



Highway Department

Highway Facility
300 Oak Ridge Parkway | Baldwin, WI 54002
Telephone: 715-245-4200 | Fax: 715-245-4199
www.sccwi.gov

St. Croix County Transit Commission

The Vision of the St Croix County Transit Commission is the people of St Croix County and surrounding areas have access to transportation opportunities to connect them to an enhanced quality of life.

The Mission of the St. Croix County Transit Commission is to establish sustainable options to connect communities and to meet the public transit needs of the citizens of St. Croix County and surrounding areas.

The history & activities to date

- Early in 2014 members of the St. Croix Valley Human Services Network came to the St. Croix County Board with facts about public transit and the need to get people to area services.
- In July, 2015 the Transportation Committee appointed members to the newly formed Transit Planning Sub-Committee of St. Croix County.
- The sub-committee members met monthly since the creation and have met with the Human Services Network of St. Croix Valley, Center for Independent Living, Dunn County Transit Commission Chair and members from the West Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission transportation planning program. We have gained information about the MN Gateway Corridor, public transit links to Metro Transit and other transportation avenues.
- We have learned of State and Federal grants, other funding opportunities and different terms used in the public transit systems. We issued a request for a transportation services survey to all possible organizations that provide services in St. Croix County. The results of the survey has helped us gather information, data on services and vehicles already in place in St. Croix County.
- We were presented with information about the WisDOT Transit Planning Grant that included a review of a possible scope of work and cost sharing for a transit feasibility study. This feasibility study will provide information and options for a possible transit system in St. Croix County. This project

is expected to have up to 80% of the project expenses provided by the Federal Transit Administration under 49 USC §5304 (CFDA 20.515).

In June of 2018, a Transit Commission was appointed by the County Board. The first meeting was held on June 14. Meetings are held the 2nd Tuesday of the month.

Commission Members

The newly appointed members serve 3 year staggered terms.

Dave Ostness, County Board Member, Commission Chair 2020

Peg Gagnon, Exec Director, BRIDGE for Community Life, Commission Vice Chair 2021

David Peterson, County Board Member 2020

Paulette Anderson, County Board Member 2020

Andrea Jorgenson, Xcel Energy 2021

George Zaske, Citizen member 2021

Jacqueline Niccum, Citizen member 2022

Julie Dillon, Citizen member 2022

Sere' Leber, Citizen member 2022

The Benefits of Public Transportation in Wisconsin

Information provided from the Transportation Development Association (TDA) website can be found at <http://www.tdawisconsin.org>

Saves Money

- According to AAA, the total cost to own and drive a car is about 58 cents per mile. Public transportation provides an affordable, and for many, necessary alternative to driving.
- Households that use public transportation and live with one less car can save on average almost \$9,000 every year. In 2014, Americans took 10.8 billion trips on public transportation.

Helps the Environment

- Each year, the use of public transportation saves 4.2 billion gallons of gasoline. Households within close proximity to public transportation drive on average 4,400 fewer miles a year - using approximately 200 fewer gallons of gas.
- Public transportation reduces the nation's carbon emissions by 37 million metric tons annually - the equivalent of the electricity use of New York City; Washington, DC; Atlanta; Denver; and Los Angeles combined.

Provides Opportunities

- Public transportation provides access to job opportunities for millions of Americans as well as a transportation option to get to work, go to school, visit friends, or go to a doctor visit.

- By 2035, an estimated 20% of the population - one in five people - will be over 65. Providing mobility options is critical for older Americans.
- Public transportation systems provide a vital link to millions of American's with disabilities.

The State of Wisconsin

In St. Croix County 107,000 cars cross into and out of Wisconsin daily using the I-94 interstate highway over the bridge in Hudson and WI Highway 64 over the bridge in Stillwater, Minnesota (2010 Census data).

In St. Croix County 25,000 Wisconsin residents work in Wisconsin and could benefit from using public transportation options (2010 Census data).

In St. Croix County 20,000 Wisconsin residents work in Minnesota and could benefit from using public transportation options (2010 Census data).

In Wisconsin, public transportation consists of a variety of services including: specialized, fixed-route and shared-ride taxis which includes 81 public transit systems including urban and rural bus systems and shared-ride taxi systems.

Wisconsin's transit systems provide access to public transportation for approximately 55% of the state's population.

48% of riders use public transit to get to work and another 23% for education according to a statewide study.

2/1/2019