

**From:** [Valley.Transit](#)  
**To:** [Debra Ebben](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Valley Transit Proposes Changes  
**Date:** Saturday, May 25, 2024 10:04:57 AM

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Forwarding from VT email

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**From:** Amanda Hedtke <amanda.hedtke@brandthg.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, May 24, 2024 1:50 PM  
**To:** Valley.Transit <Valley.Transit@Appleton.org>  
**Cc:** Nelson, Thomas M. <Thomas.Nelson@outagamie.org>; Van, Anne M. <Anne.Van@outagamie.org>  
**Subject:** Valley Transit Proposes Changes

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Good Afternoon

I am writing in regards to the press release on 5.22.24 about the proposes to change Valley Transit hours during non-peak hours.

This definitely has me concerned as I already don't like that we have no public transportation for employees on Sundays and now you are going to limit the hours they can work on Saturday too. I get you have the VT Connector but I know from previous employee experiences they aren't always available. And if you are making this change due to it being hard to staff the bus will it be any easier to staff the vans?

We are promoting our area to come to the Fox Cities but we aren't able to take care of the guests while they are here as we have limiting their availability to get to and from work.

Mr Nelson I have included you in this email as we had a previous conversation on this matter on March 23,2023 during your re-election on this as well as affordable or should I say low income housing that is a struggle for so many.

Regards,

Amanda Hedtke  
General Manager  
Appleton Fairfield Inn & Suites by Marriott  
130 S Nicolet Rd  
Appleton WI 54914  
[www.marriott.com/atwfa](http://www.marriott.com/atwfa)

[Amanda.hedtke@brandthg.com](mailto:Amanda.hedtke@brandthg.com)

**Attention:** This message was sent from a source external to the City of Appleton. Please use caution when opening attachments or clicking links.

**From:** [Laura A. VanHooreweghe](#)  
**To:** [Debra Ebben](#)  
**Cc:** [Amy Erickson](#)  
**Subject:** FW:  
**Date:** Wednesday, May 29, 2024 6:19:47 PM

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**From:** Amanda Zehren <itsamandazart@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, May 26, 2024 9:03 PM  
**To:** Valley.Transit <Valley.Transit@Appleton.org>  
**Subject:**

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.

So we can put 23 million into expanding our Airport for rich people to come and go as they please, but we can't subsidize and expand the bus system for the working poor?

This is how Rome falls

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9/23/2024

To whom it may  
concern,

Yes, it's me -  
the guru of  
Valley Transit +  
Shoreline Metro...

I am a little  
concerned about  
the time changes  
you're proposing,  
here's why...

1. I'm always...  
once I get used  
to something,  
~~it's ready~~ it's ready



brand for my  
to transition  
to another thing

C.I.P. if I got  
used to the bus  
scheme as it is  
now, and abrupt  
changes will  
throw me off  
p-r-g time)

~~Dr. [unclear]~~

2. some of  
the dispatchers  
at Running, Inc.  
can be really  
noisy ~~to me~~  
(and other riders)



Exam ppls: they  
have already  
completed +  
R had gone of voice,  
and they have a  
bad habit of  
cutting me off  
(mid-sentence)  
I try to avoid VTL <sup>because</sup>  
of this

Please put these  
things into  
consideration  
to making  
this decision.

Thank you  
for your time.  
Sincerely, Kimberly  
Benn



RECEIVED

MAY 20 2023

BY: \_\_\_\_\_

C. Lewis  
314 W. Kimberly Ave.  
Kimberly, WI 54136

FOX CITIES TRANSIT  
COMMISSION

C/O Valley Transit  
801 W. Whitman Ave  
Appleton WI 54911

GREEN BAY WI 543  
24 MAY 2024 PM 2 L



**From:** [Laura A. VanHooreweghe](#)  
**To:** [Debra Ebben](#); [Amy Erickson](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Public Hearing Notice  
**Date:** Thursday, May 30, 2024 7:31:41 PM

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**From:** Elizabeth Humbert <lizhumbert1@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 30, 2024 4:11 PM  
**To:** Valley.Transit <Valley.Transit@Appleton.org>  
**Subject:** Public Hearing Notice

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I have a question about the VT Connector.

