



# City of Appleton

100 North Appleton Street  
Appleton, WI 54911-4799  
www.appleton.org

## Meeting Agenda - Final Fox Cities Transit Commission

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Tuesday, June 11, 2024

2:50 PM

Council Chambers, 6th Floor

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1. Call meeting to order
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Roll call of membership
4. Approval of minutes from previous meeting  
[24-0771](#) Approval of minutes from previous meeting  
**Attachments:** [MeetingMinutes 21-May-2024.pdf](#)
5. **Public Hearing/Apearances**  
[24-0772](#) Public Participation on Agenda Items
6. **Action Items**  
[24-0773](#) Approve Resolution No. 2024-03 Supporting and Approving of the New Appleton (Fox Cities) MPO Policy Board Structure and Redesignation Agreement  
**Attachments:** [Resolution Memo.pdf](#)  
[COA Resolution No 2024-03.pdf](#)  
[24-0774](#) Approve Proposed Valley Transit Evening & Saturday Service Modifications  
**Attachments:** [VT Service Modification Memo 05.21.2024.pdf](#)  
[Public comments recvd thru 6-6-24.pdf](#)
7. **Information Items**  
[24-0775](#) Request for Future Agenda Items
8. **Next Meeting Date & Time**
  - June 25, 2024 2:50 PM - Cancelled
  - July 9, 2024 2:50 PM - Cancelled
  - July 23, 2024 2:50 PM

9. Adjournment

*Notice is hereby given that a quorum of the Common Council may be present during this meeting, although no Council action will be taken.*

*Reasonable Accommodations for Persons with Disabilities will be made upon Request and if Feasible.*



# City of Appleton

100 North Appleton Street  
Appleton, WI 54911-4799  
www.appleton.org

## Meeting Minutes - Final Fox Cities Transit Commission

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Tuesday, May 21, 2024

2:50 PM

Council Chambers, 6th Floor

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1. Call meeting to order

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Roll call of membership

**Present:** 10 - Dexter, Brown, Dearborn, Detienne, Patza, Kasimor, Torrance, Firkus,  
VandeHey and Holzschuh

**Excused:** 2 - Wurdinger and Heffernan

4. Approval of minutes from previous meeting

[24-0634](#)

Approval of minutes from previous meeting

**Attachments:** [MeetingMinutes 23-April-2024.pdf](#)

Commissioner Torrance moved, seconded by Commissioner Detienne, that the Minutes be approved. Voice Vote. Motion Carried.

5. Public Hearing/Appearances

[24-0635](#)

Public Participation on Agenda Items

*No public participation on agenda items.*

6. Action Items

[24-0636](#)

Approval of Payments

**Attachments:** [April 2024 Payments.pdf](#)

Commissioner Brown moved, seconded by Commissioner VandeHey, that the payments be approved. Voice Vote. Motion Carried.

7. Information Items

[24-0637](#)

Financial Report

**Attachments:** [April 2024 Income Statement.pdf](#)

The financial report was presented.

[24-0638](#)

Ridership Report

**Attachments:** [April 2024 Ridership.pdf](#)

The ridership report was presented

[24-0639](#)

American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding

The ARPA funding was discussed.

[24-0640](#)

Certificates of Achievement &amp; Recognition from TMI

The award was discussed.

[24-0641](#)

Proposed Valley Transit Evening &amp; Saturday Service Modifications

**Attachments:** [VT Service Modification Memo Final 05.21.2024.pdf](#)

The proposed service changes were discussed.

[24-0642](#)

Request for Future Agenda Items

This agenda item was discussed.

