies, or cost reductions would be realized. Another option would be to approve some of the changes and reject others. It should be noted that the following changes are contingent on each other and need to be approved or rejected together

1. Route 6 Sunday service elimination and Route 4 Sunday service increase
2. Saturday Route 9 routing change and increase in Saturday Route 4 changes and weekend Metrolift service changes

All other proposed changes could be rejected or approved independently.



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Additional Details:

What is the Strategic Plan Priority this item relates to:
People Centered Development & Financial Sustainability

What impact will this item have on the Strategic Plan Priority?
People Centered Development- Overall the proposed changes would likely positively impact more passengers than negatively impact them as there would be more weekend service on Route 4 the second most popular route and shortened travel times on Route 9 on Saturdays for the vast majority of passengers.
Financial Sustainability-The net changes would result in an annual reduction of costs of \$75,000.

Financial Remarks:
As stated in the details, the proposed changes would result in approximately \$75,000 in reduced costs on an annual basis.

Executive Recommendation:
Recommend approval.

Reviewed By:

City Attorney Brian Running	Date Reviewed
Finance Director Joseph P. Ciarro	Date Reviewed
City Administrator Anthony W. Brown <i>Anthony Brown</i>	Date Reviewed 03/12/2026