Would Students with an ID still have to pay for the connector since they ride free on the bus?

I am a college student at FVTC and take the bus all the time, so I am worried about that.  
Attention: This message was sent from a source external to the City of Appleton. Please use caution when opening attachments or clicking links.

**From:** [Laura A. VanHooreweghe](#)  
**To:** [Amy Erickson](#); [Debra Ebben](#)  
**Subject:** FW: proposed service modification  
**Date:** Tuesday, June 4, 2024 2:06:30 PM

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**From:** irm gilbert <irmgilbert912@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 4, 2024 12:55 PM  
**To:** Valley.Transit <Valley.Transit@Appleton.org>  
**Subject:** proposed service modification

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i am a appleton resident been taking the bus for 40 some years , have seen lot of changes come and gone ,then finally we had late service , since i don't drive , now i could go to music festivals ,shopping at the mall, groceries, doctor visits , now it's being changed , what is a person to do , feels like my independent way of getting around is been taken away , i know you looking at budget , and what to cut , why does it have to be that way? have a suggestion why not keep bus 30 route late shift - bus 11 route and 20 route and bus 12 or 15 keep them a later shift , so we still can go shopping and school and in the sommer can go to all the festivals , parades, oktoberfest, car show and last but not least farmers market , that brings me to sat. chances , do the service begins one hour later and do departure service one hour later, do the last departure instead of 1:15 do 2:15 ; and the 12:45 do 1;15 departure for sat just a suggestion , it is just to bad ,everytime there are changes we lose rider ship , it's been like that thru the years ...it's hard to bring back people , thank you for reading my email sincerely  
I.Gilbert

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## Change iA bus Times

~~Flies~~

That's going to cost people more money to ride home after 6 PM that will cause a financial burden on those people who rely on cheaper bus rates and try to live on SSI and for SSI and SS making less than federal poverty level, would have their benefits increased.

How is going to affect handicap and disabled? Will a monthly bus pass be honored or special discount? Maybe a disabled rider be reimbursed

I work till 5:15 catch number 1 at 5:30 to transit center and have to wait for 15 for half hour. If this passes I may have to quit my job or switch hours as far as Saturday buses ending at 1:00 PM is bad for me on Saturday I ride 15 sometimes till 4:30-5:30 the mall opens at 11:00 and Planet Fitness closes at 7:00 or I may go to Walmart or Goodwill. This is a bad thing to change bus hours.

Jane Roberts



**From:** [Valley.Transit](#)  
**To:** [Debra Ebben](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Failure Notice  
**Date:** Friday, May 24, 2024 1:01:38 PM

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Forwarding from VT email (duplicate)

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**From:** jane roberts <jmriero@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 23, 2024 10:36 PM  
**To:** Valley.Transit <Valley.Transit@Appleton.org>  
**Subject:** Fw: Failure Notice

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.

[Yahoo Mail: Search, Organize, Conquer](#)

----- Forwarded Message -----

**From:** "MAILER-DAEMON@yahoo.com" <MAILER-DAEMON@yahoo.com>  
**To:** "jmriero@yahoo.com" <jmriero@yahoo.com>  
**Cc:**  
**Sent:** Thu, May 23, 2024 at 10:31 PM  
**Subject:** Failure Notice

Sorry, we were unable to deliver your message to the following address.

<[valley.transit@appleton.orh](mailto:valley.transit@appleton.orh)>:

No mx record found for domain=appleton.orh

----- Forwarded message -----

I work till 5.15 an catch bus at 5.30 wait half hour an that's after 6 what time will last bus run? Can you use a bus pass to use connector? It's gonna cost people more money to get transportation cause they may have a bus pass I have reduced one how much to ride connector? How much time do have to schedule a ride? On Saturday the bus should run past 1 cause some places don't open till 11 it's hard on people who are on ss SSI Ssdi I need my part-time job can't just live on ss

[Yahoo Mail: Search, Organize, Conquer](#)

Attention: This message was sent from a source external to the City of Appleton. Please use caution when opening attachments or clicking links.

