

McHenry County Transit Plan Implementation Task Force

Agenda

McHenry County Transit Plan
Implementation Task Force

DATE: January 25, 2012

TIME: 2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

LOCATION: McHenry County Administration Building, Conference Room A
667 Ware Road, Woodstock, IL 60098

1. Call to Order – Jason Osborn (MCDOT)

2. Public Participation/Open Comment Period

3. Transit Grant Program

- County service metrics update – Jason Osborn (MCDOT)
- MCRide update – Brittany Graham (MCDOT)
- Algonquin Township Road District – Anna May Miller
- City of Marengo – Josh Blakemore
- Faith in Action – Sarah J. Ponitz
- Veterans Assistance Commission – Mike Iwanicki

4. Transit Planning Activities

- McHenry County Transit Plan update – Jason Osborn (MCDOT)
- McHenry County Long Range Transportation Plan public comments update – Brittany Graham (MCDOT)
- Transportation for seniors – Brittany Graham (MCDOT)

5. Funding Program Updates

- McHenry County JARC/NF project status – Jason Osborn
- County Fiscal Year 2012 Funding (Resolution Attached)

6. Other Business

- Discussion on transportation vouchers – Brittany Graham (MCDOT)

7. Next ITF Meeting

Next meeting: Wednesday, March 28, 2012, 2:00 p.m.

8. Adjournment

McHenry County Transit Plan Implementation Task Force

Minutes

McHenry County Transit Plan
Implementation Task Force

DATE: January 25, 2011

TIME: 2:00 – 3:00 p.m.

LOCATION: McHenry County Administration Building, Conference Room A
667 Ware Road, Woodstock, IL 60098

Attendees

City of Crystal Lake: Brad Mitchell

City of Woodstock: Roscoe Stelford

City of Marengo: Josh Blakemore

Dorr Township: Bob Pierce

Algonquin Township Highway Department: Derek Lee

McHenry Township: Terry Wagner

Grafton Township: Linda Moore

Greenwood Township: Barbara Klasen

McHenry County Staff: Jason Osborn, Brittany Graham

Metra: Rick Mack

Northeastern Illinois Area Agency on Aging: Donna Copeland Hill

Pace: Mary Donner, Dan Dembinski

Woodstock Trans. Comm.: Andrew Celentano

Pioneer Center: Jeff Kurth

Veterans Assistance Commission: Michael Iwanicki

Illinois Bureau of Blind Service: Susan Dalton

Senior Services: Bee Rettinger

McHenry County Board: Diane Evertsen, Ersel Schuster

McHenry County Council of Mayors: Chalen Daigle

Lake County DOT: Valbona Kokoshi

Jason Osborn from the McHenry County Division of Transportation called the meeting order at 2:00 p.m. The attendees all introduced themselves.

Jason Osborn from McHenry County summarized the 2011 services under the Tran Grant Program. Overall, ridership has been increasing and costs per trip have remain constant despite higher gas prices.

McHenry County Transit Plan Implementation Task Force

Brittany Graham from McHenry County gave an update on the new MCRide service beginning on February 1st. Flyers explaining the upcoming changes have been distributed at key locations and on all Pace buses. MCRide questions from the public were discussed. Linda Moore from Grafton Township asked if there was a way to link the township service with the MCRide service with a possible drop-off location. Mary Donner from Pace and Jason Osborn explained how this was possible by calling MCRide and scheduling a pick-up time and location within the MCRide service area.

Mike Iwanicki provided an update of services at the VAC. December has a busier than normal month perhaps due to the nice weather.

Josh Blakemoor provided an update of services in Marengo. The City, Marengo Township, and Riley Township continue to support and discuss services in the Marengo/Union area. The ridership numbers have remained fairly constant.

Mr. Osborn provided an update on the McHenry County Transit Plan. The draft Existing Conditions Report was completed and electronically sent to ITF members. Next steps for the Transit Plan include identifying and assessing the needs for transit service and developing service scenarios to meet these needs.

Ms. Graham informed the ITF on the public outreach efforts for the 2040 Long Range Transportation Plan. The website is available for people to learn about the planning process and give their input by taking surveys and posting comments on the interactive map. The link to the website is: www.2040mchenrycountyplan.org. A summary was given of the public transportation public comments from the “pop-up” meetings conducted around McHenry County.

Using the comments received from seniors and additional research, a memo was created by MCDOT staff to identify issues and possible solutions regarding seniors and transportation. This is important for McHenry County to address since improvements for the aging population will also improve the quality of life for all McHenry County residents.

An update on funding programs was given by Jason Osborn. This is the third and last year of the County’s Transit Grant program. It will be important for the ITF to consider whether or not a new call for projects should be undertaken by the County this year and what role the ITF should play in the future to improve transit in the County.

A possibility of creating transportation vouchers was discussed. Definite interest in vouchers was shown, leading to the creation of a small group to address the issue. The

McHenry County Transit Plan Implementation Task Force

group will discuss possible structures for a voucher program and report progress to the ITF. At this time, the group includes the Pioneer Center, Veterans Assistance Commission, Greenwood Township, and Dorr Township. All others who are interested are to contact Brittany Graham at MCDOT.

The meeting concluded at 3:15 with a reminder of the next meeting scheduled for Wednesday, March 28, 2012 at 2:00 p.m. at the usual meeting site of the McHenry County Administration Building in Woodstock.

January 25, 2012 ITF Agenda

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2.0 Transit Grant Program Updates

3.0 Transit Planning Activities

4.0 Funding Program Updates

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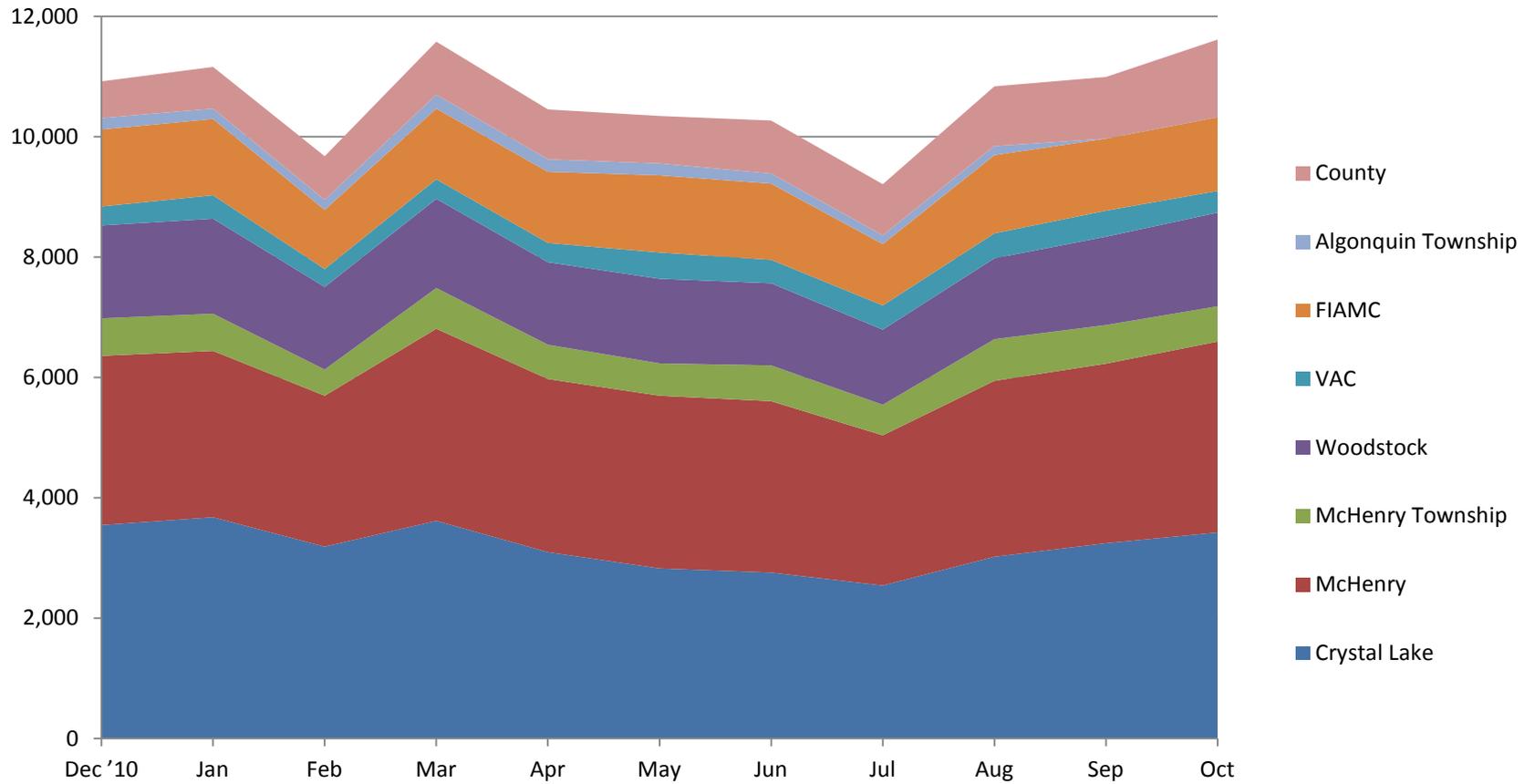
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 - MCRide update – Brittany Graham (MCDOT)
 - Algonquin Township Road District – Anna May Miller
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- Veterans Assistance Commission – Mike Iwanicki