**8. Next Meeting Date & Time****- June 11, 2024 2:50 PM****- June 25, 2024, 2:50 PM - Cancelled****9. Adjournment****A motion was made by Commissioner VandeHey, seconded by Commissioner Patza, that this meeting was adjourned.. The motion carried unanimously.**



# CITY OF APPLETON

## MEMORANDUM

**Date:** June 5, 2024  
**To:** Appleton City Plan Commission  
Fox Cities Transit Commission  
**From:** Kara Homan, AICP, Director of Community Development  
Ronald McDonald, General Manager, Valley Transit  
**Subject:** Resolution Related to Appleton MPO Redesignation in Accordance with  
Federal Code

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We write to inform you about the proposed redesignation of the Appleton (Fox Cities) Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) in accordance with federal code. This redesignation carries benefits for the City of Appleton and our peer municipalities within the Appleton/Fox Cities metro compared to the current governance structure.

The Appleton (Fox Cities) MPO plays a crucial role in transportation planning and decision-making within our region, as it relates to programming and prioritizing projects to receive federal transportation funding. The current structure of the MPO has the East Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission (ECWRPC) board of commissioners serving as the MPO policy board. The current board is comprised of [representatives](#) from throughout a 10-county region, with a significant minority of representatives from within the Appleton/Fox Cities metro. As a result of a review by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), it has been recently determined that this structure is non-compliant with federal requirements. Earlier this year, staff from the ECWRPC met with representatives of municipalities within the MPO area and discussed options for moving forward to ensure compliance with federal law. As a result of this work, a new governance model and redesignation of the MPO is being sought, per the attached resolution and exhibits.

The proposed MPO redesignation will ensure compliance with federal code, continued access to federal transportation planning and funding, and ensure the MPO policy board will have a governance model that is representative of governments within the metropolitan area. The new model balances board composition based on community population size with the need to have all municipal voices at the table to continue our long-standing tradition of collaborative regional cooperation. The new model also ensures a representative of Valley Transit serves as a voting member on the new MPO board, in accordance with federal law.

To effectuate this proposed redesignation and policy board change, the attached resolution is required to be adopted by municipalities within the MPO area, representing at least 75% of the population of the metro, including an affirmative vote of the largest city (e.g. the City of Appleton). The corresponding redesignation agreement would then be effectuating after the adoption thresholds are met.

## **RECOMMENDATION**

As such, Valley Transit and Community Development staff recommend **APPROVAL** of the attached proposed Resolution 2024-03 SUPPORTING AND APPROVING OF THE NEW APPLETON (FOX CITIES) MPO POLICY BOARD STRUCTURE AND REDESIGNATION AGREEMENT, as presented.

## RESOLUTION NO. 2024-03

### **SUPPORTING AND APPROVING OF THE NEW APPLETON (FOX CITIES) MPO POLICY BOARD STRUCTURE AND REDESIGNATION AGREEMENT**

**WHEREAS**, the Federal Aid Highway Act of 1962 requires a continuing, comprehensive transportation planning process carried out cooperatively by the State and local communities of each urban area of more than 50,000 population in order to qualify transportation projects for federal aid, and;

**WHEREAS**, East Central WI Regional Planning Commission (ECWRPC) was designated as the Appleton (Fox Cities) Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) by Wisconsin's Governor in January, 1974, and;

**WHEREAS**, due to a population in excess of 200,000 following the 2010 U.S. Census, the Appleton (Fox Cities) Urban area was designated by the federal government as a Transportation Management Area (TMA) in 2012, and;

**WHEREAS**, the ECWRPC Board, consisting of elected and appointed officials from member counties within East Central's 10 county region, has served as the Policy Board for the Appleton (Fox Cities) MPO since 1974, and;

**WHEREAS**, the Commission identified the creation of a separate Appleton (Fox Cities) MPO Policy Board within their 2020 Strategic Plan, and;

**WHEREAS**, a change to the Appleton (Fox Cities) MPO Policy Board was identified as necessary by ECWRPC, Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and Federal Transit Administration (FTA) to ensure that local elected officials representing 75% of the affected population serve on the MPO Policy Board, consistent with federal requirements as outlined in 23 CFR 450.310, and;