**From:** [Laura A. VanHooreweghe](#)  
**To:** [Debra Ebben](#)  
**Cc:** [Amy Erickson](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Changes  
**Date:** Wednesday, May 29, 2024 6:19:02 PM

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-----Original Message-----

From: Juba Parker <parkejul@live.com>  
Sent: Wednesday, May 29, 2024 7:46 AM  
To: Valley.Transit <Valley.Transit@Appleton.org>  
Subject: Changes

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.

Hello-

Im writing as a concerned relative about the changes you are making to the bus times. I know like all other businesses you are struggling to hire drivers but please make every effort to fill these positions before taking away these services.

My niece doesn't drive & has depended on the bus system for 30 years to get around the Fox Valley for work, shopping, leisure, etc. This will make her life so much harder & expensive!

Can any of the \$ from the state help fund this? Mass transit is needed in our cities.

Concerned citizen

Sent from my iPhone

Attention: This message was sent from a source external to the City of Appleton. Please use caution when opening attachments or clicking links.

**From:** [Laura A. VanHooreweghe](#)  
**To:** [Debra Ebben](#); [Amy Erickson](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Proposed changes to bus hours of operation  
**Date:** Tuesday, June 4, 2024 2:06:10 PM

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**From:** Kris Oates <[krismoates@gmail.com](mailto:krismoates@gmail.com)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 4, 2024 1:38 PM  
**To:** Valley.Transit <[Valley.Transit@Appleton.org](mailto:Valley.Transit@Appleton.org)>  
**Subject:** Proposed changes to bus hours of operation

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.

My son Ben Merten(age 44)has been riding the Valley Transit buses for 25 years now. It is the main reason we have stayed living in the Fox Valley so he can have a measure of independence.

He worked at Valley Packaging for 22 years and is now exploring community job placement. Ben has intellectually special needs but he can help anyone navigate the bus system!! He knows many of the drivers who have driven him over the years. With future community job placement concerns I have to say I am very disappointed to hear you are considering reducing hours of operation. It limits the hours that he can be employed since he needs to get home on the bus. On Saturdays, Ben has a girlfriend who comes to visit and depends on the bus ride home at the 8pm hour. Saturdays are our main concern. Ben may be asked to work Saturdays and with already not being able to work Sundays, this could be a problem.

He also travels on Saturday to the mall to visit with friends and have a meal. Really my ask is for you to keep your Saturday hours as is. If you absolutely need to cut back, at least let Saturday match the proposed weekday hours.

I appreciate your attention to my concerns. You can call me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,  
Kris Oates  
Legal guardian and mom to Ben Merten  
920-858-1888

Attention: This message was sent from a source external to the City of Appleton. Please use caution when opening attachments or clicking links.

**From:** [Laura A. VanHooreweghe](#)  
**To:** [Amy Erickson](#); [Debra Ebben](#)  
**Subject:** FW: From Lganzel  
**Date:** Tuesday, June 4, 2024 2:25:24 PM

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**From:** lganzel@new.rr.com <lganzel@new.rr.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 4, 2024 2:19 PM  
**To:** Valley.Transit <Valley.Transit@Appleton.org>  
**Subject:** From Lganzel

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I would like to make two suggestions. First valley transit operate their busses from Monday-Friday 5:45a.m.-8:15p.m. and from 8:30p.m.-11:00 p.m. or midnight the connector. Then on Saturday 6:45 a.m.-6:30 p.m. then the connector. I think in part with the the issue of creating an RTA in the future also with how much federal money we get and with the growing debt. Valley transit shouldn't for several years have saturday night service after six but stay with an on demand taxi. Attention: This message was sent from a source external to the City of Appleton. Please use caution when opening attachments or clicking links.

