

RESOLUTION

Resolution Approving an Intergovernmental Agreement with Pace Creating the MCRide Connect Program and Appropriating Funds (82)

WHEREAS, McHenry County and Pace have worked collaboratively since 2010 to provide public transit service in the form of the MCRide dial-a-ride program; and

WHEREAS, over that time MCRide has provided over one million trips to residents of McHenry County, transporting our friends and neighbors to work, medical appointments, school and social events; and

WHEREAS, MCRide is an advanced-scheduling transit service, whereby riders are required to reserve their trips ahead of time, usually one to seven days before they need to travel; and

WHEREAS, there still exists a need in McHenry County to provide an affordable, on-demand transportation solution for those with limited access to an automobile; and

WHEREAS, taxis and transportation network companies such as Uber, Lyft and UZURV help to fill this need for an on-demand option, but can be too expensive for residents to rely on them frequently.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by this County Board of McHenry County, Illinois, that it hereby authorizes the approval of an Intergovernmental Agreement between McHenry County and Pace creating the MCRide Connect Program and adding it to the County's suite of transit services; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, by this County Board of McHenry County, Illinois that there is hereby appropriated the sum of four hundred and twenty thousand dollars (\$420,000.00) from the RTA Sales Tax Fund in FY2024; Fund-Dept.-Div-Main Acct. 260-82-8210-423200; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the County Clerk is hereby authorized to distribute a certified copy of this Resolution to the County Administrator, Chief Financial Officer, and an electronic copy to the Director of Transportation/County Engineer.

DATED at Woodstock, Illinois, this 18th day of June, A.D., 2024.

Michael Buehler, Chairman
McHenry County Board

ATTEST:

Joseph J. Tirio, County Clerk

RESOLUTION

SUBJECT: Resolution Approving an Intergovernmental Agreement with Pace Creating the MCRide Connect Program and Appropriating Funds (82)

Board / Committee Action Requested:

To approve an intergovernmental agreement with Pace Suburban Bus creating the MCRide Connect Program and appropriating funds.

Background and Discussion:

MCRide Connect will supplement the existing MCRide dial-a-ride program by subsidizing eligible trips on participating Transportation Network Companies (TNCs), which currently include Uber and UZURV. The County subsidy will be made available only to McHenry County residents who have an RTA-issued Reduced Fare or Ride Free Permit.

Eligible riders enrolled in the program will always pay the first \$4.00 of their trip on a participating TNC. McHenry County will then subsidize the next \$16.00 of the trip cost. Any portion of the trip costs exceeding \$20.00 will be the responsibility of the rider, as well as all rideshare provider surcharges and driver tips. Riders using this program will be eligible for up to eight trips per day.

To register for the RTA Reduced Fare or Ride Free program, eligible residents should visit the RTA's [website](#) to enroll online. Alternatively, eligible residents can visit the following locations to register in person:

- Senior Services Associates of Crystal Lake
- Nunda Township
- Senior Services Associates of McHenry

After enrolling in the RTA Reduced Fare or Ride Free program, residents can then register for the MCRide Connect program by completing the County's [Enrollment Form](#) in its entirety. Within two weeks, the County subsidy will be available in the enrollee's rideshare provider account to apply to the cost of a trip at the time of booking.

MCRide Connect is expected to begin on June 19, 2024 and, like MCRide, is subject to budgetary constraints and reauthorization by the McHenry County Board on an annual basis.

The County's Public Transportation Advisory Committee (PTAC) has recommended approval of the MCRide Connect program and will assist Division of Transportation staff with program evaluation.

Impact on Human Resources: Existing Division of Transportation (MCDOT) staff will assist residents with program registration. No additional staff will be needed to administer this program.

Impact on Budget (Revenue; Expenses, Fringe Benefits): \$420,000 in RTA Sales Tax (Fund 260) has been included in the FY2024 budget for the MCRide Connect Program.

Impact on Capital Expenditures: N/A

Impact on Physical Space: N/A

Impact on Other County Departments or Outside Agencies: N/A

Conformity to Board Ordinances, Policies and Strategic Plan: Conforms to the Strategic Plan, especially Quality Infrastructure Goal #1: Evaluate the County's infrastructure system and identify strategies to promote the expansion of transit service in McHenry County. The Strategic Plan includes the action item: Investigate costs and ridership potential for new transit programs including on-demand services such as TNC's or Taxis.