



NEWS RELEASE – CITY OF MIDDLETON

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Proposed Bus Service Improvements for Middleton and Far West Side to be Unveiled on April 6

The City of Middleton and Metro Transit will unveil plans for revised bus service at the next “Get Moving Middleton” breakfast meeting, which is scheduled for 7:30 a.m. on Thursday, April 6, at the Hilton Garden Inn, 1801 Deming Way. If approved following a public hearing in early May, the proposed weekday service would be implemented in late August or early September.

Key features of the proposed bus service include:

- Simplified and more frequent bus service for most neighborhoods.
- Enhanced opportunities for Middleton residents to travel to businesses west of the Beltline.
- Expansion of peak hour bus service north of Highway 14 and west of Parmenter Street.
- Easy connections to Greenway Station, Prairie Towne Center, and West Transfer Point.
- More frequent service to downtown Madison during midday hours.

“This plan achieves several key transit objectives we established during last fall’s budget deliberations,” stated Middleton Mayor Doug Zwank. “We’re expanding service in our business parks, we’re making it easier and more efficient for Middleton residents to travel to businesses located west of the Beltline, and we’re improving service levels along Allen Boulevard and between Middleton and Madison.”

“In short, our bus service will be more user friendly for Middleton residents, visitors and the business community,” said Zwank.

Metro General Manager Catherine Debo anticipates that the proposed level of service can be implemented in Middleton for around \$41,000, which is almost exactly the amount that the City included in the 2006 budget. The precise dollar amount will not be known until routes and schedules are finalized following a public hearing.

Zwank pointed out that the proposed level of service would increase Middleton’s transit budget by about 20%, but the efficiencies and user-friendliness of the routes and schedules would make it seem as though service levels are being doubled.

“I am confident that the new and revised routes and schedules will make it much easier to travel around Middleton and the far west side of Madison,” said Zwank.

Middleton officials have scheduled a public hearing for May 4, 2006, at 5:30 p.m. at Lakeview Community Park shelter, near the intersection of Allen Blvd. and Maywood Ave. in Middleton. This area is served by Route 60 buses. Following the conclusion of the hearing, Metro plans to operate a Route 60 bus to transport Middleton area residents home. Additional information will soon be available at mymetrobus.com and on Metro buses.

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