**From:** [Valley.Transit](#)  
**To:** [Ronald C. McDonald](#); [Amy Erickson](#); [Debra Ebben](#)  
**Subject:** FW: about opinion for bus hours getting cut  
**Date:** Thursday, June 6, 2024 11:59:41 AM

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Forwarding from VT email

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**From:** Lori Smith <musicallover1980@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 5, 2024 5:29 PM  
**To:** Valley.Transit <Valley.Transit@Appleton.org>  
**Subject:** about opinion for bus hours getting cut

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I am just wanting to say that I rely on the bus as my only transportation as I don't drive at all because I have a disability so I don't know what I will do with getting to my errands done or go to appointments which i have a lot of each week, ,if the busses shut down early then i will have no way to get home. and i prefer not to take valley transit 2. and I work late til 7pm Fridays and Saturdays and if the busses shut down early before I'm done then I will be stranded with no way home. and I can't afford to pay for a cab as I'm on a very tight budget and tight income and I don't have family or friends to come pick me up. so please, I hope my email and the things I mentioned will be taken into consideration. I completely understand though that the drivers are working beyond lots of overtime and they are very wiped out, I feel bad for the drivers. but I really hope and pray that something can be worked out where this doesn't have to be forced to cut the bus hours. thank u Lori smith. would it be possible if I could possibly get an email back after the bus committee or whoever makes their decision? thanks

**Attention:** This message was sent from a source external to the City of Appleton. Please use caution when opening attachments or clicking links.

**From:** [Laura A. VanHooreweghe](#)  
**To:** [Amy Erickson](#); [Debra Ebben](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Proposed changes  
**Date:** Tuesday, June 4, 2024 2:24:34 PM

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**From:** Mary Goldsmith <[mgoldsmith5491438@yahoo.com](mailto:mgoldsmith5491438@yahoo.com)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 4, 2024 2:09 PM  
**To:** Valley.Transit <[Valley.Transit@Appleton.org](mailto:Valley.Transit@Appleton.org)>  
**Subject:** Proposed changes

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I, for one, have problems with the recommendations:

1: I like to occasionally go out at night and when VT runs at night, it's a convenience. Ending at early time is putting a early end on socialization needs. People still like to go out and watch movies, go out to eat and go to church. Also when I have an emergency, VT is there for me. Ending services will make more dependent on others, like family. When it's an emergency and after 7pm at night, I don't want family to drop everything and help me with my emergency.

2: the early ending on Saturdays is a inconvenience for others. Let's say that you work during the weekdays and you can only grocery shop on Saturdays. Early ending of VT services make things worse for those who grocery shop on Saturday.

3: I volunteer at a food pantry. We are open night time hours on Mondays. How would they get home? Microtransit -if run like dial a ride- would take forever to get to their starting point and to get home. Don't forget the college students that have nighttime classes.

4: what about the people that plan to let go because of these proposed changes. They have families and bills to pay.

I would not recommend these new hours of service. If you have to, then I suggest the running time of 5:45 to 8:15 pm, then connector afterwards.

Mary Goldsmith

Attention: This message was sent from a source external to the City of Appleton. Please use caution when opening attachments or clicking links.

**From:** [Laura A. VanHooreweghe](#)  
**To:** [Debra Ebben](#)  
**Cc:** [Amy Erickson](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Bus hours  
**Date:** Friday, May 31, 2024 8:01:16 PM

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**From:** Mike Pankratz <mcpan2000@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, May 31, 2024 9:29 AM  
**To:** Valley.Transit <Valley.Transit@Appleton.org>  
**Subject:** Bus hours

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Hi,

Will this change in off-peak hours save money?

Thanks,

Mike Pankratz

Appleton

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**From:** [Laura A. VanHooreweghe](#)  
**To:** [Debra Ebben](#)  
**Cc:** [Amy Erickson](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Proposed service modifications  
**Date:** Wednesday, May 29, 2024 6:14:39 PM

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Hello,

I tried to forward these earlier and got a bounce back so I am sorry if it is a duplicate. There should be around .

Laura

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**From:** Robert Schamburek <schamburekr@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 29, 2024 12:38 PM  
**To:** Valley.Transit <Valley.Transit@Appleton.org>  
**Subject:** Proposed service modifications

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To whom it may concern,

I feel in order for these modifications to work you guys will need to hire more connector drivers. The few night drivers they currently have are overworked as it is some nights from what I hear from someone I know that works for them.. That is my only concern over these modifications that it will increase their work load even more then it already is some nights..

Thank you for taking input from us riders....