3.0 Transit Planning Activities

4.0 Funding Program Updates

Flyer Drop off Locations

- Sheltered Village
600 Borden, Woodstock
- Woodstock Metra Station
- Hearthstone Manor
920 North Seminary Ave,
Woodstock
- Senior Services
110 W. Woodstock Street,
Crystal Lake
- Senior Services
3519 N. Richmond Road,
McHenry
- Crystal Lake Metra Station
- Crystal Pines Rehabilitation and
Health Care Center
335 N Illinois St, Crystal Lake
- Sunrise of Crystal Lake
- 751 East Terra Cotta Ave, Crystal Lake
- Fountains of Crystal Lake
- 965 W Brighton Circle, Crystal Lake
- McHenry Call Center
- Pioneer Center
- 4001 Dayton St, McHenry
- Alden Terrace of McHenry
- 803 Royal Dr, McHenry
- McHenry Villa
- 3516 West Waukegan Rd, McHenry
- Fair Oaks
- 471 W Terra Cotta Ave, Crystal Lake

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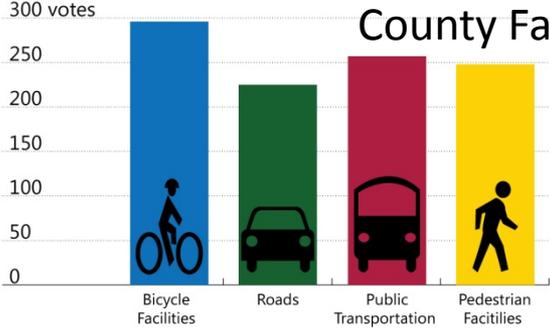
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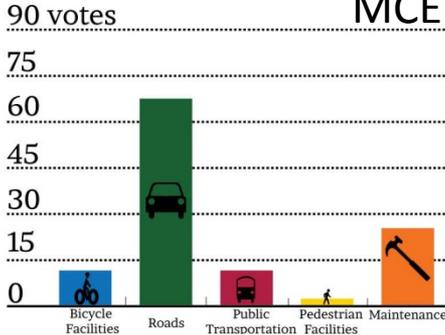
4.0 Funding Program Updates

Piggy Bank Results

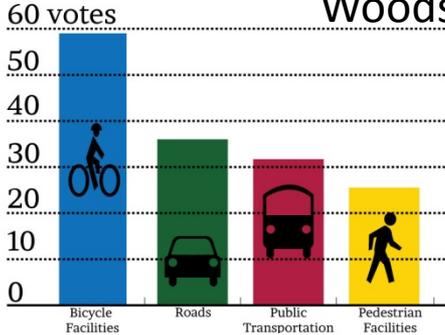
County Fair



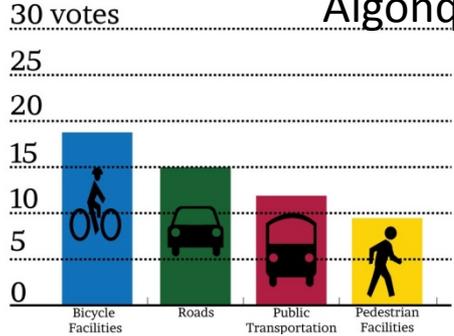
MCEDC



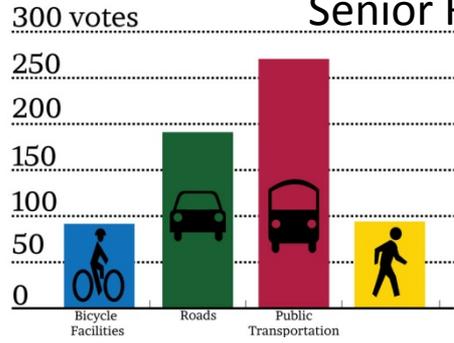
Woodstock



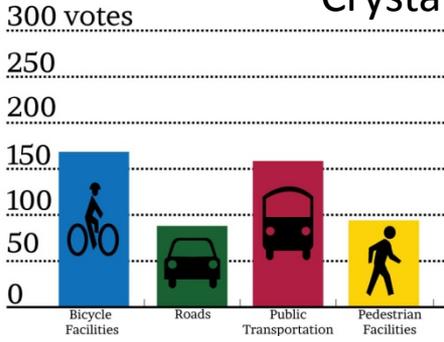
Algonquin



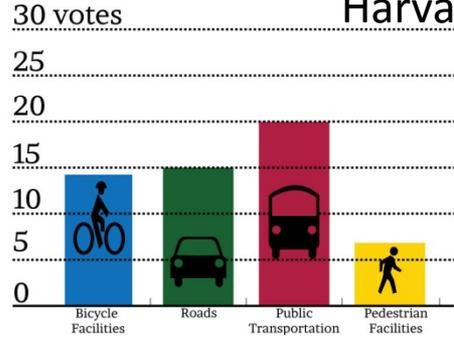
Senior Fair



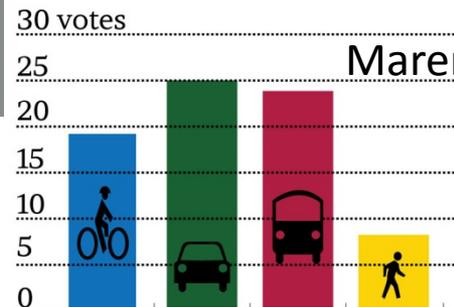
Crystal Lake



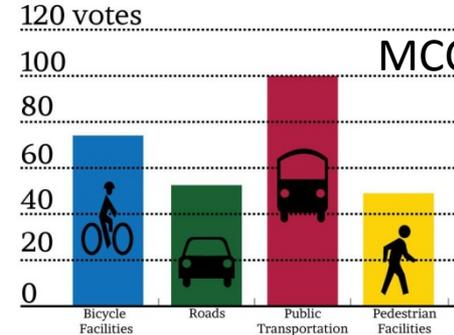
Harvard



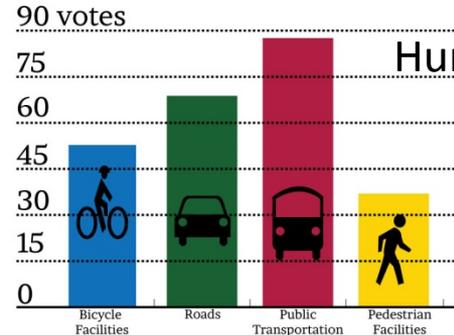
Marengo



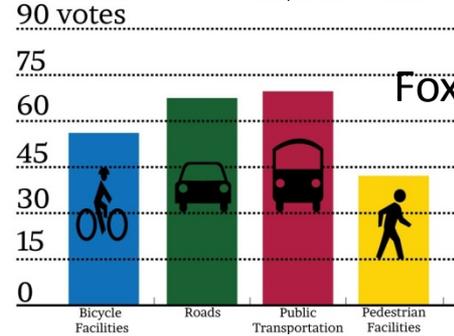
MCCC



Huntley



Fox Lake



January 25, 2012 ITF Agenda

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- **McHenry County JARC/NF project status – Jason Osborn**
- **County Fiscal Year 2012 Funding (Resolution Attached)**

Thanks for Coming!
The Next ITF Meeting is on

Wednesday, March 28, 2012, 2:00 p.m

Contact:

McHenry County Division of Transportation

Brittany Graham

1-815-334-4985

bdgraham@co.mchenry.il.us



New Service Beginning February 1, 2012

Fare Changes to

McHenry County Dial-a-Ride Services

In Crystal Lake, McHenry, Woodstock, and Pilot/Tri-City Service Area

The County's Pilot/Tri-City and the dial-a-ride services in Crystal Lake, McHenry, and Woodstock are being combined into one new service called MCRide. This will make it easier for suburban to suburban commuters and persons with disabilities to schedule and use dial-a-ride services in McHenry County, improve access to jobs and job related activities, and provide greater mobility to individuals with disabilities. This service receives a portion of its funding from the Federal Transit Administration of the U.S. Department of Transportation through Job Access and Reverse Commute and New Freedom grants administered by the RTA. Visit <http://www.co.mchenry.il.us/departments/dot/Pages/PaceService.aspx>.

To schedule a ride, please call **1-800-451-4599** (TTY 1-888-454-4724).

Service Changes

- Service in and between Crystal Lake, McHenry, and Woodstock will now be called MCRide.
- MCRide is supported by a Job Access Reverse Commute grant to provide transportation to work.
- Trip reservations can be made from the day before to up to one hour before the pick-up time.
- Service hours are Monday-Friday 6:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m. and Saturday 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
- Fares will be adjusted to a single distance-based fare structure.
- No changes to the McHenry Township Senior Express service.

