



Beloit Transit System
www.beloittransit.com



February 2018

The City of Beloit has operated public transit since 1907, now providing close to **quarter of a million** passenger trips annually. Since 1987 we have also jointly operated a regional transit service (in cooperation with the City of Janesville) called the Beloit/Janesville Express (BJE). The local funding for the BJE comes from consortium of private, public and non-profit, necessitating two annual contracts and dozens of signatures annually for the nine entities.

In December 2016 we implemented major route changes, as a result of a year-long study of our system. The study revealed that **93% of our riders use the transit system every week**, and **65% use it 3 or more times per week**. The purposes of our passenger trips are diverse: 27% medical appointments, 25% work, 33% shopping, and 15% for school. Also, according to this study, most riders are what would be classified as dependent riders (riders with little to no other options) as **50.5% do not have access to a car**, while an additional 24.2% do not have a license to operate a vehicle.

Public transit in Wisconsin is estimated to provide a benefit of about \$1.55 per work-related trip, \$4.03 per educational trip, and \$5.66 per health care-related trip. That means that Beloit Transit System contributes enormous **economic benefits** to the community. Simply put, public transit is an economic driver, and the state's financial support must be recognized for what it is: an investment.

Predictable and stable funding is essential. Transit is infrastructure, an economic driver, and is a critical service for Beloit.

Considering the makeup of transit rider's usage in **Beloit**, in addition to the direct benefits of public transit, we experience indirect benefits such as **substantial cost savings to other government programs** due to increased access to jobs, health care, and education. Those indirect economic benefits alone have been demonstrated to far exceed transit investments.

New: We are on Google Maps as of 2016, and changed our website to include interactive maps and trip builders!

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Michelle Gavin".

Michelle A. Gavin
Director of Transit
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