**WHEREAS**, the City of Appleton is located within the Appleton (Fox Cities) Metropolitan Planning Organization, and;

**WHEREAS**, a new Appleton (Fox Cities) MPO Policy Board structure has been developed by ECWRPC staff, in coordination with FHWA, FTA, WISDOT, and local impacted communities, which is outlined in the Table 1, and;

**WHEREAS**, the main functions of the Appleton (Fox Cities) MPO Policy Board shall be to provide policy guidance throughout the transportation planning process, review and approve the Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP), Congestion Management Process, Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), the Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP), and promote the implementation of the TIP and UPWP, and;

**WHEREAS**, approval of each governing body of the municipalities and counties located within the Appleton (Fox Cities) Metropolitan Planning Area is necessary to demonstrate local support for the formal request that the Governor redesignate the Appleton (Fox Cities) MPO Policy Board structure as outlined in the attached table, and;

**WHEREAS**, each local unit of government located within the Appleton (Fox Cities) Metropolitan Planning Area will be party to the formal redesignation agreement (attached) between the Governor, ECWRPC, and the local units of government, and so;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY the City of Appleton Common Council**

**Section 1:** *That the City of Appleton supports and approves of the new structure of the Appleton (Fox Cities) Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Policy Board, as reflected in the attached table, and;*

**Section 2:** *That the City of Appleton agrees to participate in the Appleton (Fox Cities) MPO Policy Board meetings, to ensure a continuing, comprehensive, and cooperative transportation planning process for the Appleton (Fox Cities) Metropolitan Planning Area, and;*

**Section 3:** *That the City of Appleton agrees to the provisions outlined in the attached redesignation agreement, which is hereby incorporated by reference and made a part hereof.*

Submitted By: East Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission

Adopted this \_\_\_\_\_ day of June, 2024.

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Jacob A. Woodford, Mayor

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Attest: Kami Lynch, City Clerk



## APPLETON (FOX CITIES) METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

*Updated 2/22 with adjusted MPA boundary populations*

Member Jurisdiction	2020 Census		Policy Board Structure	
	Population within MPA Boundary	Population %	> 5,000 populaton = 1 vote; Additional vote(s) for each increment of 25K pop	
			Voting Seats	Advisory Seats
City of Appleton	75,913	30%	4	
Outagamie - 63,168				
Calumet - 11,304				
Winnebago - 1,441				
City of Neenah	27,319	11%	2	
Town of Grand Chute	23,650	9%	1	
Village of Fox Crossing	18,974	7%	1	
City of Kaukauna	17,094	7%	1	
City of Menasha	18,268	7%	1	
Winnebago - 15,261				
Calumet - 3,007				
Village of Greenville	12,118	5%	1	
Village of Harrison	12,091	5%	1	
Village of Little Chute	11,619	5%	1	
Village of Kimberly	7,320	3%	1	
Town of Buchanan	6,823	3%	1	
Town of Neenah	3,702	1%		1
Village of Combined Locks	3,634	1%		1
Town of Clayton	3,487	1%		1
Village of Sherwood	3,271	1%		1
Town of Center	1,859	1%		1
Town of Vandebroek	1,627	1%		1
Town of Freedom	1,353	1%		1
Town of Kaukauna	1,020	0%		1
Town of Vinland	1,202	0%		1
Town of Ellington	945	0%		1
Village of Wrightstown	292	0%		1
Town of Woodville	149	0%		1
<b>MUNICIPALITY TOTALS</b>	<b>253,730</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>12</b>
			<b>Min. 1 vote; Additional vote(s) for each increment of 100,000 population</b>	
<b>COUNTIES</b>				
Outagamie County	152,522	60%	2	
Winnebago County	71,386	28%	1	
Calumet County	29,822	12%	1	
<b>COUNTY TOTALS</b>	<b>253,730</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>REQUIRED MAJOR MODES OF TRANSPORTATION</b>				
WISDOT			1	
Valley Transit			1	
Appleton International Airport			1	
<b>MAJOR MODES TOTALS</b>			<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>REQUIRED NON-VOTING MEMBERS</b>				
FHWA				1
FTA				1
MPO Director				1
<b>REQUIRED NON-VOTING MEMBER TOTALS</b>			<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>GRAND TOTAL POLICY BOARD SEATS</b>			<b>22</b>	<b>15</b>
% of pop w/direct representation			91.1%	