Robert Schamburek  
920-202-1678

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**From:** [Valley.Transit](#)  
**To:** [Amy Erickson](#); [Debra Ebben](#); [Ronald C. McDonald](#)  
**Subject:** FW: From Riders we are deaf  
**Date:** Wednesday, June 5, 2024 3:04:44 PM

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Forwarding from VT email

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**From:** Edward Sarah Treuer <edstreuer2012@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 4, 2024 6:18 PM  
**To:** Valley.Transit <Valley.Transit@Appleton.org>  
**Subject:** From Riders we are deaf

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Hello I couldnt make appt for get interpreter for tonight. the reasons is I fell down last sat. I was painful sprain ankle. few days.

I did saw Valley Transit about change that suck do you know why so many people dont drive at all. It is not fair to them. Some people cant afford uber or taxi or not have anyone who willingly give them a transportation whatever they needs. that very suck with hurtful heart!

My husband is deaf and never drive. He needs transporation for whatever he needs. He is so mad about this.

Driver have a way to go anywhere....not those people never drive or cant drive anymore. they stuck at home look out those people are very hurtful.

Look Milwaukee transit run very good they have plenty drivers. we need our valley transit center fix up nicely and renew bathroom for everyone. go advertise on FB or newspaper or spread words. Need Driver for Valley Transit.

I am praying for those people stuck at home...no way to work or whatever they needs include my husband. I need have another meeting let us know about it. We cant make it tonight...I was in alot of painful since sat. I did saw this and helping my husband and deaf community too! Best contact us is email address thanks!

Sarah and Edward Treuer  
2411 East Peter St. Apt 1  
Appleton, WI 54915

vp 920-202-8514

Attention: This message was sent from a source external to the City of Appleton. Please use caution when opening attachments or clicking links.

**From:** [Valley.Transit](#)  
**To:** [Debra Ebben](#)  
**Subject:** FW:  
**Date:** Saturday, May 25, 2024 10:05:49 AM

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Forwarding from VT email

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**From:** Sheila Ramirez <sheila.ramirezkaos1@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, May 24, 2024 5:05 PM  
**To:** Valley.Transit <Valley.Transit@Appleton.org>  
**Subject:**

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This new proposal for no peak hours is very bad idea especially for shift workers and people who work all week and need the fixed routes to do their shopping on Saturday or enjoy the weekend. Not to mention the connector service has gotten absolutely crappy in the last few years. I wanted 5am pick ups from work to home and they told me I had to wait at the transfer point til 6:30 bus because of Their backed up schedule. I'm on 2 to midnight while healing from surgery infection vs third shift for months. I was told all the midnight runs are booked 2 weeks out but you can't book past two weeks in their system so I'm paying 50 bucks to get home! The connector needs more drivers for your idea of using them after 6pm or it absolutely will not work. Don't need the rest of the Valley to be one another stingy Neenah

Attention: This message was sent from a source external to the City of Appleton. Please use caution when opening attachments or clicking links.

**From:** [Laura A. VanHooreweghe](#)  
**To:** [Amy Erickson](#); [Debra Ebben](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Comments On Proposed Schedule Modification  
**Date:** Tuesday, June 4, 2024 2:07:03 PM

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**From:** Tony Nielson <tonynielson\_peggy@outlook.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 4, 2024 12:14 PM  
**To:** Valley.Transit <Valley.Transit@Appleton.org>  
**Subject:** Comments On Proposed Schedule Modification

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.

To Whom It May Concern,

My name is Tony Nielson and I'm a frequent rider of the Valley Transit system. I believe that the new proposal to modify the bus schedule to 6 PM on weekdays and 1 PM on weekends is a bad idea and would hurt a lot of people including myself. Many of us rely on the bus system to get to work, socialize with friends, go to support groups, and etc.. This new proposal would make those things less possible for me and others who rely on the transit system. I'm hoping that you'll consider my comments as you are voting whether or not to approve this proposal.