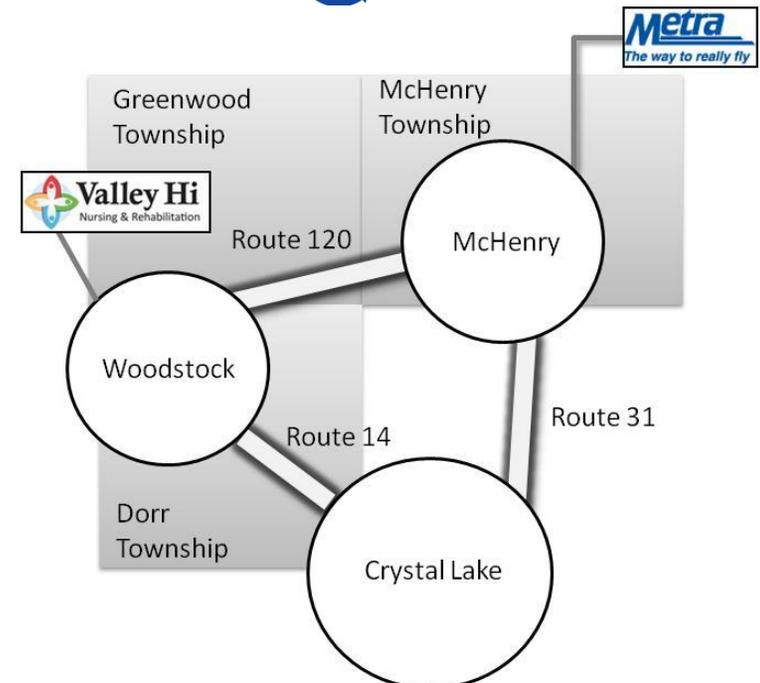
Eligibility and Service Area

All individuals are eligible for travel to and from the following locations:

- Incorporated areas of the Crystal Lake, McHenry, and Woodstock
- Valley Hi Nursing Home and McHenry County Division of Transportation
- Fox Lake Metra station
- Within three-quarters of a mile of:
 - of Route 120 between Woodstock and McHenry
 - of Route 14 between Woodstock and Crystal Lake
 - of Route 31 between the Crystal Lake and McHenry

MCRide is supported by a New Freedom grant. As such, seniors (60+) and people with disabilities are eligible for trips throughout the above service area as well as to and from locations in:

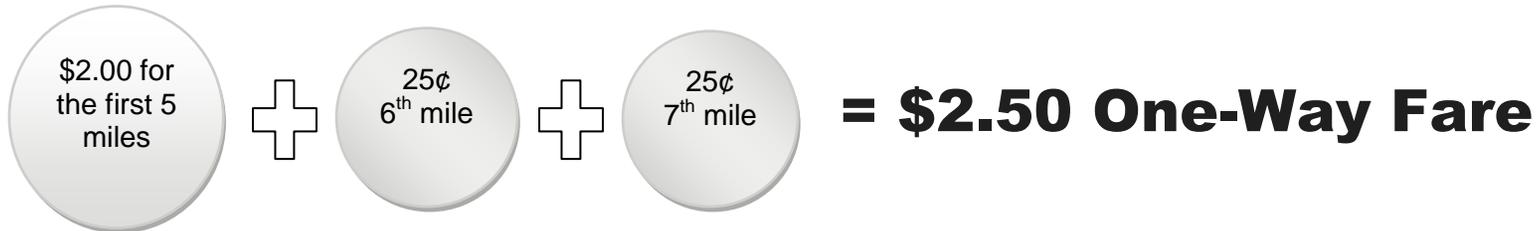
- Greenwood Township (New Service Area!)
- McHenry Township and Unincorporated areas of Dorr Township



Fare Changes

- As of February 1, 2012, you will pay a base fare for the first five miles plus \$0.25 for each additional mile.

For example, a 7 mile one-way trip from Woodstock to Crystal Lake will cost \$2.50:



- If you have a disability and require a personal travel assistant, one assistant rides free.
- Individuals 60 years and older are eligible for the senior fare (this is lower than the current 65 years and older).
- Up to two children 7 years or younger can ride free per fare paying adult.
- City of McHenry Senior Vouchers will be accepted for trips in the City of McHenry only.
- Transfers will be allowed from the fixed bus routes only (routes 806, 807, and 808 for example). Transfer cards will no longer be sold on the dial-a-ride service. Transfers will continue to be sold on the fixed bus routes.
- No Pace passes will be accepted.
- Students without a disability will pay the same fares as the general public.
- Riders in Crystal Lake and McHenry will have fares gradually increased to match current City of Woodstock fares.
- For more information regarding the new service call the McHenry County Division of Transportation at (815) 334-4985.

Fares for the first five miles:

Type	If this is your current fare and service....				you will pay this for the first 5 miles of your trip as of February 1, 2012		...and as of January 1, 2014
	Crystal Lake	McHenry	Woodstock	County	Crystal Lake & McHenry	Woodstock & County	All
General	\$1.50	\$1.75	\$2.00	\$3.00	\$1.75	\$2.00	\$2.00
Senior (60+)	75¢	75¢	\$1.00	\$3.00	85¢	\$1.00	\$1.00
Disabled	75¢	75¢	\$1.00	\$3.00	85¢	\$1.00	\$1.00
Student	75¢	75¢	\$1.50	\$3.00	\$1.75	\$2.00	\$2.00

(and add 25 cents for each additional mile)

To schedule a ride, please call **1-800-451-4599** (TTY 1-888-454-4724).



Flyer Drop off Locations

1. Sheltered Village
600 Borden, Woodstock
2. Woodstock Metra Station
3. Hearthstone Manor
920 North Seminary Ave, Woodstock
4. Senior Services
110 W. Woodstock Street, Crystal Lake
5. Senior Services
3519 N. Richmond Road, McHenry
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751 East Terra Cotta Ave, Crystal Lake
9. Fountains of Crystal Lake
965 W Brighton Circle, Crystal Lake
10. McHenry Call Center
11. Pioneer Center
4001 Dayton St, McHenry
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803 Royal Dr, McHenry
13. McHenry Villa
3516 West Waukegan Rd, McHenry
14. Fair Oaks
471 W Terra Cotta Ave, Crystal Lake

MCRide Questions

- The Dial a Ride acts as a babysitter for some individuals who ride the bus every day, all day long, and make numerous stops. This service needs to stop babysitting these people.
- There are problems with Pace dispatching. I will call for a ride to pick me up from Jewel and bring me home (a trip that only takes about 5 minutes). But then someone else schedules a trip to be dropped off on the other side of the County. I get picked up, and driven all around the county for other peoples' rides (taking over an hour) when my trip is only a couple of miles away.
- I am fine having the higher fares with this better service.
- I would rather pay for my trip with cards instead of cash. It will take people too long to get out the correct amount of change.
- Do I have to register as disabled?
- Am I still able to get a ride from where I live?
- I am willing to pay more for this improved service.
- I am a circuit breaker user. Can I still use that?
- Using the Pace pass is much easier than cash, especially for elderly and disabled.
- The increase in price is causing a hardship on riders.
- A woman in McHenry, who does not qualify for McHenry's vouchers, is now going to have to pay \$14.00 a day to bring her children to daycare. This is over double what she is currently paying.
- How are the wheel chairs handled? Are they strapped in?
- I am visually impaired and am concerned about my safety when using the bus. I don't want the bus to drop me on the opposite side of the street.
- This service will be slow with everyone getting coins out. It's not going to work well.
- Whoever takes calls, remind the riders to have their coins ready when they board.
- I don't know how far 5 miles is. I don't know how to figure how much my ride will cost.
- Can you use the 30 days or 10 rides passes on the fixed routes?
- Can you use transfers? On the fixed routes?
- I am waiting on a subscription with Pioneer Center. The subscription rides bring me between my home and Pioneer Center. Will anything be changing with this?
- Any changes to the 805 bus?
- No transfers? Why?
- I don't understand the fare changes. Is it the same price if I want to go to McHenry or to Woodstock?
- Can I still call the same day?
- How does it work if I have someone come with me to assist?
- This seems like a better service.
- I have been riding from home to Metra every day in Crystal Lake for 16 years. The service is fine during the day, but horrible at night. Bad dispatching. I have to sometimes wait an hour longer than my scheduled pick up time.
- Having to pay cash now is inconvenient. Much easier with a pass.
- I am a subscription rider; do I have to call to schedule each ride now?
- Love this service, the drivers are great.
- I had to get rid of my car and so had to take public transportation. I was so scared and didn't know how to use public transportation. I was in tears and the drivers helped me through.

- Heard about it on the TV and wanted some more information.
- Need help getting my book bag up the stairs of the bus.
- Can I go to my friend's house in Cary?
- What number do I call to schedule a ride? Can I still call a couple of hours before I need to be picked up?
- Do I have to have exact change? Can I give \$1.00 for an 85 cent trip and get 15 cents back?
- How much do I have to pay to go from McHenry to Woodstock?
- I hope the services stays this way for awhile. I don't want it to keep changing once I get used to how it works.
- My son is currently going to the Pioneer Center everyday on a reduced fare pass. Now, do I have to send cash with him every day?
- Will there be a pass issued for MCRide or will it be only on a cash basis?
- Can I use a pace pass?
- How much will it cost to go from Johnsburg to MCC?
- There's a new phone number?
- How much will my trip cost going just within Crystal Lake?
- Can I go to Cary on this service?
- My son is special needs and I want to feel the service is secure for him to get from home to the Pioneer center. Transfers make it less secure. Needing him to carry money makes it less secure. He may drop or lose the money. Would like to see some kind of monthly pass I can purchase. It does not seem that the call center knows how the new service will work. This makes me feel less secure sending my son on it.
- I am JUST outside the service area, only a couple of blocks. Can I have the bus meet me at the corner a couple of blocks away from my house, in the service area?
- Will there no longer be the fixed routes? I rely on these.
- I don't recall ever having a public meeting on these changes.
- Will the number of buses decrease? I do not want any reduction in buses/services? If you do, people won't be able to get to work on time. They need the dependability.
- Can I still use my McHenry vouchers?
- What is the McHenry Township Senior Express? How much does that cost?
- This service is invaluable; I just have to be patient with it.
- I am 88 and have friends who should not be driving, but they do because they have no other option to get around.
- I called pace to schedule a ride and they said I should be aware of the upcoming changes, but they did not know what those changes were.
- When can I call to schedule a trip for Monday?
- I am very glad that you have Saturday bus service. I wish you had service on Sundays for going to church.
- It seems this new service may be simpler.
- If I have numerous trips to make in one day, do I schedule all those trips at one time?
- Do I call the 1-800 number to make sure my ride is still coming if the weather is bad?
- I am confused with the changes occurring on February 1st. I currently take the 807 from the Metra Station to Pioneer Center every day. If this price increases to \$2.50 or more per day, I cannot afford it.