**AN AGREEMENT REDESIGNATING THE METROPOLITAN PLANNING  
ORGANIZATION POLICY BOARD STRUCTURE FOR THE APPLETON (FOX CITIES)  
URBANIZED AREA**

**Introduction**

The parties to this Agreement (hereinafter the "Signatories") hereby agree to the redesignation of East Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission arising out of the need to address actions recommended by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and Federal Transit Administration (FTA) pertaining to the organization and structure of the existing Metropolitan Planning Organization's Policy Board.

**WHEREAS**, The Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the Appleton (Fox Cities) Urban Area is charged, under Title 23 U.S.C., Section 134, as the organization responsible for cooperative transportation planning and decision making for the Appleton (Fox Cities) Metropolitan Planning Area, and;

**WHEREAS**, the Metropolitan Planning Area consists of the City of Appleton, the Appleton Urban Area, and all or portions of the contiguous cities, villages, and towns which are or are likely to become urbanized within a 20-year period as shown on the attached map and agreed to by the MPO and the Governor, and;

**WHEREAS**, the responsibilities of the Metropolitan Planning Organization include:

1. Carrying out a cooperative, continuous, and comprehensive planning process for making transportation investment decisions in the metropolitan area with program oversight from the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), the Federal Transit Administration (FTA), and the Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WisDOT).
2. Preparing and maintaining a Metropolitan Transportation Plan.
3. Preparing and implementing an annual unified planning work program.
4. Preparing a transportation improvement program to provide for transportation investments to meet metropolitan transportation needs.
5. Preparing and maintaining the Congestion Management Process, the Public Participation Process and the Title VI plan.
6. Establishing operating rules and procedures.
7. Working in cooperation with Valley Transit.
8. Other duties as required to comply with State and Federal regulations, and;

**WHEREAS**, the Appleton (Fox Cities) Urban Area was created through an agreement between the Governor and East Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission (ECWRPC), effective January 15, 1974 designating the MPO for the Appleton (Fox Cities) Urban Area in accordance with federal law. East Central Wisconsin Regional

Planning Commission assumed the responsibility to conduct transportation planning and programming for the Appleton (Fox Cities) Urban area, and;

**WHEREAS**, the Appleton (Fox Cities) MPO Policy Board membership and voting structure was identified by ECWRPC, Federal Highway Administration, and Federal Transit Administration as requiring adjustments to ensure compliance with federal requirements, and;

**WHEREAS**, federal law allows for the redesignation of the Metropolitan Planning Organization by agreement between the Governor and units of general-purpose local government that together represent at least 75 percent of the population within the Planning Area, including the largest incorporated city, and;

**WHEREAS**, a redesignation process to implement the necessary changes was initiated by ECWRPC, in partnership with FHWA, FTA, and WisDOT, in late 2023. On March 28, 2024, the East Central WI Regional Planning Commission Board took the first step in the process and approved a resolution in support of engaging the local impacted communities on the structure and membership of the Appleton (Fox Cities) MPO Policy Board to bring it into compliance with federal requirements, as outlined in 23 CFR 450.310, and;

**WHEREAS**, a Redesignation Agreement cannot be amended without the consent of all the Signatories, and so;

**NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS MUTUALLY AGREED:**

That the revised structure of the Appleton (Fox Cities) Metropolitan Planning Organization's Policy Board is described below.

