



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Milwaukee – Waukesha Bus Transfer Fee Eliminated

MILWAUKEE/WAUKESHA (April 10, 2009) – As a follow-up to an initiative announced in February, officials from Milwaukee County, Waukesha County and the City of Waukesha announced today that the transfer fee of \$.25 is being dropped as of Monday, April 13, 2009.

Since both systems had charged a transfer fare of \$.25, this policy will be a \$.50 reduction for each round trip. This impacts Milwaukee County Transit (MCTS) Route 10 and Waukesha Metro Route 1 and Waukesha County Route 218. In addition, Waukesha County has eliminated a \$.25 zone fare for Route 10.

Waukesha Metro Route 1 operates between downtown Waukesha and Brookfield Square via Bluemound Road. Waukesha County Transit Route 218 operates between Brookfield Square and the New Berlin Industrial Park and is contracted to Wisconsin Coach Lines. MCTS Route 10 operates between Brookfield Square and the Milwaukee Regional Medical Complex, downtown Milwaukee, and the Bayshore Town Centre in Glendale.

City of Waukesha Mayor Larry Nelson, Waukesha County Executive Dan Vrakas, and Milwaukee County Executive Scott Walker outlined the preliminary initiatives in February and the proposal has been approved by the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors, the Waukesha County Board of Supervisors and the City of Waukesha Common Council.

County Executive Walker said, “This partnership will save everyone money and make riding the bus more convenient. It couldn’t come at a better time.” Mayor Nelson said, “Eliminating transfer fees should help economic development by making it easier for both Waukesha and Milwaukee County residents to get to jobs, school, and other activities.” County Executive Vrakas added, “This cooperation and coordination of existing bus services follows through on our commitment to provide quality service at a lower cost through efficiencies in government.”

Other parts of the initial proposal include:

- **Van Pools**

Milwaukee County has pledged their assistance in helping Waukesha County establish their vanpool program with a greater understanding of how the Milwaukee program works, best practices and lessons learned to help Waukesha County establish a successful program.

Transit Initiative/Add 1

- **Fare Box Replacement**

MCTS and Waukesha Metro will work together on fare box replacement so that the two systems will have a uniform fare payment infrastructure. This initiative will allow for better coordination of fare payments and transfer policies. An invitation will be extended to Ozaukee and Washington counties, and the cities of Racine and Kenosha, to coattail on the bids when issued. This will foster future initiatives for cooperation between service providers.

- **Other Route Coordination:**

Milwaukee County, Waukesha County and Waukesha Metro will continue to work together and explore additional opportunities to partner so as to better coordinate and streamline transit service and improve their ability to meet the needs of the riding public.

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