Sincerely,

Tony Nielson

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# Valley Transit

CONNECTING THE FOX CITIES

**Staff Summary of Comments – Official Record of Public Hearing can be viewed on the City of Appleton Website Fox Cities Transit Commission meeting on 6/04/2024 – Link below.**

[https://cityofappleton.granicus.com/player/clip/4518?view\\_id=3&redirect=true](https://cityofappleton.granicus.com/player/clip/4518?view_id=3&redirect=true)

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## **Service Modification Public Hearing**

**Tuesday, June 4, 2024/3:30pm**

**Appleton City Hall Council Chambers**

Call Meeting to order: 3:30 PM

Fox Cities Transit Commission takes action Tuesday, June 11, 2024.

Speakers: (5 minute time limit)

### **Don Bickam 113 N John St Neenah, WI 54956**

I have mobility issues, no functional car to get to and from work, Saturday is a very short day, long time before the bus comes back, limited time to get business done. No income. \$2 fare to VTII is a financial hardship. I get a monthly pass and it is not good on VTII. I am very concerned about this. Thank you. One other question "are you continuing to recruit/hire drivers?"

### **Brianna Ledford 2100 Pheasant Run Ct Apt L Appleton, WI**

I work two jobs 6 days a week. Work until 5 pm, specifically moved to avoid being stuck/stranded for this very reason. Biggest fear for when I have to go get groceries after work. Appreciates the \$2.00 Connector fee but doesn't think she will be able to get her groceries in the vehicle. Thank you.

### **Debra Boushley 525 N Oneida St Apt 1017 Appleton, WI**

I like to go to Walmart for medications and food, if it makes more short timing on Saturday to get medications. I like to go in the afternoons vs. mornings because of wheelchair/walker. VTII costs \$8 and is not affordable. Thank you.

### **Robert Kour 308 St Menasha, WI**

In the Neenah/Menasha area and is concerned for handicap people who go to SOAR events and need to go to shopping. Is this a Valley Transit thing or a city of Appleton thing? Has been going to increase his hours at work, but doesn't understand how people will get back from work and school on later shifts. What can we do to help? Robert thinks he does not qualify for the Connector. Thank you.

### **James Meyer 510 N Drew St. Appleton, WI**

Lives near City Park in Appleton – just moved here from New York City where the transportation services options are many. Spoke to a bus driver yesterday who works a 70 hours/week. I have used public transit for 29 years. I sell insurance. An adjustment until 7:00 PM might be a good idea. Will I have to schedule an appointment? I spend time with his mother and would find it difficult to meet the hours or the two hour advance notice. I would like to ask that Saturdays run from 1245pm to 3pm.

**Lori Webster & Sama Obaidin on behalf of World Relief**

We are training people to use the bus as their main transportation option. The new changes might bring obstacles for the folks who don't speak English as their first language. The \$2.00 fee may be a financial hardship for the refugees. May be more complicated to use the system. The culture they come from may not allow them to figure out the time points. One further question about fares. Will the Connector be a separate fare from the bus fare? \$653/month per household.

**Carolyn Moore 1401 S Nicolet Appleton, WI**

Frequent user, I like saving money. Very grateful for Connector service. But no Sunday service. I want to say what an outstanding service you have. Thank you.

**Irmgard Gilbert 1912 S Memorial Drive Appleton, WI**

Saturdays we would like 3 pm or 3:15 pm instead of 1 pm. I have rode buses for last 40 years. I have seen a lot of changes and am worried that we will lose ridership and not be able to get the people back. Does not drive and enjoys going to the Farmers market. Would like to see the evening service kept too. Has a senior discount for \$4.00 each way for doctors' appointments. Is concerned about having to call ahead.

**Mary Picus Tri Park Way Appleton, WI**

Sunday service – will that be available? How do I get on that sheet? To get the \$2 ride. Thank you.

**Tammy Woodmere Freemont, WI**

I am the parent of autistic child. I have been preparing my child to live on his own. The bus is his livelihood. He works at Pick N Save. VTII has not approved her son to ride. Will the Connector take cash or tickets? Thank you.

**John O'Connell 219 N Fair Street Appleton, WI**

I would like to focus on maintaining the driver positions. Why did the drivers leave? Are there historical reasons for this? Is it things happening on the bus? Will the drivers on staff earn less money? Will this cut back on hours? Long term demand will trend up? I guess we will have to figure it out.

