EXECUTIVE REPORT

April 2010

METRO Ride

COMMUNITIES SERVED

Village of Rothschild
City of Schofield
Village of Weston
City of Wausau

TRANSIT COMMISSION

Gary Klingbeil, Chair
City of Wausau

Ed Gale
City of Wausau

Sherry Abitz
City of Wausau

Fred Heider
Village of Rothschild

Ken Fabel
City of Schofield

Jean Jackan
Village of Weston

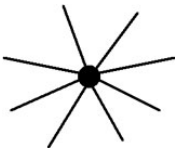
Keith Draheim
Citizen Member

Jeff Cloninger
Citizen Member

SAFE, RELIABLE, AFFORDABLE, BASIC MOBILITY

Public transportation has been part of the fabric of our community for many years, dating back to the first street cars in 1906. Much has changed over the years, but our objective - to provide safe, reliable, affordable, basic mobility remains unchanged. Today, Metro Ride provides accessible city bus service, as well as paratransit service for persons with disabilities. This transit system represents a successful local partnership between the City of Wausau, the Village of Rothschild, the City of Schofield, the Village of Weston, Marathon County and the Wausau School District.

BUS SERVICE



Metro Ride operates a "hub and spoke" route structure – resembling a wagon wheel. Routes originate from a central location (hub) and travel on designated routes (spokes). Routes are "fixed", meaning that busses do not stray from their published routes.

Passengers can transfer between routes at the Metro Ride Transit Center in downtown Wausau or at Shopko in Rothschild. On Saturdays, North Central Health Care is also a transfer location.

Eight routes operate at thirty-minute intervals within the City of Wausau and the Village of Weston. One route operates at sixty-minute intervals – traveling between Wausau, Rothschild, Schofield and Weston. Bus stops are located along each route on every other corner or so.

Metro Ride also provides "Express" bus routes during the school year to alleviate crowding on regular routes. Most of these routes are designed to "express" passengers to their destination by eliminating the need to transfer downtown. All express routes are open to the general public. They operate on days when Wausau District schools are in session.

SERVICE FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

All Metro Ride busses are equipped with wheelchair lifts or ramps to provide access for persons with disabilities. Metro Ride also provides paratransit service, pursuant to the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Metro Ride Paratransit is an origin-to-destination van service operated by Abby Vans under contract to Metro Ride.

FUNDING PARTNERS

Metro Ride transit services are made possible by our funding partners, which include the Federal government, the State of Wisconsin, the City of Wausau, the Village of Rothschild, the City of Schofield, the Village of Weston, Marathon County and the Wausau School District. Each of our partners contributes to our annual operating budget. Capital assets are funded with 80% federal funding and 20% local funding.

FACTS AT A GLANCE *(2009)*

Bus Miles	573,876
Bus Hours	44,451.54
Bus Fuel (gal)	134,992
Bus Riders	794,121
Bus Expense	$3,078,200
Bus Expense/Ride	$3.88
Paratransit Riders	28,140
Paratransit Expense	$638,034
Paratransit Expense/Ride	$22.67

HOURS OF OPERATION

Monday-Friday
6:00 a.m. – 6:30 p.m.

Saturday
8:30 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.
Saturday service is not provided during the summer months.

Sundays
No Service

Holidays
No service on:
New Year's Day
Independence Day
Labor Day
Thanksgiving
Christmas Day

FOR MORE INFORMATION

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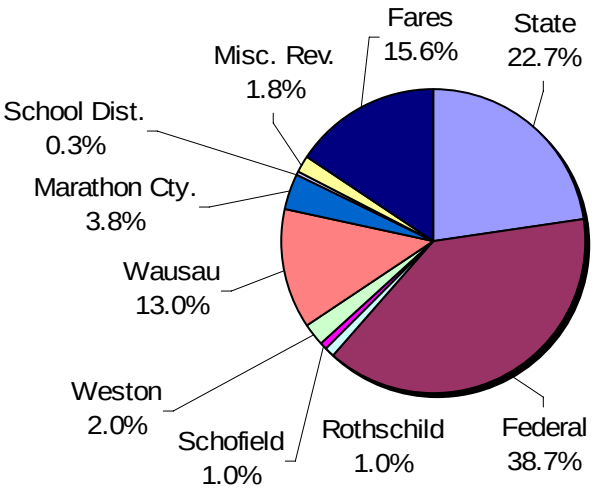


FUNDING SUMMARY *(2009)*	
State	$843,323.48
Federal	$1,438,273.00
Rothschild	$37,462.39
Schofield	$37,117.28
Weston	$75,012.35
Wausau	$481,808.15
Marathon County	$141,853.21
School District	$12,173.04
Passenger Fares	$581,094.55
Miscellaneous	$68,116.31
Total	$3,716,233.76

THE VALUE OF PUBLIC TRANSIT

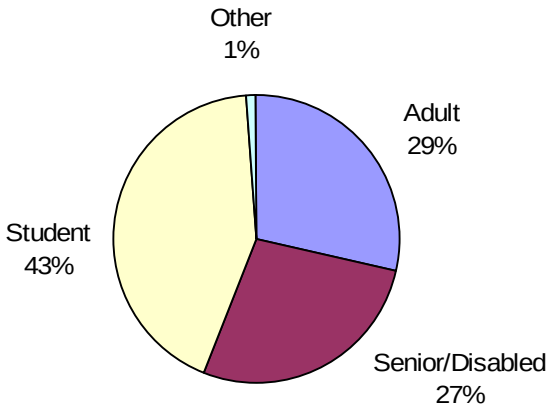
Every $1 spent on public transit in Wisconsin reaps more than $3 in economic benefits. *(The Socio-Economic Benefits of Transit in Wisconsin, WisDOT, May 2006)*

At the 2005 White House Conference on Aging, delegates voted the lack of mobility options the most serious issue facing seniors in the next decade.

Compared with private vehicles, public transportation produces, on average, per passenger mile: 95% less carbon monoxide; 92% fewer volatile organic compounds; 45% less carbon dioxide; 48% less nitrogen oxide. *(American Public Transportation Association)*

WHO RIDES THE BUS ANYWAY?

BUS RIDER SUMMARY (2009)	
Adult	196,056
Student	295,120
Elderly/Disabled	187,792
Other	8,224
Total Revenue Riders	687,192
Transfer Passengers	102,579
Non-Revenue Riders	4,350
Total Riders	794,121



COOPERATION, COORDINATION, AND INNOVATION

Metro Ride has contracted out a major segment of operations (paratransit) since the early 1990's. We have coordinated our services across local boundaries for many years. We have partnered with Marathon County to access additional State and Federal funding for both parties, and we are jointly contracting with them for services. We have partnered with the Wausau School District to provide additional service while reducing the cost of our operations borne by local municipalities. We sell advertising space on the outside of our buses to generate additional revenue. Metro Ride serves as a model for regional cooperation, coordination and innovation.