



DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

Fred Abadi, PhD, PE, Director

fabadi@waukesha-wi.gov



Route 1 Extension Request

Summary of Request

Milwaukee County is constructing its first Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) line that will operate from downtown Milwaukee to the Regional Medical Center (RMC) in Wauwatosa. Milwaukee County has informed Waukesha County that the BRT line will be replacing the existing Gold Line and will not be providing service west of the RMC to Brookfield Square when the BRT commences operation in Fall of 2022. Milwaukee County and Waukesha County are very interested in partnering together to create a new connection that will link the Cities of Waukesha and Brookfield, RMC, and Milwaukee County.

In discussions between Milwaukee and Waukesha Counties, it appears the best solution for passengers and the most practical one would be for the Waukesha Metro Route 1 to be extended to operate the segment of the Gold Line from Brookfield Square to the RMC. This solution is also consistent with the service recommendations in the SEWRPC Vision 2050.

Current Operations

Currently Waukesha County contracts with Milwaukee County Transit System to operate the Gold Line on Bluemound Rd. to Brookfield Square and Waukesha County pays the City of Waukesha the local share to extend Route 1 east of Goerkes Corners to Brookfield Square.

Potential Future Operations and Considerations

If all parties would agree to the extension of Route 1 to the RMC, Waukesha County would need to reimburse the City for their portion of the costs of services which would be from Brookfield Square to 124th St. and Milwaukee County would contract with the City for the service in Milwaukee County including around the RMC.

Items for financial consideration include:

1. Operating Costs for extension-Span of Service Hours and frequency of buses, additional staff
2. Capital Costs for additional buses and other capital needs- Waukesha County has 80% capital funds available to pay for additional buses. The remaining 20% share of the cost could be included in the operating costs annually for both counties (most common approach in the state) or paid outright.
3. Integration of Fares-Agreement on fares and revenue credits for passengers will need to be determined.
4. Paratransit Costs-Who is providing paratransit services where would need to be determined. Presumably Milwaukee County would continue to provide paratransit service within Milwaukee County as their paratransit service, Transit Plus, covers the entire County.

Potential Benefits to the City

1. Provides direct connection from downtown Waukesha to RMC
2. Reduced travel times for County to County trips
3. Potential for more frequent service west of Brookfield Square
4. Potential to link on-demand/last mile solutions along the route
5. Additional service spreads fixed costs across more services/service hours
6. Potential to leverage Rt. 1 extension to extend service hours for other routes at a reduced cost

<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING DIVISION Alex Damien, PE City Engineer 130 Delafield St. Waukesha, WI 53188 262-524-3600	<input type="checkbox"/> MUNICIPAL PARKING SERVICES Fred Ripley Parking Supervisor 241 South St. Waukesha, WI 53186 262-524-3622 Fax – 262-650-2573	<input type="checkbox"/> STREETS DIVISION 300 Sentry Dr. Waukesha, WI 53186 262-524-3615 Fax – 262-524-3612	<input type="checkbox"/> CLEAN WATER PLANT Jeff Harenda Plant Manager 600 Sentry Dr. Waukesha, WI 53186 262-524-3625 Fax – 262-524-3632	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> WAUKESHA METRO TRANSIT Brian Engelking Transit Manager 2311 Badger Dr. Waukesha, WI 53188 262-524-3634 Fax – 262-524-3646
---	--	--	--	--