

RESOLUTION

Resolution Approving an Intergovernmental Agreement Between McHenry County and Pace for Countywide MCRide Dial-A-Ride Transit in 2025 and Appropriating Funds (82)

WHEREAS, the McHenry County Moves 2050 Long Range Transportation Plan has a goal of improving public transportation services for County residents; and

WHEREAS, the McHenry County Division of Transportation's FY 2025 to 2029 Transportation Program includes the funding of transit services including the MCRide program; and

WHEREAS, MCRide has been successfully operation under agreements renewed annually between McHenry County and Pace since February 1, 2012; and

WHEREAS, prior to the MCRide program, mobility for dial-a-ride transit services was very limited and individual municipalities and townships only provided trips within their individual boundaries; and

WHEREAS, this agreement covering 2025 allows all riders to travel throughout all of McHenry County and to various point destinations outside of McHenry County; and

WHEREAS, this service has provided over one million trips since its inception in February 2012 through September 2024; and

WHEREAS, to encourage greater efficiencies, promote service standardization, and expand rider options, the County filled applications for a federal Section 5310 grant with the Regional Transportation Authority for the McHenry County Service Integration and Coordination Project as approved by the County Board on March 4, 2014 (R-201403-82-050), June 21, 2016 (R-201606-82-161), April 18, 2017 (R-201704-82-088), April 16, 2019 (R-201904-82-98), April 20, 2021 (R-202104-82-103), and again on April 18, 2023 (R-2023904-82-118); and

WHEREAS, on April 16, 2014, the Regional Transportation Authority awarded \$600,000 in Section 5310 grant federal pass through funds from the Federal Transit Administration to the project; and

WHEREAS, on October 20, 2016, the Regional Transportation Authority awarded \$496,291 in Section 5310 grant federal pass through funds from the Federal Transit Administration to the project; and

WHEREAS, on August 24, 2017, the Regional Transportation Authority awarded \$840,000 in Section 5310 grant federal pass through funds from the Federal Transit Administration to the project; and

WHEREAS, on August 23, 2019, the Regional Transportation Authority awarded \$1,200,000 in Section 5310 grant federal pass through funds from the Federal Transit Administration to the project; and

WHEREAS, on August 23, 2021, the Regional Transportation Authority awarded \$1,480,000 in Section 5310 grant federal pass through funds from the Federal Transit Administration to the project; and

WHEREAS, on September 14, 2023, the Regional Transportation Authority awarded \$1,500,000 in Section 5310 grant federal pass through funds from the Federal Transit Administration to the project; and

WHEREAS, Pace Suburban Bus has agreed to contribute no more than \$2,515,915 in operating deficit subsidy in 2025, which will not exceed fifty percent (50%) of the total program budget; and

WHEREAS, continuing with the MCRide Program aligns with the McHenry County 2022 – 2025 Strategic Plan Quality Infrastructure Goal 3: Promote mobility for all County residents by providing choices in transportation network including walking, biking, and public transit; and

WHEREAS, the Transportation Committee has reviewed the attached intergovernmental agreement with Pace Suburban Bus for MCRide dial-a-ride transit services in 2025 said agreement attached hereto made a part hereof.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by this County Board of McHenry County, Illinois, that it hereby authorizes entering into an intergovernmental agreement with Pace, the Suburban Bus Division of the Regional Transportation Authority for the provision of transit services; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the sum of two million five hundred sixty-six thousand eight hundred forty-seven dollars (\$2,566,847) from the FY2025 budget is hereby appropriated from the MCDOT RTA Sales Tax Project Fund, Fund-Dept-Div.-Main Acct. 260-82-8210-423200; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the County Board Chairman is authorized to execute an agreement on behalf of the County of McHenry with Pace and the County Clerk of the County of McHenry is authorized and directed on behalf of the County of McHenry to attest said agreement; and

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

DATED at Woodstock, Illinois, this 19th day of November, A.D., 2024.

Michael Buehler, Chairman
McHenry County Board

ATTEST:

Joseph J. Tirio, County Clerk

RESOLUTION

SUBJECT: Resolution Approving an Intergovernmental Agreement Between McHenry County and Pace for Countywide MCRide Dial-A-Ride Transit in 2025 and Appropriating Funds (82)

Board / Committee Action Requested:

To approve an Intergovernmental Agreement between McHenry County and Pace for Countywide MCRide Dial-A-Ride transit in 2025 and appropriating funds.

Background and Discussion:

MCRide is a coordinated dial-a-ride transit program currently funded by passenger fares, Pace, McHenry County, and a Federal Section 5310 grant administered by the RTA. The MCRide program has enabled intercommunity travel throughout the coverage area, creating a uniform fare structure and trip reservation process.

Service includes inter-community transportation anywhere within McHenry County. In addition, service is provided to/from areas located outside of McHenry County, including:

1. Advocate Good Shepard Hospital (450 IL-22, Barrington, IL)
2. Barrington Metra Station (201 S. Spring Street, Barrington, IL)
3. Randall Oaks Park/Zoo/Golf Course (500 N. Randall Road, West Dundee, IL)
4. The Arboretum (100 W. Higgins Rd, South Barrington, IL)
5. Advocate Sherman Hospital (1425 N. Randall Road, Elgin, IL)
6. Spring Hill Mall (1072 Spring Hill Mall Ring Rd, West Dundee, IL)
7. Chain O'Lakes State Park (8916 Wilmot Road, Spring Grove IL)

Since the MCRide program began in February of 2012, the ridership has typically fluctuated between 6,000 and 10,000 one-way rides per month. Over the last year, the program has averaged 7,200 one-way rides per month.

In 2023, with the assistance of the Public Transportation Advisory Committee (PTAC) McHenry County directed Pace to increase the hours of operation for the MCRide program by five (5) hours per day, from 6:00am-7:00pm, to 5:00am-11:00pm.

In 2024, the Public Transportation Advisory Committee recommended increasing the MCRide base fare to partially cover higher program costs. On January 1, 2024 the base fare for seniors and people with disabilities increased to \$2.00 for the first five miles of their trip. For the General Public, the base fare increased to \$4.00.

Impact on Human Resources: N/A

Impact on Budget (Revenue, Expenses, Fringe Benefits):

Each month, the County will be invoiced by Pace for MCRide service provided. Since the start of the service in February 2012, these invoices have ranged from a low in April 2020 of \$51,791 (due to COVID-19) to a high in March 2023 of \$169,611. Over the last 12 months, the invoices have averaged \$143,676 per month. McHenry County appropriated \$2,079,832 for MCRide service in FY2024.

Impact on Capital Expenditures: N/A

Impact on Physical Space: N/A

Impact on Other County Departments or Outside Agencies:

Monthly payments will be made to Pace based on the hours of service provided, less Pace subsidy which is not to exceed \$2,515,915 in 2025. The RTA will be responsible for Section 5310 reimbursements.

Conformity to Board Ordinances, Policies and Strategic Plan:

Conforms to County ordinances, policies and strategic plan.