- Are there any options for less expensive trips? Is there a disabled discount? Are there vouchers?
- It doesn't make any sense to get rid of the passes. Having passes is so much easier. The dollar deposit box gets filled up too quickly. We should have the \$40 for 40 rides passes and then that will cover the \$1.00 for the first 5 miles. And if we need to pay for more miles, we can bring change.
- Will it be more difficult to get a ride if we now can schedule a ride only 1 day ahead of time?
- How does it work if you are using a voucher and the ride goes over 5 miles?
- This is much more confusing, having to figure out how much the ride will cost with paying per mile.
- How do I get a disability fare?
- It is more difficult if we can only schedule a ride 1 day ahead of time. It would be easier if we could call a week ahead of time.
- Will the new service go to Johnsburg?
- It is so hard to schedule a ride for the time I need to go to a doctor appointment.

*** Lots of confusion as to what service they are currently riding. They all call each service something different than we do and do not know which service they are currently using.

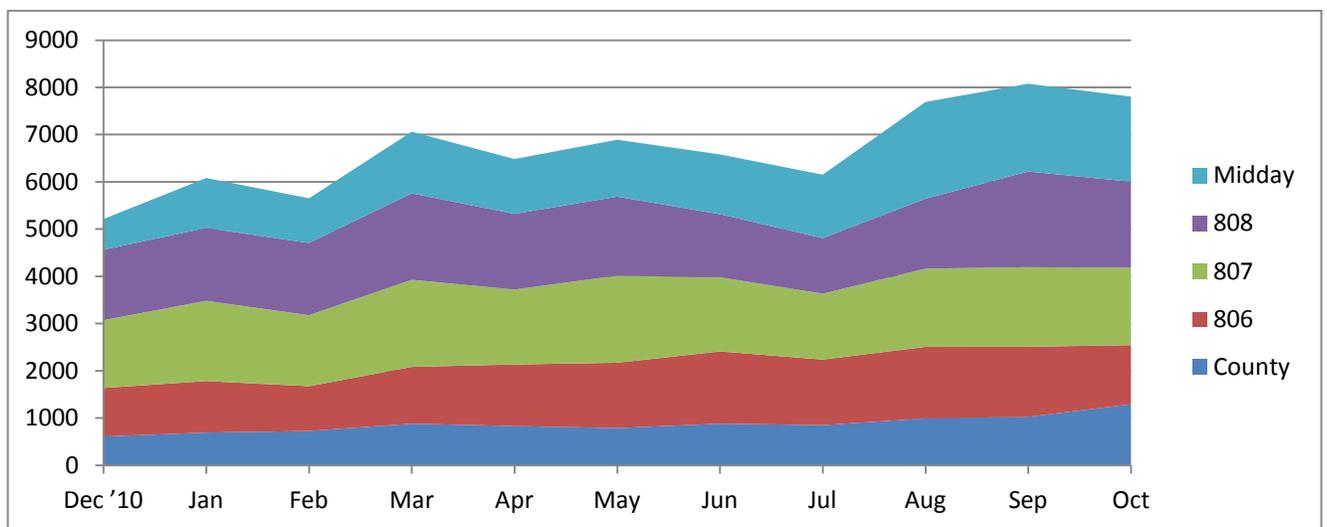
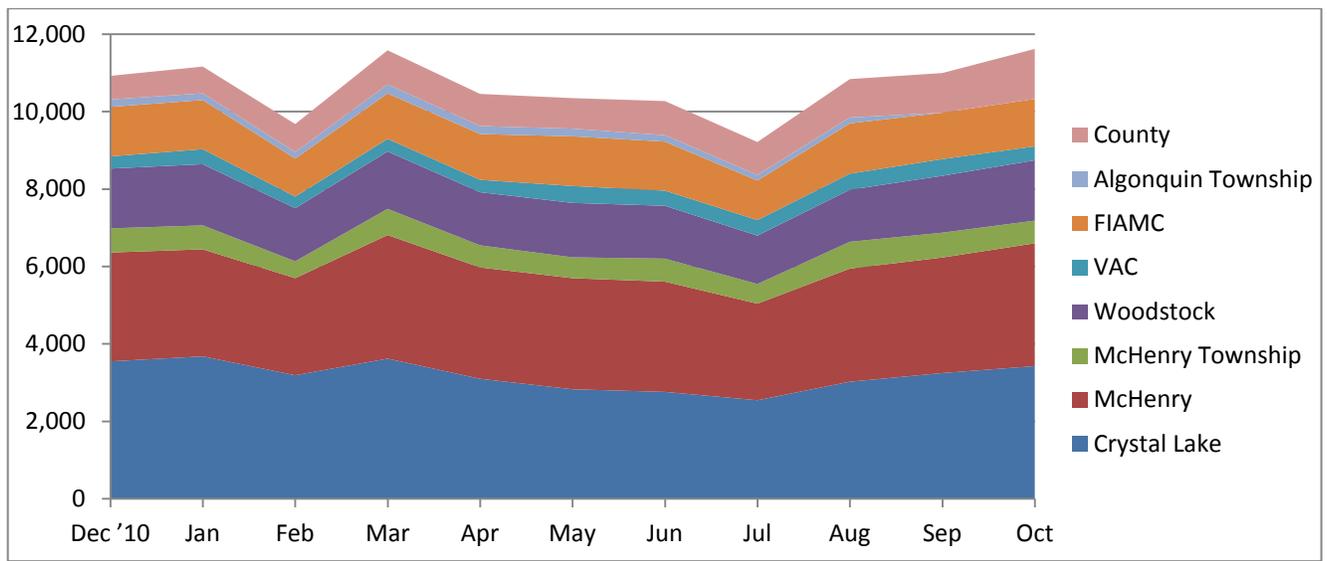
***How much will my trip cost if I'm going from _____ to _____

2011 Transit Grant Program

Service Summary

Total Monthly Ridership

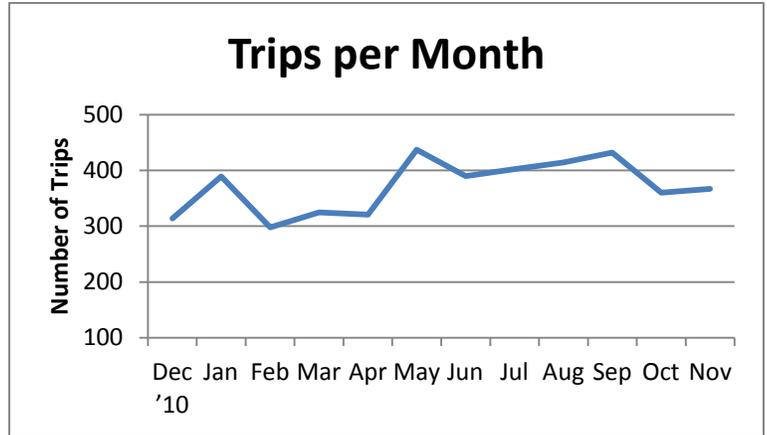
	Crystal Lake	McHenry	McHenry Township	Woodstock	VAC	FIAMC	Algonquin Township	County	806	807	808	Midday
Dec '10	3,548	2,811	624	1,544	314	1280	191	609	1,027	1,436	1,491	649
Jan	3,677	2,765	618	1,579	389	1268	173	692	1,090	1,699	1,543	1,057
Feb	3,189	2,508	436	1,371	298	983	166	726	947	1,504	1,528	946
Mar	3,618	3,192	677	1,482	325	1174	232	881	1,201	1,844	1,831	1,303
Apr	3,098	2,876	571	1,370	321	1182	207	830	1,304	1,585	1,603	1,161
May	2,828	2,869	538	1,405	437	1282	199	788	1,382	1,843	1,673	1,204
Jun	2,759	2,847	595	1,365	390	1266	167	881	1,529	1,568	1,337	1,265
Jul	2,544	2,495	508	1,248	402	1020	145	850	1,387	1,395	1,176	1,343
Aug	3,022	2,922	693	1,344	414	1300	151	992	1,514	1,656	1,481	2,047
Sep	3,246	2,984	642	1,468	432	1197		1,025	1,484	1,684	2,026	1,857
Oct	3,425	3,172	586	1,557	360	1224		1,292	1,251	1,636	1,824	1,800
Nov					367							



