



# Bus Lines

## Schedules Changing Sunday, August 30, 2020

19, 21, 31, 53, 55, 60, 67,  
40U, 44U, 49U, BlueLine,  
PurpleLine, RR1, RR2 and  
RR3

Check buses for updated  
schedules Monday, August  
24 or see previews at  
RideMCTS.com starting  
Thursday, August 20.

## Transit Terms

**Straphanger** – a standing  
passenger in a subway,  
streetcar, bus, or train who  
clings for support to one of  
the short straps or similar  
devices placed along the  
aisle.

## Transit Trivia

More than two-thirds of  
riders walk to their stop.  
(Source: APTA 2020 Public  
Transportation Fact Book)

**Inside: Bus Rapid Transit  
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| September Day Trips**

## COVID-19 Reminders for Riding



Effective August 1, passengers and bus operators are required to wear face masks or coverings on board all MCTS buses. Health officials say properly wearing a mask over one's mouth and nose helps reduce the spread of COVID-19, especially when in close proximity to others.

**MCTS encourages you to bring your own mask** – as many of you have already been doing – to help protect yourself and others while riding the bus. In cases where a passenger does not have one, we're making efforts to provide free masks on buses (one per customer), while supplies last.

### Those exempt from the mask requirement include anyone:

- Age two years old or younger.
- With a disability that makes it difficult to put on, wear, or remove a mask.
- Consistently interacting with a person who is hard of hearing and primarily relies on lip reading.
- Who has been advised by a medical professional not to wear a face mask because of personal health issues.
- Who has difficulty breathing or is incapacitated.
- Whose religious beliefs prevent them from wearing a face mask.

### As a reminder, as of the date BusLines was printed, the following policies are still in place:

- **No loitering** on board.
- Continue to **practice physical/social distancing** at all times on board the bus. When possible, **use staggered seating**. Capacity limits are subject to change.
- **Wash your hands, cover coughs and sneezes. DO NOT REMOVE YOUR MASK.**
- If you're sick, **stay home**.
- **Limit conversations and interactions while on board. DO NOT REMOVE YOUR MASK.**
- We strongly recommend using **contactless fares** like the M-CARD or Ride MCTS App (See page three for more details).
- Please **enter the bus through the front door and exit via the rear door** (unless you need to use the ramp or kneeling feature of the bus).

All policies are subject to change. For the latest updates and more information about MCTS's response to COVID-19, please visit [RideMCTS.com/Coronavirus](https://www.mcts.com/coronavirus).



## MCTS Bus Rapid Transit Plans Get the Green Light

The Federal Transit Administration (FTA) recently confirmed its commitment to provide \$40.9 million in funding towards the **East-West Bus Rapid Transit (BRT)** line in Milwaukee County – a first-of-its-kind project in Wisconsin.

Over the last three years, Milwaukee County has been working collaboratively with our partners – the City of Milwaukee, the City of Wauwatosa, Wisconsin Department of Transportation, local businesses, nonprofits, and academia – to bring this nine-mile, regional transit project to the state.

The \$54.8 million project will allow us to better connect major employment, education and recreation destinations through downtown Milwaukee, Marquette University, Milwaukee's Near West Side, Wauwatosa, and the Milwaukee Regional Medical Center.

The BRT project will strengthen the entire transit network and aid in achieving opportunity and racial equity in a way that moves Milwaukee County closer to achieving its vision of becoming the healthiest County in the state.

## EAST WEST BRT

President Donald Trump first announced the federal funding via Twitter on May 28, saying the project will spur millions in economic development in the state. On June 1, The FTA contacted the Milwaukee County Department of Transportation (MCDOT) to confirm that the BRT project will receive Small Starts grant funding from the United States DOT.

The BRT project is slated to begin construction in Spring 2021 with revenue service starting in Fall 2022.

More information about the BRT project can be found at [RideMCTS.com/programs](https://RideMCTS.com/programs).

# Move Forward Faster with Contactless Bus Fares

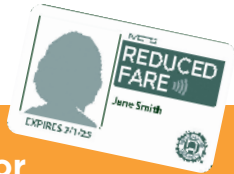
We are committed to keeping employees and passengers safe, as well as helping prevent the spread of COVID-19.