**Valerie Goya 200 W Packard #241 Appleton, WI**

I am speaking for my son Joseph. I am very concerned about the cut in hours and Saturday's. If my son works, he has no way home. How will he get to activities on Saturday's that he wants to go to? Can VT give him some ideas of what he could do? Also, will the big buses continue to be used? Thank you.

**Jamie Forter 1419 Miami Circle Little Chute, WI**

VTII already overloaded. How are you going to add these people? I set up rides 14 days in advance and have trouble getting scheduled. My clients are waiting 14 days in advance and are unable to get rides because there aren't drivers available. I am worried for my clients and how they are going to get to their jobs. Weekends and nights are the worst time to try to get rides. How much do you know about the VTII? This is affecting 4 of my 11 members. A lot of these people will be affected, waiting outside at night and without a cell phone. Some don't speak the English language. Thank you.

**Mary Goldsmith 743 W 8<sup>th</sup> Street, Appleton, WI**

I volunteer at Menasha food pantry with Monday night hours. How would those people get home? I take the bus and am concerned that I will not be able to get to my appointments. Putting a cap on bus service puts a cap on people's socialization. I go out for a special treat sometimes. Is the \$2 fare

for the Connector? Is this a temporary change? I would like to suggest that the service run from 5:45 AM to 8:15 PM.

**Rahsaan Dunn – Representing FVTC Appleton, WI**

Thank you. I'm here representing the students. Fox Valley Technical College has many night programs and bus services are important to the students. I have concerns but understand short staffing. I solve problems. There is opportunity for truck driving program collaboration. We have classes running until 930pm. Let's have some conversation to work together.

Thank you.

**Deborah Van Ark 103 S Railroad St. Kimberly, WI**

Most things addressed already. I do appreciate the meeting. I am on Community Care / Family Care so I will be speaking to my worker trying to get information about the time changes and such. I thank you for the meeting. I use the agency tickets for VTII to go to my doctor appointments. I have been instructed to call two weeks in advance. I have difficulty getting in and out of the vehicle and need the front seat. Thank you.

**Erin Schultz Wege Executive Director SOAR, 211 E Franklin St Appleton, WI**

Here on behalf of SOAR. I have worked through difficulties in the past. I would like to encourage Valley Transit to look for other ways to solve this problem. Maybe you could look at the Goodwill training program. Who makes up the 10% ridership that will be lost? I think it may be the folks already living with low/no/restricted incomes or are physically challenged. Is there a way to spread the impact? I have concerns about driving people towards VTII, a service that might not have the capacity to handle the increased workload. Thank you.

**Christina 1024 W 4<sup>th</sup> Street, Appleton, WI**

Could we hire immigrants, don't limit yourself.

**Heather Kwazny – Harbor House**

I have taken VT for a long time. I have also done the Connector and am concerned about it not being enough. They have not shown up in the past. I am concerned that I will not be able to get home from work. You need to really look at the program. This is a lot to take in. It really does affect me...this is very big thing. Thank you.

**Brianna Kirchner 3401 E Edgemere Drive Apt 1 Appleton, WI**

I am starting a new job without a set schedule. My only transportation is the bus. I live in Agape and think that my independence will be in jeopardy. I don't know what to do anymore. That's my concern. Thank you.

**Donald Fascto Jr 10 Main St apt 103 Menasha, WI**

Can't go to the mall or Walmart. We should advertise on TV that we are short of drivers. To keep running would be nice. I work at Bergstroms and am not sure how I will get back and forth to work. Thank you.

**Matthew Smith 313 S. Weimer St Appleton, WI**

I am here on behalf of my company Productive Living Systems. I work with individuals to increase independence. We hire those with differing abilities. Our clients use the bus and the Connector. Is there a way we can offer a reduced fare for the people who get a reduced fare on the bus? I am

concerned that my clients will not be able to call ahead for their rides and the system will be flooded by people wanting an inexpensive ride. Is there a voucher program?

**Sandra Douds 738 Pleasant Lane Menasha, WI**

Is the Connector able to take people in wheelchairs? Are there shelters at the connection points? How do folks get rides after the appointment is over?

Called 3 times for anyone else wanting to speak.

Meeting adjourned at 4:51 PM