

City of Waukesha, Wisconsin

Ordinance No. 2020-_____

**An Ordinance Creating Section 31.081 of the Waukesha Municipal Code,
Regarding the Suspension of Fare Requirements on Waukesha
Metro Transit Buses during the COVID-19 Outbreak**

Whereas the State of Wisconsin and the City of Waukesha have declared a state of emergency in response to the increasing coronavirus pandemic; and

Whereas the Wisconsin Department of Health Services has issued Emergency Order #12, Safer at Home Order, which generally orders all persons in the State of Wisconsin to remain at home, with certain stated exemptions; and

Whereas public transportation is expressly exempted from the Safer at Home order because public transportation is an essential service to allow citizens to travel for essential purposes; and

Whereas certain changes to Metro Transit operating policies and procedures are necessary for the protection of bus drivers and the general public as public transportation continues to be offered; and

Whereas it is important for the safety of bus drivers and the general public that physical contact and physical presence within six feet of one another be minimized or eliminated when possible; and

Whereas the process of boarding a bus at the front door and the payment of fares requires contact and physical presence and poses an unnecessary threat to the safety and health of those involved; and

Whereas this unnecessary threat can be reduced or eliminated altogether by the waiver of the payment of fares and allowing people to board and depart by the bus's rear door;

Now, therefore, the Common Council of the City of Waukesha do ordain as follows: Waukesha Metro Transit's decision to suspend the requirement of the payment of fares is ratified and approved in all respects, and Municipal Code §31.081 is created to read in its entirety as follows:

31.081 Temporary Suspension of Fare Requirement. Waukesha Municipal Code §31.081 is suspended as of March 21, 2020, and will remain suspended for the duration of the COVID-19 outbreak, until the suspension is lifted by further ordinance of the Common Council.

All ordinances, or portions of ordinances, inconsistent with this ordinance are hereby repealed.

This Ordinance shall be effective the day after its publication.

Passed the 9th day of April, 2020.

Shawn N. Reilly, Mayor

Attest: Gina L. Kozlik, City Clerk