

Reallocation of Pace Subsidy to Ride Lake County in 2022

September 14, 2021

DRAFT

Mr. Rocky Donahue
Executive Director
Pace Suburban Bus
550 W. Algonquin Road
Arlington Heights, IL 60005

Dear Mr. Donahue:

Lake County is committed to launching Ride Lake County, as a borderless countywide paratransit service in 2022. This action represents the culmination of over fifteen years of paratransit coordination work in Lake County. To demonstrate the County's commitment to establishing the Ride Lake County service, the Lake County Board passed a resolution on September 14, 2021, directing the County Engineer to develop an intergovernmental agreement with Pace for the operations of Ride Lake County. Additionally, the Lake County Division of Transportation has programmed up to \$1 million of RTA ¼% Sales Tax for Transportation funds in each fiscal year in the 2022-2026 Proposed Transportation Improvement Program, subject to annual County Board appropriation, to fund our portion of the program's operating expenses. Matched by a commitment of operating subsidy from Pace and continued success in obtaining federal 5310 funds, we feel Ride Lake County will have sufficient financial resources to meet the increased demand that will result from an expansion of this magnitude.

Establishing Ride Lake County throughout Lake County will require the reallocation of resources that are currently spread across a variety of individual services. The following services are currently providing demand-response transportation programs in Lake County:

- Ride Lake County West
- Ride Lake County Central
- Northwest Lake Dial-a-Ride
- College of Lake County Shuttle
- Central Lake Dial-a Ride
- Shields Dial-a-Ride
- Northern Lake Expansion Dial-a-Ride
- Zion/Benton Township Dial-a-Ride
- Northeast Lake Dial-a-Ride
- Warren Township Dial-a-Ride
- Warren Township Shuttle
- Vernon Township Dial-a-Ride
- Wauconda Township Dial-a-Ride
- Lake County Municipal Dial-a Ride

The County respectfully requests that all Pace operating subsidy that is currently devoted to these services, and any additional funding that Pace may have available for this service today or in the future, be reinvested into the Ride Lake County program beginning on May 1, 2022. This will help to ensure that Ride Lake County is able to provide a quality paratransit service throughout Lake County.

We ask that this reallocation of resources be memorialized in the intergovernmental agreement between Lake County and Pace, which we anticipate taking effect on May 1, 2022.

Sincerely,

Sandra Hart
Chair, Lake County Board

cc: Shane Schneider, Director of Transportation/County Engineer