



Fargo-Moorhead Metropolitan  
Council of Governments

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## 9<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the MATBUS Coordination Committee

August 20, 2025 | 9:00 – 10:30 am

Location: Metro COG Conference Room/Zoom

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 890 6859 5689

Passcode: 669108

1. Call to Order and Introductions
  - a. Approve Order and Contents of the Overall Agenda
  - b. Review and Action on Minutes from July 16, 2025
2. Informational Items
  - a. 2026 Proposed City of Fargo and City of Moorhead Transit Budgets – **Julie Bommelman**
  - b. Safety and Security Report – **Cole Swingen**
3. Action Items
  - a. City of Fargo Transit Title VI Civil Rights Program – **Shaun Crowell**
  - b. Proposed Route and Service Changes in Fargo and West Fargo – **Julie Bommelman**
4. Other Business

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A PLANNING ORGANIZATION SERVING  
FARGO, WEST FARGO, HORACE, CASS COUNTY, NORTH DAKOTA AND MOORHEAD, DILWORTH, CLAY COUNTY, MINNESOTA

# Agenda Item 1b

**8<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the  
MATBUS Coordination Committee  
July 16, 2025 – 9:00 AM  
Metro COG Conference Room/Zoom**

**Members Present:**

Deb White, Moorhead City Council, Chair  
Julie Bommelman, Fargo Transit Director  
Sebastian McDougall, Moorhead City Council  
Jenica Flanagan, Moorhead Finance Director  
Mike Rietz, Moorhead Assistant City Manager  
Peyton Mastera, Dilworth City Administrator  
Ben Griffith, Metro COG Executive Director

**Members Absent:**

Denise Kolpack, Fargo City Commission  
John Strand, Fargo City Commission  
Susan Thompson, Fargo Finance Director  
Dustin Scott, West Fargo City Administrator  
Brit Stevens, NDSU Transportation Manager

**Others Present:**

Adam Altenburg, Metro COG  
Shaun Crowell, MATBUS  
Cindy Girdner, Valley Senior Services  
Josh Gorden, Transdev  
Luke Grittner, MATBUS  
Tarren Haak, MATBUS  
Aiden Jung, Metro COG  
Linda Onstad, Citizen  
Matt Pinotti, Transdev  
Jordan Smith, MATBUS  
Cole Swingen, MATBUS

**1a. Approve Order and Contents of the Overall Agenda**

A motion to approve the order and contents of the overall agenda was made by Mr. Mastera and seconded by Mr. Griffith. The motion was voted on and unanimously approved.

**1b. Review and Action on Minutes from May 21, 2025**

A motion to approve the minutes for May 2025 was made by Mr. Griffith and seconded by Ms. Bommelman. The motion was voted on and unanimously approved

## **2a. Triennial Update: Fargo and Moorhead**

Ms. Bommelman provided an update on the June 2025 Triennial Review by the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) in partnership with Milligan Consulting LLC. She explained that the review covered 23 categories and included a desk review of MATBUS's documentation. She stated that one minor finding was noted on the North Dakota side in the Safety Plan category, which has been addressed. There were no findings on the Minnesota side. Chair White congratulated MATBUS staff on their successful review.

## **2b. Transit Development Plan Update**

Ms. Bommelman updated the group on the 2026–2030 Transit Development Plan (TDP), noting that consultant Bolton & Menk had submitted a draft to MATBUS and Metro COG for review. She stated that a Study Review Committee meeting was anticipated in August, along with a future opportunity for public comment. She noted that the draft report currently includes two service scenarios, but that additional information will be added to reflect the financial constraints expressed by the City of Fargo. She expressed hope for implementing TDP recommendations over time but emphasized that budget constraints will determine the scope of service improvements.

Chair White emphasized that the preferred service scenario in the TDP would be cost-neutral. She noted that if near-term service cuts are necessary, decisions should be made collectively by all transit partners, stating that service cuts in Fargo could affect service levels in Moorhead or other jurisdictions.

Ms. Bommelman added that MATBUS staff had the opportunity to meet with all Fargo City Commissioners, the mayor, administrative staff, and the finance team to discuss budget considerations. She noted that every department, including MATBUS, presented potential budget reductions. During those conversations, MATBUS staff stressed the importance of involving all stakeholders in any decisions regarding service cut recommendations.

## **2c. North Dakota Legislative Study Update**

Ms. Bommelman provided an update on the North Dakota Legislative Study that was awarded during the 2025 North Dakota Legislative Session. She reported that she worked collaboratively with the three other urban transit executive directors across the state, as well as local legislators and elected officials from Fargo, to advocate for increased public transit funding.