**B. Composition of the Appleton (Fox Cities) MPO Policy Board**

The members of the Appleton (Fox Cities) Metropolitan Planning Organization Policy Board are appointed by the Wisconsin Department of Transportation, Valley Transit, City of Appleton, Outagamie, Calumet and Winnebago Counties, small villages, cities and towns within the Metropolitan Planning Area in recognition of their respective roles as the owners and operators of the major modes of transportation serving the Metropolitan Planning Area. Each appointee to the Policy Board shall reside within the Metropolitan Planning Area and shall serve until their successor is appointed. As of September 3, 2024, the Metropolitan Planning Organization Policy Board for the Appleton (Fox Cities) Urbanized Area and Appleton (Fox Cities) Metropolitan Planning Area consist of the following members:

**(INSERT NEW POLICY BOARD STRUCTURE)**

In addition, all appointments must be in accordance with Title 23, United States Code, Section 134, Paragraph (d)(2) that indicates the voting membership of the Policy Board shall consist of:

- a. Local elected officials;
- b. Officials of public agencies that administer or operate major modes of transportation in the metropolitan area; and
- c. Appropriate State officials.

When each of the appointing authorities is making an appointment under condition (b) above, the MPO also accepts members in good standing that come from local boards and commissions with a focus on transportation or land use, including mayoral representatives, or representatives of the chief executive officer of any city, village, or town in the MPO Planning area with said focus.

Policy board members representing any local government jurisdiction or collective group of local government jurisdictions (such as Cities, Villages, or Towns) must be selected by the elected officials of the local government jurisdiction(s) they represent.

### **C. Future Changes to the Policy Board Composition**

The composition of the Appleton (Fox Cities) MPO Policy Board will be reviewed following each decennial U.S. Census to ensure appropriate and proportional representation.

Revising the composition of the Policy Board (e.g. adding membership, the number or requirements of members appointed by each appointing authority) or expansion of the metropolitan planning area boundary does not necessarily require redesignation of the MPO.

A change to the Appleton (Fox Cities) MPO Policy Board can be made following the notification of the appointing authorities, all the local units of government in the MPO Planning Area, a public hearing on the proposed changes, and ratification by those units of government with 75 percent of the population in the planning area, including the City of Appleton as the largest incorporated city.

### **D. Designation of Fiscal Agent**

East Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission shall be designated to serve as the fiscal agent for the Appleton (Fox Cities) Metropolitan Planning Organization.

1. Location. MPO staff will be provided by the East Central WI Regional Planning Commission
2. Matching Contribution. Outagamie, Calumet and Winnebago Counties shall be responsible for providing the local matching contributions, through their annual levy contribution to ECWRPC.

### **E. Initial Plan Updates**

Subject to state and federal laws and fiscal constraint, to maintain consistency and continuity in the region planning efforts to-date the existing planning documents of the

previous MPOs are adopted, including the fiscally constrained TIPs, as the starting point for future updates, and prioritizing projects currently.

#### **F. Effective Date and Conditions of the Agreement**

1. This agreement is effective on **September 3, 2024** after obtaining signatures of approval by the Governor and representatives of units of government with 75 percent of the population in the MPO Planning Area, including Appleton as the largest incorporated city.
2. This agreement supersedes and voids the designation agreement entered into by the Governor and East Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission dated January 15, 1974.

#### **G. Amendments**

Any changes to the Redesignation Agreement shall be enacted by a written amendment executed by all signatories.

#### **H. Non-Discrimination**

In the performance of the services under this Agreement, the parties shall not discriminate against any employee or applicant because of race, religion, marital status, age, color, sex, handicap, national origin, or ancestry, income level, or source of income, arrest record or conviction record, less than honorable discharge, physical appearance, sexual orientation, political beliefs, or student status. The parties further agree not to discriminate against any subcontractor or person who offers to subcontract on this contract because of race, color, age, disability, sex or national origin.

**WITNESS WHEREOF**, the parties have caused this to be executed by individuals and officers duly authorized on the dates noted below.



