



Date: April 21, 2021

From: Jacob A. Woodford, Mayor
Ronald C. McDonald, General Manager

To: Fox Cities Transit Commission
City of Appleton Common Council

Re: Request for Disabled Veteran Free Fare

Dear Fox Cities Transit Commissioners,

We received a request for "Service Connected" Disabled Veterans to ride free of charge on Valley Transit buses. Winnebago County Department of Veterans Services Benefits Specialist, Kevin Jurgella, noted Go Transit (Oshkosh) and Green Bay Metro each have Disabled Veteran Free Fare Policies. Each of the referenced policies allows for "Service Connected" disabled veterans to ride free on fixed-route buses.

The John H. Bradley Appleton VA Clinic is currently serviced hourly by Valley Transit's route 12. Currently, disabled veterans riding on Valley Transit buses are eligible for a one-half (\$1.00) fare. Consequently, significant financial impact in regard to Valley Transit fare revenue if "Service Connected" disabled veterans are allowed to ride free is not anticipated.

This request allows for transportation barriers to be eliminated for "Service Connected" disabled veterans. With that, Valley Transit has an opportunity to recognize and assist veterans with service-connected disabilities.

Recommendation: Valley Transit shall establish a policy for all disabled veterans who show a Veterans Administration ID Healthcare card indicating "Service Connected" be allowed to ride for free.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Jacob A. Woodford, Mayor

Ronald C. McDonald, General Manager