Ms. Bommelman stated that the primary objective of their efforts was to secure funding for the 2025–2026 biennium. As a result of these efforts, MATBUS was awarded \$1 million for each year of the biennium. In addition to the funding, a legislative study was awarded to examine the funding needs of the four urban fixed-route city transportation networks across the state. The study will also evaluate how fixed-route systems can support population growth, economic development, workforce demands, and healthcare access.

Ms. Bommelman expressed her appreciation for the funding received and conveyed her hope that the outcomes of the legislative study will help identify a sustainable, long-term funding source for MATBUS.

## **2d. Driver Transition Update**

Mr. Smith provided an update on the transition of contracted driver staff to City of Fargo employees. He stated that MATBUS is working to extend the current contract with Transdev by four days to align with the City of Fargo's payroll schedule. He noted that with this extension, the official start date for Transdev employees, along with any new hires, is January 5, 2026.

Mr. Smith outlined pre-employment requirements, including physical examinations for drivers conducted by Fargo Cass Public Health, and stated that MATBUS aimed to issue conditional employment offers to drivers by November 1, 2025. He also noted that drug screenings must be completed within 30 days of the start date. In addition, MATBUS plans to host a pre-employment orientation session to address questions related to pay, benefits, leave time, and other employment matters.

The overall transition timeline includes the following key dates:

- Conditional offers for management staff are targeted for October 1, 2025
- Conditional offers for driver staff are expected by November 1, 2025
- Physical examinations will take place throughout November
- Drug screenings will begin in early December
- All transitioned staff are expected to begin as City of Fargo employees on January 5, 2026

Chair White inquired about the level of control other jurisdictions have over driver staffing now that all drivers will be City of Fargo employees. Specifically, she asked whether staffing decisions would be made solely by the City of Fargo or if they would involve input from partner jurisdictions. Mr. Smith clarified that the number of drivers would be determined by the level of service being provided at any one time. Any increase or reduction in service, whether initiated by Fargo or other jurisdictions, would directly impact the number of drivers the City of Fargo employs.

Ms. Flannagan asked whether the proposed cuts MATBUS presented to the Fargo City Commission included additional reductions to the overall transit budget. Ms. Bommelman clarified that MATBUS presented information focused on the potential impacts of service reductions. She noted that the presentation included detailed analysis for each route, including ridership levels, economic impact, demographic considerations, and the potential effects on other entities. Mr. Smith added that some budget reductions were identified that would not affect service levels. One example included the possible relocation of the transfer station from West Acres to the Walmart on 13th Avenue, which could produce cost savings without disrupting service.

Chair White inquired whether the elimination of Sunday paratransit service was part of the near-term budget cut proposals. Ms. Bommelman confirmed that those figures were included in the information presented to the City of Fargo during the initial 2026 budget discussions.

## **2e. Safety and Security Update**

Mr. Swingen provided the monthly update on safety and security at the Ground Transportation Center (GTC). He reported that the newly contracted security staff have begun documenting minor incidents to develop a more comprehensive understanding of ongoing issues at the facility. He noted that the security provider, Signal Security, has been a strong partner and that their staff are well-trained in de-escalation techniques, which has contributed to a reduction in calls to law enforcement.

Mr. Swingen also shared that the Fargo Police Department has recently begun patrolling the area using their new Trikkies, a type of three-wheeled electric scooter, which has further helped decrease the number of incidents near the GTC.

Ms. Bommelman added that in recent discussions with the Chair, the idea of installing a secure sharps and syringe disposal unit at the GTC was raised as a potentially beneficial addition. Chair White suggested reaching out to Robyn Litke Sall with the City of Fargo as a possible resource on this topic.

## **2f. Quarterly Ridership Update**

Mr. Grittner provided an update on quarterly ridership, including a route-by-route overview. Chair White noted that system-wide ridership is down by 2.3 percent, and pointed out that some routes had been cut. She asked whether the decline in ridership is primarily due to the route eliminations or if it reflects a general decrease in transit usage. Mr. Grittner responded that the drop is most likely tied to the cancellation of Route 32, which accounted for approximately 40,000 rides annually. He noted that not all of those riders appear to have shifted to other routes, which is likely the main reason for the overall decline.

## **3. Other Business**

Linda Onstad, a citizen, was present to address the MATBUS Coordination Committee. She expressed support for the proposed elimination of Sunday paratransit service, noting that across multiple transit development plans, the top public request has consistently been for Sunday fixed-route service. Ms. Onstad also requested a clearer definition of the term “temporary” as it relates to temporary service changes. Additionally, she voiced concern about the possible elimination of Route 16, pointing out that a new affordable housing complex with over 100 units is nearing completion and that Route 16 directly serves that location.

Chair White stated that the next MATBUS Coordination Committee meeting will be held Wednesday, August 20 at 9:00 AM. She also reminded the committee that all future meetings will be held from 9:00 to 10:30 AM.