Date: May 21, 2024

To: Fox Cities Transit Commission

From: Ronald C. McDonald

Re: VT Service Modification Proposal

Valley Transit provides many transportation options through 9-municipalities in the tri-county area of the Fox Cities. Valley Transit directly operates fixed-route bus service. All other services are provided contractually.

Valley Transit's mission is to provide safe, customer-focused transportation options that connect our communities to enhance quality of life. Valley Transit remains steadfast in getting people where they want to go in the Fox Cities.

Prior to COVID, the ability to maintain sufficient staffing was extremely difficult. Post COVID, its next to impossible to maintain adequate staffing.

The existing fixed-route bus service level isn't sustainable with current staff levels and limited recruitment potential. Consequently, Valley Transit reviewed available transportation options other than bus service to get people where they want to go during non-peak service times.

VT Connector service was initially established as a joint effort between Valley Transit and United Way. This demand response (micro transit) extended service hours (ESH) was designed to allow passengers employment transportation before and after the bus service is operating. Secondly, this demand response (micro transit) service operates as extended service (ESA) area, primarily allowing people living outside Valley Transit's service area to get to a transfer point and catch a bus.

Valley Transit proposes changing its weekday bus service last departure from the Transit Center to 6:15 pm on weekdays and 1:15 pm on Saturday. The VT Connector demand response service will be expanded to the following hours:

Monday – Friday	4:00 am – 6:00 am, 6:00 pm - Midnight
Saturday	4:00 am – 8:00 am, 1:00 pm – Midnight

The VT Connector ESA service to/from areas outside of Valley Transit's service area is being partially financed by United Way. United Way is ending their financial partnership. Valley Transit proposes limiting all VT Connector service to municipalities that participate contractually for Valley Transit bus, ADA, and ancillary service.

**Proposed Service Modification Summary:**

Valley Transit proposes changing the following transportation options throughout its Fox Cities Service Area, **effective Mid July, 2024:**

**Monday – Friday Departures**

4:00 am – 6:00 am, VT Connector Service (micro-transit), fare \$2.00 one-way  
5:45 am – 6:15 pm, VT Bus Service (fixed-route) & VT II, current fare structure  
6:00 pm – Midnight, VT Connector Service (micro-transit), fare \$2.00 one-way

**Saturday Departures**

4:00 am – 8:00 am, VT Connector Service (micro-transit), fare \$2.00 one-way  
7:45 am – 1:15 pm, VT Bus Service (fixed-route) & VT II, current fare structure  
1:00 pm – Midnight, VT Connector Service (micro-transit), fare \$2.00 one-way

VT Connector ESH & ESA transportation will be available within municipal boundaries of the Cities of Appleton, Kaukauna, Menasha, and Neenah; Towns of Buchanan and Grand Chute; Villages of Fox Crossing, Kimberly, and Little Chute

***Calumet & Outagamie County Senior & Rural along with Northern Winnebago Dial a Ride services will remain unchanged.***

Valley Transit is required to have a public hearing about significant proposed changes. A public hearing has been tentatively scheduled for June 04, 2024 at Appleton City Hall, 6<sup>th</sup> floor council chambers at 3:30 pm. Written comments will also be accepted until June 10, 2024.

Valley Transit staff believes the modifications delineated above will be budget neutral.

The Fox Cities Transit Commission will review and/or act on proposed changes at their June 11, 2024 meeting at 2:50 pm.

Due to staffing, Valley Transit will be closed July 4-6, 2024.

**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

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

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

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

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  
schedule as it is  
now, and abrupt  
changes will  
throw me off  
p.s. time

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



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

Please put these things into consideration to making this decision.

Thank you for your time. Sincerely, Kimberly 

RECEIVED

MAY 22 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

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

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

~~Flora~~

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

---

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

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[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](#)

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**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

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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

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**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

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**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