Veterans Assistance Commission

Trip data received for May 2011 – Nov 2011

- Average of 180 trips per month

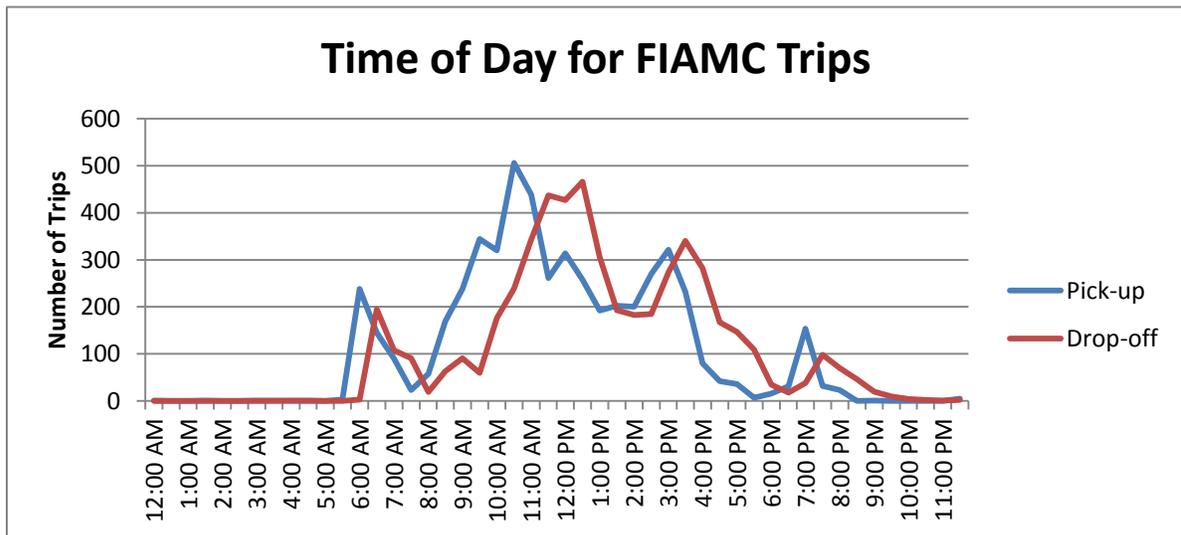
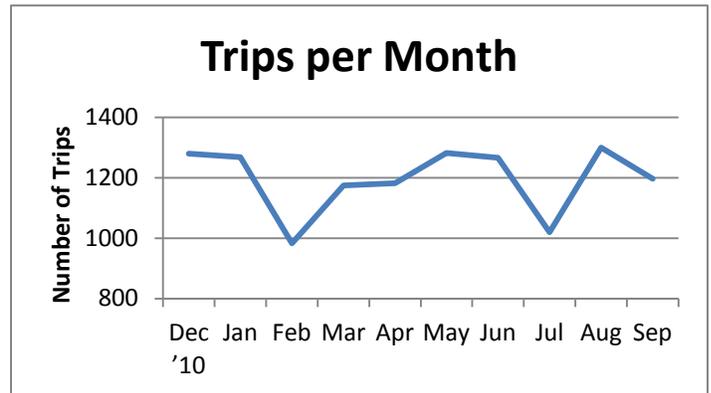


Faith in Action of McHenry County

Full trip data received for Dec 2010 – Oct 2011

Over this time period:

- Average of 1,198 trips per month. During Dec '09 – Mar '10 the average was 611 trips per month.
- About 66% of trips were medical trips; 21% were shopping/personal trips; 3% of trips were employment-related; 8% of trips were social/recreational; 0.3% of trips were education.



Major Origins and Destinations

Origin	Destination							
	Algonquin	Cary	Crystal Lake	Huntley	Lake in the Hills	Marengo	McHenry	Woodstock
Algonquin	20		41	3	4		1	1
Cary		8	99		1		1	1
Crystal Lake	69	97	1194	69	218		67	102
Huntley	42		55	126	30	82	6	29
Lake In The Hills	16	1	188	35	4			
Marengo	29		15	132		1	5	94
McHenry	1		40	1	4	4	410	49
Woodstock	2	1	103	20		91	49	596

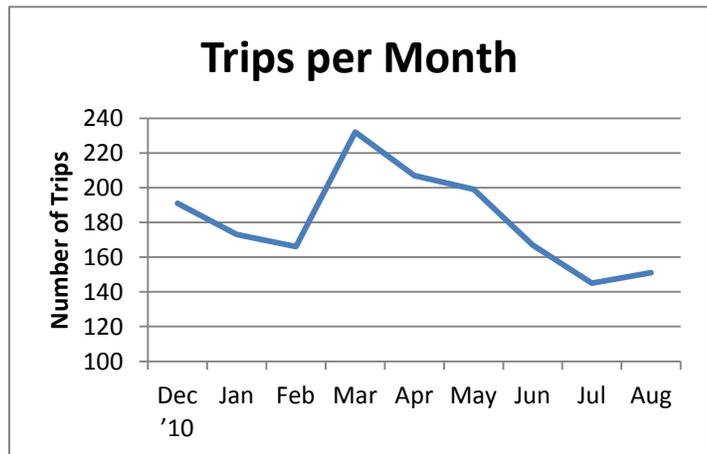
All Origins Totals	
Algonquin	74
Barrington	12
Bull Valley	61
Cary	167
Crystal Lake	1836
Fox River Grove	7
Harvard	17
Huntley	378
Johnsburg	4
Lake In The Hills	246
Lakemoor	1
Marengo	332
McHenry	581
Richmond	2
Spring Grove	16
Wonder Lake	53
Woodstock	865

All Destinations Totals	
Algonquin	181
Barrington	36
Bull Valley	54
Cary	164
Crystal Lake	1747
Fox River Grove	11
Harvard	67
Huntley	386
Johnsburg	10
Lake In The Hills	261
Marengo	180
McHenry	603
Wonder Lake	72
Woodstock	880

Algonquin Township

Full trip data received for Dec 2010 – Aug 2011

- Average of 181 trips per month

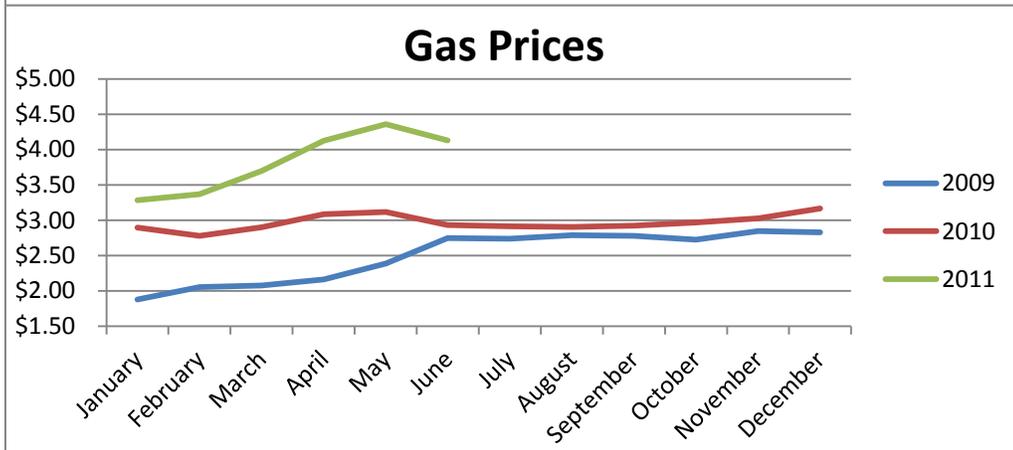
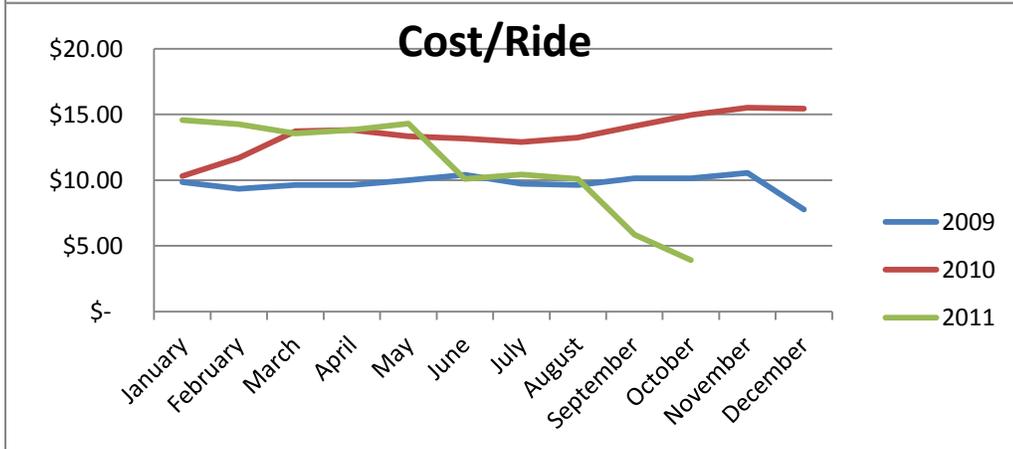
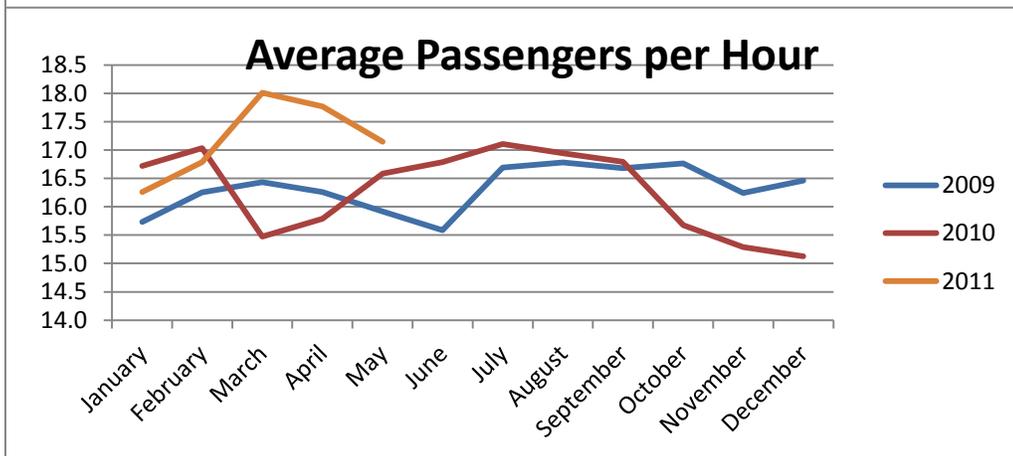
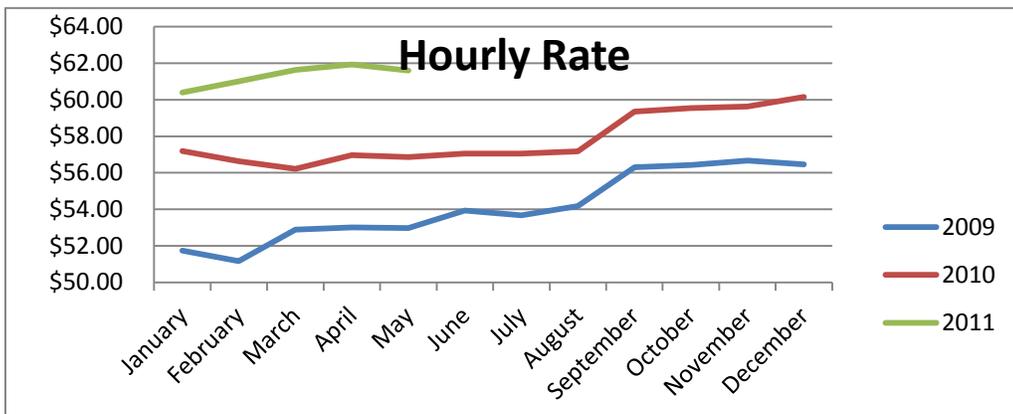


County Pilot Program

November 2011: New IGA was approved by the County Board, the Woodstock, Crystal Lake and McHenry City Councils to establish a new coordinated transit service in our communities.