Chair White adjourned the meeting at 9:37 AM.



# Memorandum

**To:** MATBUS Coordination Committee

**From:** Julie Bommelman, Transit Director

**Date:** August 20, 2025

**RE:** *2026 Proposed City of Fargo and City of Moorhead Transit Budgets*

The 2026 summary proposed Transit budgets for the City of Fargo and City of Moorhead are outlined below:

| 2026 FARGO PROPOSED BUDGET    |                 |                 |                 |
|-------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
|                               | Fixed Route     | Paratransit     | Total           |
| Total Budget                  | \$ 5,843,905.00 | \$ 1,939,672.00 | \$ 7,783,577.00 |
| State Funding                 | \$ 474,143.00   | \$ 424,637.00   | \$ 898,780.00   |
| Federal Funding               | \$ 2,634,310.00 | \$ 20,421.00    | \$ 2,654,731.00 |
| System Revenue                | \$ 714,201.00   | \$ 189,431.00   | \$ 903,632.00   |
| Local Funding                 | \$ 1,878,394.00 | \$ 1,448,040.00 | \$ 3,326,434.00 |
|                               |                 |                 |                 |
|                               |                 |                 |                 |
| 2026 MOORHEAD PROPOSED BUDGET |                 |                 |                 |
|                               | Fixed Route     | Paratransit     | Total           |
| Total Budget                  | \$ 4,321,806.00 | \$ 784,527.00   | \$ 5,106,333.00 |
| State Funding                 | \$ 4,192,980.00 | \$ 674,700.00   | \$ 4,867,680.00 |
| Local Funding (Federal*)      | \$ 128,826.00   | \$ 109,827.00   | \$ 238,653.00   |
| *utilizing CARES/ARPA         |                 |                 |                 |

The City of Fargo presented its preliminary budget August 4, 2025 with a public hearing to the Fargo City Commission scheduled for September 15, 2025. On September 29, 2025, the city will approve a final budget.

The City of Moorhead will present its budget in the next few weeks.

There is no requested action at this time.

# Memorandum

**To:** MATBUS Coordination Committee

**From:** Cole Swingen, Assistant Transit Director - Operations

**Date:** August 20, 2025

**RE:** *Safety and Security Report*



## 7/2/2025

Signal Security: "Time is around 8 to 815 pm Matbus station the white male age is 50 to 55 intoxicated drunk yelling use the abusive language misbehave aggressive tune wearing a blue jeans T-shirt black shoes I said can you leave the building? Don't listen after I call 911 police come and I put in trust passes."

## 7/3/2025

Signal Security Report: "Mall security was trespassing male, Hispanic, 30s, blue t-shirt, shorts, from the property. They informed signal officer [REDACTED] to inform drivers to not allow male onto buses. Signal officer [REDACTED] radioed but received no response. S/o Blake got the message out through a driver's radio. FPD removed the male."

## 7/5/2025

Trespass Notice from Dilworth PD: [REDACTED] (DOB: 09/06/1989) was trespassed for causing a disturbance at the Walmart in Dilworth. I have contacted Fargo PD to request that the same trespass be issued on the Fargo side and also asked if a booking photo of the suspect is available.

## 7/5/2025

Signal Security Report: "Native American girl, she's she drank and high intoxicated and she drink alcohol on the side Matbus station I give the warning she don't listen after she throw on the floor I told them leave the building. She don't listen aggressive. She try to take the bus 13 that one park on east side I told her you can't take the bus because you do littering here. Second you are drunk and high. She wearing a black and red jacket, black T-shirt, black shorts and I put in a trespass I called 911 cops arrive take them." 07/17/25 - Incident occurred at 12:56 PM not at 10:00 PM as indicated by the Signal Officer.

## 7/5/2025

Driver requested police at New Life bus stop because a passenger, [REDACTED], refused to deboard the bus after he did not have correct fare. Police were dispatched to the scene and the passenger got off the bus. Dispatch received a call from [REDACTED] at 5:39. He was under the assumption that he qualified for the disability price before becoming approved. Dispatch informed him of the disability discount process and that he has to pay full fare until he gets his disability pass. Dispatch Note: I have given him the discount application twice before, but he has not turned it in yet.

**7/7/2025**

Signal Security Report: "As to ask a writer to lead the premises of GTC due to, he was being very hostile and cursing at another writer, and then he started cursing at the security guard. I was able to talk him off the premises, and I let him know that he will not be riding any other buses at GTC for the rest of the day due to him being hostile and intoxicated."

