



City of Waukesha
201 Delafield St. Waukesha, WI 53188
Tel: 262.542.3700
waukesha-wi.gov

Committee: Transit Commission	Date: 1/9/2025
Common Council Item Number: ID#24-11514	Date: 1/21/2025
Submitted By: Alex Damien, Director of Public Works	City Administrator Approval: Anthony Brown, City Administrator
Finance Department Review: Joseph Ciurro, Finance Director	City Attorney's Office Review: Brian Running, City Attorney BR
Subject: Review and Act on Proposed Service Changes Effective June 2, 2025	

Details:

This item is to review and act on the proposed service changes effective June 2, 2025 including combining Routes 7, 8 and 7/8 to operate as a new Route 8 and combining Routes 2, 3 and 2/3 to be operated as a new Route 3 as well as other minor routing and service changes effective June 2, 2025. The changes are designed to make the service more efficient and were the major component of the Transit Commission's portion of the City of Waukesha's Financial Management Plan. The proposed changes and reasoning are detailed in the public hearing notice(attached).

Combining Routes 7, 8 and 7/8

The combining of Routes 7, 8 and 7/8 are due in a large part to the closing in May 2025 of the UW-Milwaukee at Waukesha Campus. When that happens, Route 8 ridership north of Summit Ave. is expected to be less than one trip a trip. In addition, Route 7 averages only 36 trips/weekday. The Route 7 and 8 operate as a combined Route 7/8 on weeknights and weekends. The proposed plan is to operate the new Route 8 like the current weekend Route 7/8 except Route 8 would not operate to the Waukesha Memorial Hospital East Entrance due to safety concerns. The changes should only have minor impacts on the passengers as most passengers will still have service on their street. Some may have a bit longer trip on the bus as the bus may only operate in one direction. A small number may need to walk a few blocks to the bus stop. SEWRPC recommended the combining of Routes 7 & 8 in the 2012-2017 Transit Development Plan if fiscally constrained. The current Route 7 school route serving Butler Middle School would continue to operate the same, however, it would be renamed Route 8 effective the 2025-26 School Year.

Combining Routes 2, 3 and 2/3. Route 3 Outbound from the Transit Center to Target on Kossow Rd would and inbound from Target to Springdale Rd. by the Westbrook Shopping Center would operate the same as it currently does. From Springdale Rd/ Route 3 would operate south to E. Moreland Blvd (Hwy 18) then west on E. Moreland Blvd. to Manhattan Drive, then south on Manhattan to the Woodman's Food Market and route through Woodman's then back north on Manhattan to E. Moreland Blvd (Hwy 18) and then operate west on E. Moreland Blvd. resuming the current Route 3 routing to the Transit Center. Route 3 would operate one afternoon trip inbound to the Transit Center to serve Horning Middle School. There would be no service on

Arcadian Ave as the vast majority of stops that generate ridership are 1 block to 1/3 of a mile of a Route 1 stop. Route 1 also serves Goodwill and Woodman's which make up 53% of the total Route 2 ridership. The changes are also being proposed as Route 2 and 7 are paired and operated by one bus on weekdays alternating every 30 minutes so Route 2 would no longer have a paired route. Route 3 ridership north of Moreland Blvd. is relatively low and can be served in one direction aside from the afternoon trip serving Horning Middle School. Last, Route 2 has lower ridership averaging 50 rides per weekday.

Minor Routing Changes.

Route 6. Route 6 is being proposed to stay on St. Paul Ave in downtown Waukesha instead of operating on North St. The outbound routing would operate on St. Paul Ave from the Transit Center (Brehm St). to Kensington Dr. and then resume the current routing on Kensington Dr.

Route 15. The following changes to Route 15 are proposed to make the route more efficient: operate to Meijer in the outbound direction only, operate on Big Bend Rd. to Garfield Ave to East Ave, bypassing Big Bend and East Ave south of Garfield and Rivera Dr. on the inbound trip, and only operate on East Ave. north of Sunset, Roberta Ave and Tenny Ave. on weekdays before and after school to serve Waukesha South High. These changes should allow Route 15 to change from operating every hour to every 45 minutes which would allow four more trips to operate per weekday in the same amount of service hours.

Proposed Elimination of Trips

In addition, the following trips are proposed to be eliminated due to low ridership:

	Weekday	Saturday	Sunday
Route 3	6:45 pm	6:50 pm	
Route 4	5:43 am	8:50 pm	6:50 pm
Route 5	7:15 pm	6:50 pm	
Route 6	6:45 pm	6:34 pm, 7:20 pm	
Route 8	5:25 am		6:20 pm
Route 15		5:50 pm	

The proposed changes would reduce service from 10 routes to 8 routes on weekdays and revenue operating hours on weekdays by 16.5 hours/weekday (8.1% decrease) , 5.2 hours/Saturday (3.9% decrease) and 0.7 hours/Sunday (1.2%) resulting in a decrease of nearly 2,600 revenue hours in 2025 and nearly 4,200 revenue hours annually. The reduction of cost for 2025 will be nearly \$156,000 and \$270,000 annually.

The proposed changes include approval of a resolution that would Modify Routes 3, 6, 8 & 15 and eliminate Routes 2 & 7 and the approval of bus stop changes (attached).

Options & Alternatives:

One option is to reject all of the proposed changes and leave the service the same, however, none of the efficiencies or cost savings noted above would be realized. Another option is to accept some of the proposed changes and reject and/or modify others. It should be noted that the proposed changes to Routes 2, 3, 2/3, 7, 8 & 7/8 are contingent on each other so those changes need to be approved or rejected together.

Financial Remarks:

As stated above, the estimated savings from these changes for 2025 will be nearly \$156,00 and \$270,000 annually. In addition, the consolidation of routes reduces the weekday fleet requirement by one bus reducing the future bus replacements by one resulting in a savings of \$700,000 in future capital expense.

Executive Recommendation:
Recommend approval.