Start date for the new service: February 1, 2012

Data received for December 2010 through October 2011



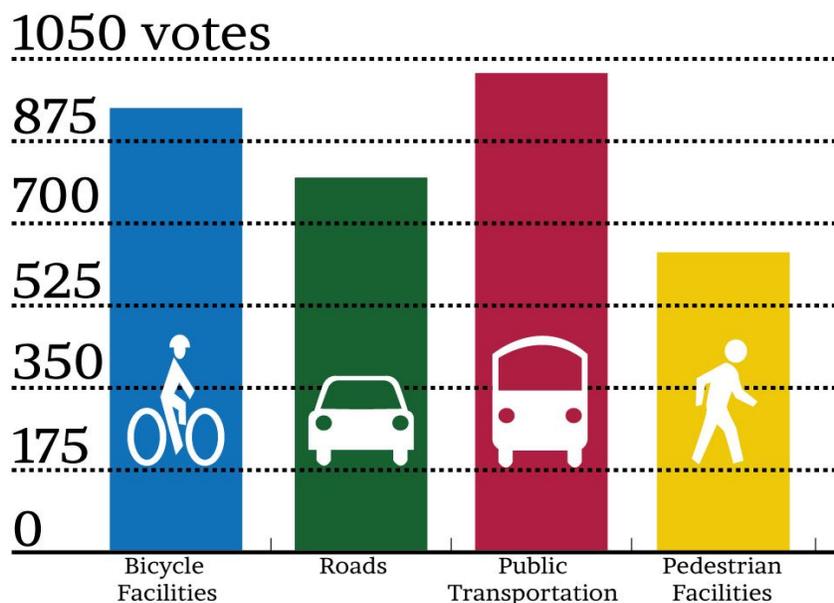
McHenry County 2040 Long Range Transportation Plan Public Transportation public comments

At 13 different locations, the DOT has held “pop-up” meetings to obtain general input on how the public would like to see transportation improved in the County. Participants at each “pop-up” meeting were asked, in a Piggy Bank activity, how they would spend money on transportation in the area. Below are the results from over 1,100 participants.



Piggy Bank activity

Piggy Bank Results (About 1,100 Participants)



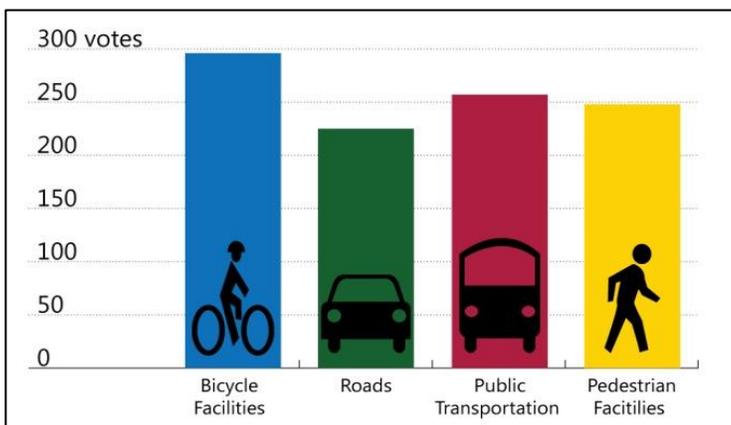
At each “pop-up” meeting, people were also asked what big ideas about transportation they had for McHenry County. Below are those ideas and other comments that relate to public transportation. These comments were pulled out from the master list of all the publics’ ideas on transportation in McHenry County.



Piggy Bank activity at the County Fair

McHenry County Fair

Public comments were collected at the McHenry County Fair on four days, August 3, 2011 – August 6, 2011. Below are the results from the Piggy Bank activity. A total of 80 comments were recorded, with 24 comments relating to public transportation.

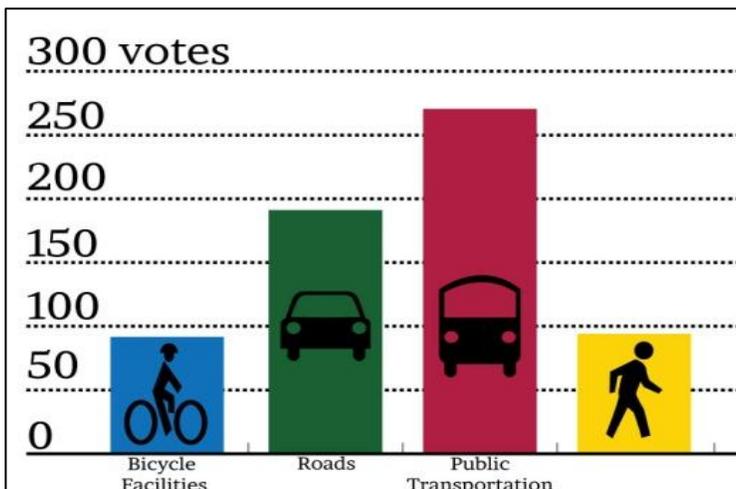


- Better Bus Routes! More times, more publicity!
- My Big Idea in Woodstock is to have a shuttle between shopping areas in Woodstock, since it’s so hard to get around.
- Make buses look like more like trolleys to remove the stigma of riding the bus.
- My Big Idea in McHenry County is more train and bus services. Improves environmental pollution, saves money, and gives more jobs to people.
- Extend train connections to Marengo.
- Create park and rides.
- Have an EFFECTIVE Regional Transportation Authority that Pace, CTA, and Metra report to so there is a regional plan to public transit.
- Senior citizens need more transportation options

- My Big Idea in Crystal Lake is that it needs more frequent services to Chicago with fewer stops. Also need more buses.
- My Big Idea in Huntley is to add a train station and create connecting bike paths to the east and south.
- My Big Idea in Algonquin/Lake in the Hills is to have a bus route direct from Randall Road to the Metra station every ½ hour.
- Flying Buses!
- My Big Idea in Crystal Lake is to let there be nice sidewalks, buses to bring people to work, and roads so people can drive cars.
- Roads suck! Pace: timing/scheduling not the best. Add more train service to Woodstock.
- My Big Idea in Woodstock is more Buses.
- My Big Idea in Crystal Lake is to have more Pace buses available and pay drivers an adequate salary.
- Everyone should be riding trolleys or trains, less cars.
- My Big Idea in McHenry is to increase number of bus stops and lower price back to \$2 so more people can use it.
- My Big Idea in Crystal Lake is to improve greatly our train system- faster and better quality of transportation. More Pace buses at more times.
- My Big Idea in McHenry County is to have car sharing.
- Public transportation schedules do not work for everyone (Wonder Lake, Richmond) – population is so spread-out, not effective.
- Use more hybrid buses
- An Amtrak route through McHenry County
- Coordinate busses with trains

Hearthstone Centegra Senior Fair

Public comments were collected at the Hearthstone Centegra Senior Fair on August 10, 2011. Below are the results from the Piggy Bank activity. A total of 69 comments were recorded, with 35 comments relating to public transportation.

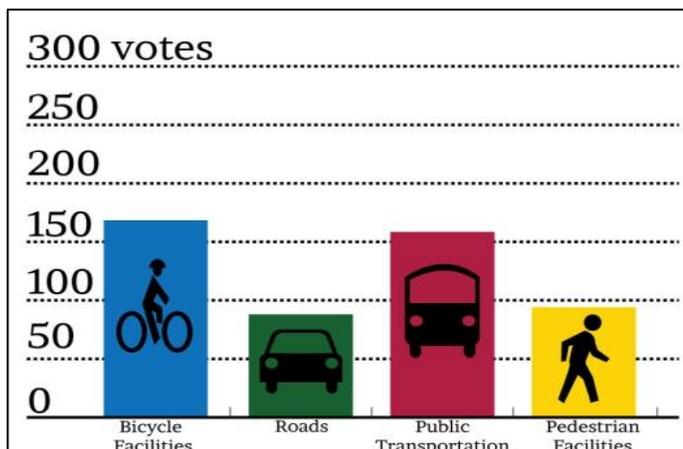


- Huntley Needs a bus service to take me outside Huntley- to Crystal Lake to see my son
- When you get old, you can't get anywhere.
- I plan on driving a long time but I'm curious about what I'm going to do when I can't drive
- Need to get public transportation out to the rural areas. If you can't drive, you're stuck!
- Pace Bus in Village of Lakewood.
- I drive 6 people from my church and they would all use public transportation if available. I have a friend who used to use Pace, but she's on a cane and needs assistance to get on or off the bus.
- I would get rid of my car if public transit was better.
- No station in Ridgefield, maybe move closer to Route 14.