Contactless bus fares like the **M-CARD** and **Ride MCTS app** are a safe and efficient way to ride. It reduces your time at the farebox and keeps everyone moving forward and faster!

Here is a breakdown of your contactless fare options:



<b>M-CARD (Ages 12-64)</b>	
<b>Cost of Card</b>	<b>\$2</b>
90-Minute Ride with Transfer	\$2
1-Day Pass	\$4
7-Day Pass	\$19.50
31-Day Pass	\$72



<b>Reduced Fare Pass (riders 65+ &amp; ages 6-11 or with a qualifying disability)</b>	
<b>Cost of Card</b>	<b>\$2</b>
90-Minute Ride with Transfer	\$1.10
1-Day Pass	\$2
7-Day Pass	\$11
31-Day Pass	\$32



<b>Ride MCTS App (good for all ages on all routes)</b>	
<b>Free to Download at the App Store or Google Play</b>	
90-minute ticket	\$2
24-hour ticket	\$5



**M-CARD Retail Locations:** Find a M-CARD retail location near you with more than 90 locations throughout Milwaukee County. At stores, you can activate and buy passes as well as reload your card with Stored Cash Value up to \$100. To find a location near you, go to [RideMCTS.com/fares-passes](https://RideMCTS.com/fares-passes) and scroll to **“Where to Buy an M-CARD.”**

**View the map at [RideMCTS.com/Fares](https://RideMCTS.com/Fares) or call 414-344-6711 and press number 5 for retail outlets.**

### Message for GO Pass Customers

The GO Pass is a special program for seniors and persons with disabilities that meet a certain income requirement. The pass allows eligible riders unlimited rides on MCTS buses for \$2 per day.

If you have a GO Pass about to expire, the card will remain active throughout the duration of the COVID-19 public health emergency. For questions, call **414-289-5800** Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. New applications are not being accepted at this time.



## Spice Up September with Special Day Trips on MCTS

Like a tasty dish, spice makes a difference. When looking for activities you can do while safely social distancing, check out several fun outing (and virtual) ideas you, your family and friends can do with MCTS.



**Monday, Sept. 14 is National Coloring Day** – Young or young-at-heart, express your creativity with our coloring and activity book. Visit the News section of our website at [RideMCTS.com/News](http://RideMCTS.com/News) to download a copy.

**Friday, Sept. 18 is National Cheeseburger Day** – Plan a trip to visit your favorite burger stand or restaurant. Use the Ride MCTS app or the trip planner at [RideMCTS.com](http://RideMCTS.com).



**Sunday, Sept. 27 is World Tourism Day** – This year, Doors Open Milwaukee is offering virtual visits of places and attractions seldom seen by the public, including the MCTS Fleet Maintenance Building! Take a tour anytime between September 26 and October 11 at [HistoricMilwaukee.org/doors-open](http://HistoricMilwaukee.org/doors-open).



### REMINDER:

**Labor Day is Monday, Sept. 7. Remember all MCTS buses operate on a Sunday schedule on national holidays.**

## MCTS Operators Shine with MCTS Excellence

Face it, this has been a year unlike any other in recent history! Through it all, the women and men who drive MCTS's buses continue to make sure our passengers get to where they need and want to go. Our MCTS Excellence shines through in big and small ways no matter the situation.

You may have seen the stories on TV and social media, or maybe read about them in newspapers. The MCTS Excellence program recognizes employees for going above and beyond for customers and neighbors.

If you would like to say thank you or recognize a MCTS bus operator for his or her super service, please let us know by filing a commendation for that person on the "Contact" page of [RideMCTS.com](http://RideMCTS.com).



**DJ, a 10-year-old boy, introduced himself to MCTS Driver Shamika Anderson while her bus was waiting at a bus stop. DJ opened up about his life – which included some hardships. The next day, to bring a smile to her new friend's face, Shamika surprised him with a brand-new bike!**



## Bus Lines

Bus Lines is published six times a year as a service to Milwaukee County Transit System passengers.

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For 24-hour automated bus information, call 414-344-6711 or visit [RideMCTS.com](http://RideMCTS.com)



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