



February 20, 2017

To: Fox Cities Transit Commission
Finance Committee

From: Debra Ebben, Administrative Services Manager

Subject: Contract between City of Appleton, Valley Transit and Fox Valley Technical College.

Background:

In November 2014, the Fox Cities Transit Commission approved a contract between Valley Transit and Fox Valley Technical College (FVTC) to provide rides to the FVTC students during 2015 for a fixed amount of money. Under the agreement, program and basic adult education students enrolled in FVTC are allowed to show their student ID card and ride any Valley Transit fixed route bus on all days and all scheduled hours that the system operates. FVTC agreed to pay \$46,000 for the service.

The program has been quite successful. FVTC ridership grew from more than 96,000 rides in 2015 to over 100,000 rides in 2016. During 2015, FVTC was able to encode their student ID card so that it could be used at the farebox in the same manner a bus pass is used, enabling us to track the number of unique riders along with the number of rides individual students take. The FVTC leadership team is very pleased with the success of this program and that it continues to provide affordable transportation for their students, particularly low-income students who might not otherwise be able to further their education. The current contract requires a review of student enrollment in January each year to determine if there will be an adjustment to the annual payment. FVTC's enrollment remained relatively flat for 2016/2017 and Valley Transit has not experienced any overcrowding of fixed route buses due to this program. Valley Transit and FVTC have agreed that the program can continue at the current rate of \$46,000 for 2017.

Recommendation: Approve Addendum to the Fox Valley Technical College pass program.