- Public transportation is really needed!
- More buses.
- More trains from McHenry to Chicago.
- I don't know if Pace comes out by me, but I'm voting for public transportation because someday I might need it.
- The train is good out here, but don't know about the bus. 47 is bad- roads need to be improved.
- Like more buses, when can I leave my car behind?
- I live in Crystal Lake and we need public transit. It's a City of 40,000 and it's ridiculous that there's no transit!
- My Big Idea in Woodstock is Monorail – Chicago/Rockford/? Streetcars- Randall/14/31/Crystal Lake Road.
- Townships should be able to cross lines to provide continuous transportation.
- Need information on bus route
- Need better transit in Crystal Lake!
- Coordinate buses for seniors: each township has their own, but the county as a whole should coordinate it. More seniors are using the bus system to go shopping, etc.
- Need buses going to trains and have trains run in off times.
- I live in unincorporated McHenry County, and my daughter can't drive. The bus is 3 blocks from the house, but can't get to it easily, especially with the snow.
- I want to go to all the different towns in the County by bus.
- I want to go from Huntley to Cary by bus.
- I want the bus to go further north.
- More Metra!
- All the stores are on Randall road, so you have to drive.
- Dial-a-ride sucks! Had to wait for an hour for a ride (and I'm at the senior center), and you never know if they're going to come.
- Crystal Ridge Manor needs to have a bus service to take to town.
- Need fixed route in Woodstock to Crystal Lake shopping by Kohl's dial-a-ride is a pain.
- It takes 8 minutes to drive from Woodstock to NIMC. Pace was good in the morning on this route, but in the afternoon it took 45 minutes.
- Need more public transit going between towns.
- I want longer hours and weekends for bus service.
- There should be better information about bus service.
- A fixed-route service in Woodstock!

Crystal Lake Farmers Market

Public comments were collected at the Crystal Lake Farmers Market on August 13, 2011. Below are the results from the Piggy Bank activity. A total of 9 comments were recorded, with 5 comments relating to public transportation.

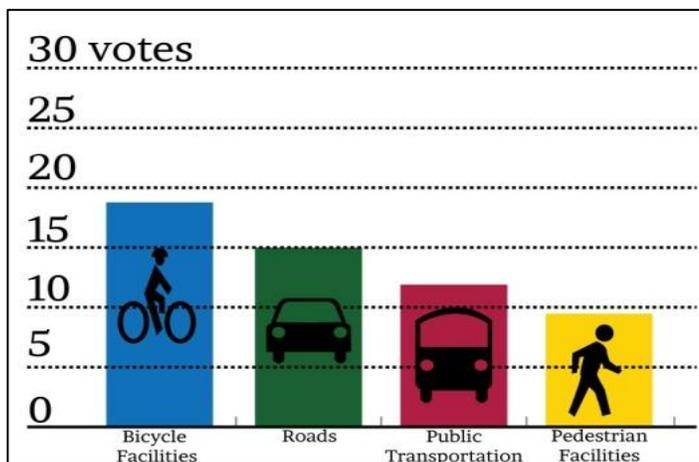


- Pace needs a better website!!!

- Quit building new roads and just maintain the ones we have. My wheelchair doesn't fit on the train.
- Buy more than one day of parking at Metra stops.
- High speed trains to major US cities.
- A monorail from Rockford to Chicago. But parking would be the problem.

Algonquin Farmer's Market

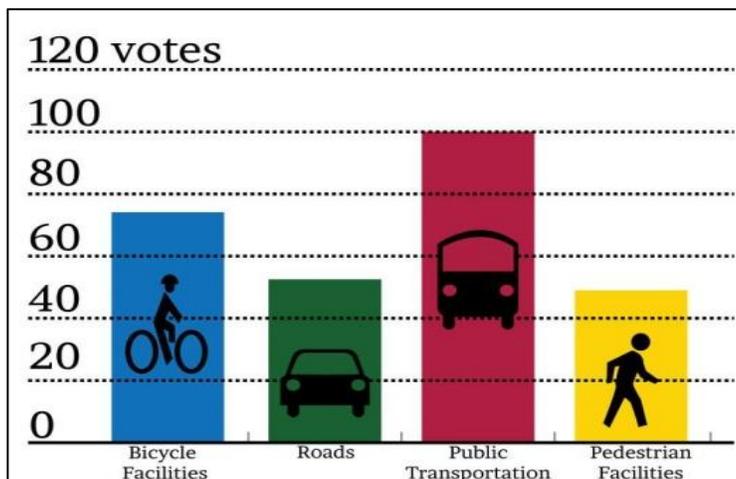
Public comments were collected at the Algonquin Farmers Market on August 18, 2011. Below are the results from the Piggy Bank activity. A total of 2 comments were recorded, with each of those comments relating to public transportation.



- My Big Idea in Algonquin and McHenry County is to improve smaller bus/van pick-up, make buses more fuel efficient or electric (no more big buses), and to make them more time efficient
- More public transportation in the Algonquin Area, including Huntley and Lake in the Hills

MCC Picnic Lunch

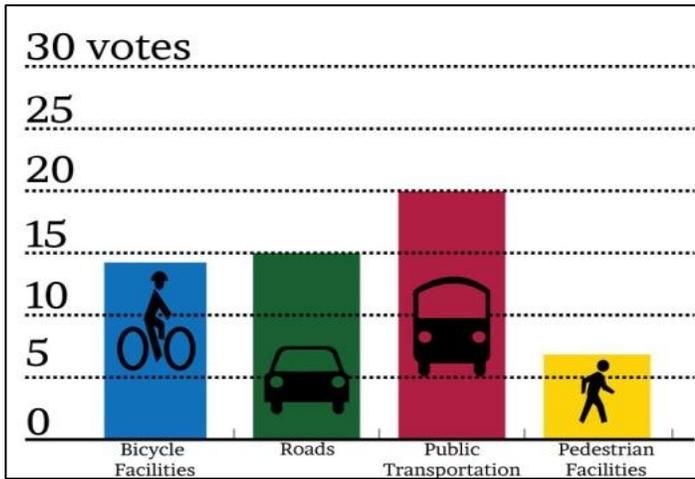
Public comments were collected at the McHenry County College Picnic Lunch on August 24, 2011. Below are the results from the Piggy Bank activity. A total of 7 comments were recorded, with 3 comments relating to public transportation.



- Have buses that will go on either FAFSA money or will allow payment plans.
- More public transportation to the College.
- My Big Idea in Algonquin Township is to get more comprehensive local bus service. Particularly scheduled service with longer hours. We don't have any!!!

Harvard Farmers Market

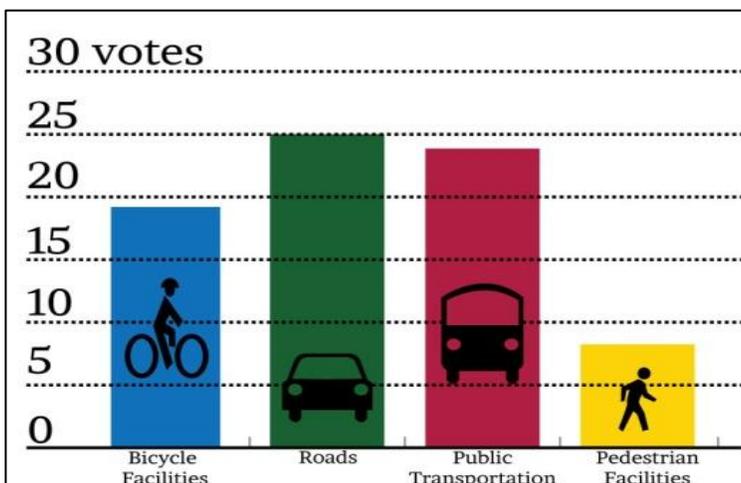
Public comments were collected at the Harvard Farmers Market on September 10, 2011. Below are the results from the Piggy Bank activity. A total of 8 comments were recorded, with 5 comments relating to pedestrians and/or bicycling.



- Pace is only three days a week in Harvard. I work in Special Ed; I'd like to see more bus service for them.
- We definitely need public transportation north-south. I take the train to Palatine and drive to work.
- More trains and Pace Service. Bring trolleys here.
- Start a cab company in Harvard.
- I don't like the bus in Woodstock. Woodstock won't guarantee you a ride. I don't bother because of its service; I go to Crystal Lake instead. I also wish Pace had more buses so I could see other doctors.

Marengo Fall Family Fest

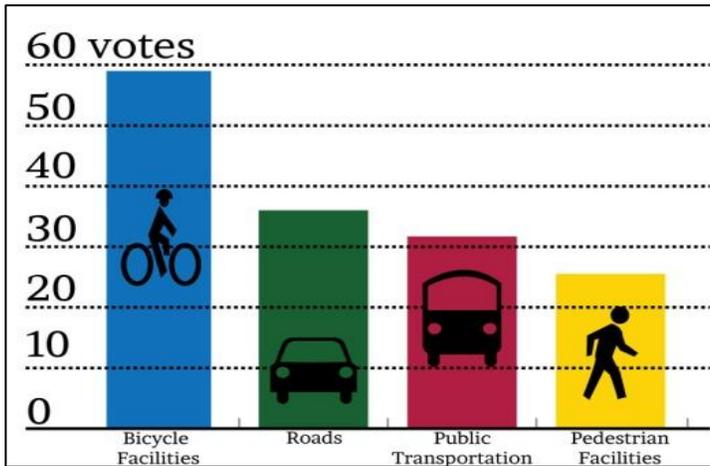
Public comments were collected at the Marengo Fall Family Fest on September 23, 2011. Below are the results from the Piggy Bank activity. A total of 8 comments were recorded, with 2 comments relating to public transportation.



- I'd like a train to Chicago from Marengo. There used to be one in the '30's!
- A train station in Marengo! I have to drive to Crystal Lake

Woodstock Farmer's Market, 9/24

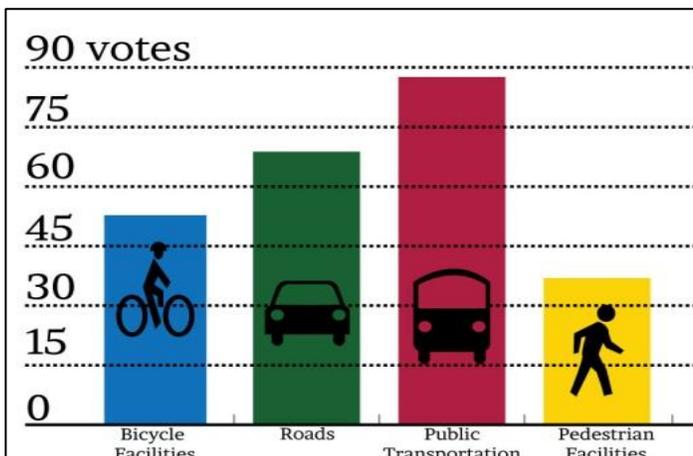
Public comments were collected at the Woodstock Farmer's Market on September 24, 2011. Below are the results from the Piggy Bank activity. A total of 14 comments were recorded, with 8 comments relating to public transportation.



- I live in the County and can't get Pace service.
- My Big Idea for McHenry is more transit service in the County. Can't get from Woodstock to McHenry on Sundays.
- My Big Idea in McHenry County is to increase bike routes, improve local mass transit, and increase Metra trains between Harvard and Chicago.
- My Big Idea in McHenry County is to direct through traffic around cities. I understand the state routes have been in place since earlier than 1872! Much increased population and traffic. Our towns need to focus on bike routes and improved, more flexible public transport.
- Bike parking is a problem. Put bike locks at Metra stations.
- My Big Idea for Bike Paths/Intercommunity travel is to build bike paths/usable walking paths. Racks on buses, increase usable public transportation.
- My Big Idea in Richmond is to place Metra stops at MCC to make it easier for students.
- Make public transit more accessible in non-hub areas. And add trails in Woodstock.

Huntley Fall Festival

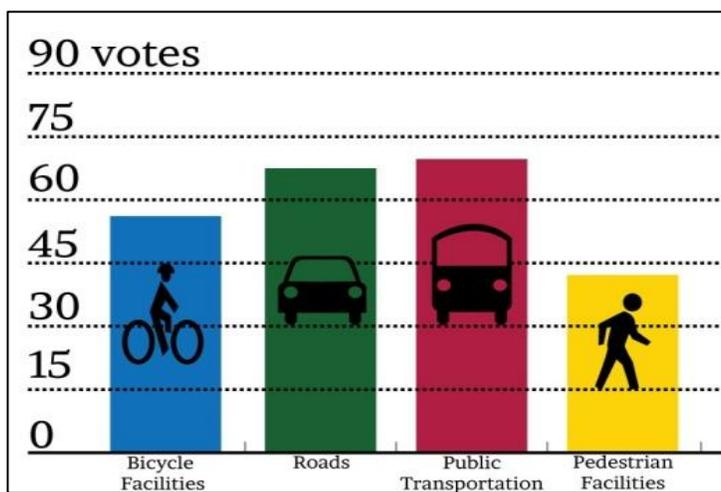
Public comments were collected at the Huntley Fall Festival on September 25, 2011. Below are the results from the Piggy Bank activity. A total of 11 comments were recorded, with 7 comments relating to public transportation.



- My Big Idea in Lake in the Hills some sort of dial-a-ride not only for seniors. -Lady had knee surgery & no way to get to physical therapy. - pace program was not still in place & she couldn't utilize the dial-a-ride b/c she was not a senior
- Metra Station in Huntley
- Metra Station in Huntley, will it even happen
- My Big Idea in Huntley is to extend the Big Timber Train Station to come out to Huntley, by Coyne Station Road. (part of extreme commuter - focus group)
- Bring Zip Car to the suburbs
- My Big Idea in Huntley & Algonquin is to revitalize historic downtown, and add Metra line to Huntley
- My Big Idea in Huntley is a train in Huntley - we would use it every day if it was in Huntley

Fox Lake Oktoberfest

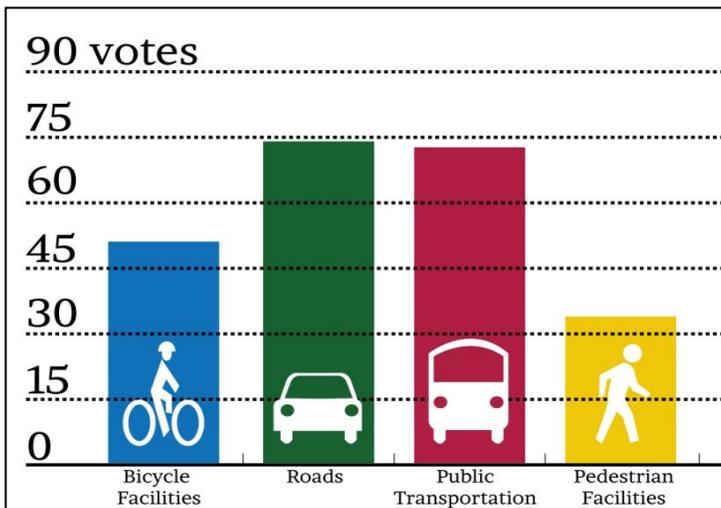
Public comments were collected at the Fox Lake Oktoberfest on October 1, 2011. Below are the results from the Piggy Bank activity. A total of 12 comments were recorded, with 5 comments relating to public transportation.



- My Big Idea in Richmond is to have more trains and any type of public transportation
- My Big Idea in McHenry (City) is to have a better train route between McHenry & Chicago like Fox Lake has to Chicago - More times
- More public buses/dial-a-rides for people other than seniors or people with disabilities - need to have this available for low income people as well who need to get places
- My Big Idea in McHenry County is to implement school bus transportation to double as routes for train stations to eliminate driving of autos and congestion
- My Big Idea in McHenry (did not specify City or County) is to get more bus service. At least more often more frequent dial-a-rides

GIS Day, 11/16

Public comments were collected at the Fox Lake Oktoberfest on October 1, 2011. Below are the results from the Piggy Bank activity. A total of 8 comments were recorded, with 2 comments relating to public transportation.



- The County needs more buses
- My big idea in Crystal Lake, Pingree Road is to put in a bike lane on Pingree/Terra Cotta, lots of people bike to the Pingree Metra stop and the road is hilly/dangerous. Also would benefit Hannah Beardsley Middle School.

2040 Website

The following are comments related to public transportation the 2040 Long Range Transportation Plan website, as of November 2011.

Survey comments –

As of November 2011, about 60 surveys were filled out for the General survey and 17 comments were related to public transportation.

- Please do not use traffic congestion as an excuse for destroying the open space and high standard of living in McHenry County. Roads do not and never have solved congestion. They simply lead to more growth. Be creative and solve the problems by thinking outside of the "car" box.
- The METRA train needs to arrive in Woodstock prior to 9:00AM on weekdays. Woodstock is the county seat, and many people--the elderly, disabled, visually impaired, and others unable to drive--rely on the Metra service, but experience significant difficulty getting to court, which often begins at 8:30A.M. The earliest METRA train arrives at 9:00 a.m. Adding an earlier morning stop in Woodstock would increase attendance and punctuality for court matters, especially during inclement weather.
- I've lived in the county 22 years+ and can't believe we still don't have reliable, regular, easy-to-use public transit (other than trains). Pace just doesn't cut it, and not all of us are physically able (I have arthritis & spinal problems) to walk or bike to our destinations. With many of us reaching retirement soon, we'll need better public transportation, or we'll just need to move back to the city---which I don't want to do!
- People with disabilities typically are not drivers and/or cannot afford the expenses of owning and operating an automobile. They become isolated and chronically unemployed due to lack of a reliable and affordable system of transportation.
- If I were not currently unemployed, I would walk or use public transportation daily.
- Since we have a sizable number of people in the over 50 demographic, the county probably should look at what transportation needs an aging population will have.

Where they would like to get to easier:

- I would like to see the corridors on 47 and 31 widened so economic development can occur. Travel time is extensive on both roads. Public transportation in the southern area of the county is also important as the age demographics are changing.
- Route 90 by car. To Woodstock businesses solely by fixed route public transportation and to Cary, Crystal Lake, and McHenry. Also to medical facilities.
- Train stations, by public transportation so we can leave our cars at home. Also, I'd like to access the Randall Road shopping "strip" (Crystal Lake, LITH, Algonquin) via public transportation from Cary.
- Algonquin is horrible. Bypasses are needed around the downtown area. 120 in McHenry are bad too. More sidewalks in commercial areas connecting to residential neighborhoods. Put bus service along major roads, i.e. Rt. 14, Randall, etc.
- To Glenview by Metra train. I have been traveling that route on the Northwest line and transferring to the north line to reach a doctor's office. However, Metra has changed times on trains that do not make the connections acceptable. And I do not mean having to wait a half hour for a connection. That is within acceptability. Waiting three to four hours is not.
- People who do not or cannot drive need to have accessible transportation to the same locations as the driving population.
- Public transportation - It seems to be very difficult to travel between small cities in McHenry County, i.e. Crystal Lake to Johnsburg
- Woodfield Area - Public transportation O'Hare Airport - Public transportation
- To the courthouse I realize there is transportation to this facility however, it is not very time convenient.
- O'Hare Airport by transit
- Bike to Crystal Lake downtown and route 14 corridor safely. As we move further into the 21st century, we need to have more options for transit than individuals in cars. The area is not bike friendly, nor is it possible to walk. If there is ANY public transit, I don't know about it.

Map comments –

Also on the website is an interactive community map where people can add markers to state needs and solutions. As of November 2011 there were no comments relating to public transportation.