**7/7/2025**

Signal Security Report: "I had to ask a gentleman to get off of bus 13 due to him saying racial slurs to the bus driver, and when the security guard got on the bus, he began to say racial slurs to the security officer. I asked [REDACTED] to him off the premises of PTC and let him know that he will not be allowed to ride any more buses today due to his racial slurs and being really disrespectful."

**7/8/2025**

Signal Security Report: "A male Trespass already is name [REDACTED] he came to Matbus station around 5pm to 5,30 today date 07/08/2015 he try the get bus I told him you ban already In the whole mat bus station kindly you leave the building and leave the Matbus station area you are not allowed here first you argue with me than he leave."

**7/10/2025**

Signal Security Report: "Male was sitting on the floor with dog near bus stop, started being violent with the dog, I called mall security, he then was violent with them. Also damaged fence and yelled profanity. Police were called and he was followed by mall security."

**7/11/2025**

Signal Security Report: "Driver informed signal officer [REDACTED] that 3 Native individuals, 2 male, 1 female, have been kicked off the bus for drinking and threatening. S/o [REDACTED] informed them that they needed to leave the property. One male, Native, 20s/30s, grey shirt, became aggressive and put his hands on s/o [REDACTED] but the female talked him down and they left."

**7/11/2025**

Signal Security Report: "Had to let a potential writer know that he cannot have an open container of alcohol on the property of GTC or on any of the buses for GTC. Call me a couple cuss words and put the container in his bag and left."

**7/14/2025**

Signal Security Report: "There were two riders in the smoke hut that were yelling at each other when I went over to the escalate the situation they both finished their cigarettes. Was at de-escalate the situation they finished your cigarettes, jumped on their separate buses at the GTC and left."

**7/14/2025**

Signal Security Report: "Mall security and FPD removed trespassed male, black, 30s, grey shirt, beard, from the mall. FPD walked the male to the bus and he got on."

**7/14/2025**

Signal Security Report: "I got a call over the radio that there were two females fighting at the Smoke hut as I approach the Smoke hood. I got him in between both the females to de-escalate the fight as I approach both of them one woman got into a blue car and took off while the other woman name [REDACTED]"



went across the street so at that moment, there was no need for me to call Fargo PD. As I was attempting to ask the bystanders of what happened Jody came back onto GTC property and then proceeded to go after a male that was sitting in the smoke hood having any cigarette for her phone, which she never had her phone according to everyone that was there so I asked her to leave the premises. Then, at that moment, she swung and hit me in my mouth I grabbed my phone out and called 911 and asked for Fargo PD to come down to GTC as I was on the phone with 911 operator [REDACTED] continue to swing at me miss me. She fell and Face planted on the ground because she was very intoxicated by time. The Fargo PD came to GTC Jody Black boy was walking north of fifth Street away from GTC."" [REDACTED] (signal security guard) [REDACTED] (the aggressor)"

**7/15/2025**

Signal Security Report: "A white male age is 30 to 40 ban already mat bus station twice I I told him can you leave this building? He say to me. I'm waiting my friend. He came here and when I'm leaving the building but he try take the bus I stop him you already been here kindly. You leave the building otherwise I call 911. After he go to Eastside there is parking bus number 1 he try take that bus try I stopped that guy again I told him can leave this area otherwise I call 911 after he arguing with me and left."

**7/18/2025**

Signal Security Report: "I was helping another rider in the lobby of the GTC about a bus that they were waiting on and they just wanted to make sure that it was going by NDSU location when I noticed rider (unknown name and victim) came into the GTC and went to the bathroom, then tall native with tattoos on his face (the aggressor) went in to the bathroom and I heard a commotion so I ran into the bathroom and realized the bunny was standing over the writer and the rider was bleeding from his face. I told the aggressor to follow me outside as he left I proceeded to call Fargo PD so they can come to GTC about time they got here the aggressor had already left GTC premises so Fargo PD talk to the victim, took his statement then they left."

**7/21/2025**

Signal Security Report: "I had to de-escalate a domestic dispute before it got into a physical altercation between a boyfriend and a girlfriend. I got a call from one of the drivers as they were departing saying that there is a couple arguing and it looks bad so when I got to the Smoke Hut, I told them both to either calm down go for a walk or I will be giving Fargo PD a call."

**7/24/2025**

Signal Security Report: "A female individual drove through the loading zone at 118PM. And signal officer [REDACTED] asked her to move her car out. As she was backing out, she hit the street sign at east entrance to the loading zone. Employee [REDACTED] called police about the incident. Police Officer [REDACTED] showed up around 135PM to look at the video footage of the incident. So after reviewing the video, she decided to make a report on the incident. Officer [REDACTED] left the bus terminal after talking dispatch."

**7/24/2025**

Signal Security Report: "The incident occurred on the mate bus homeless customers was distributing the customer them so the bus driver ask them to stop but they won't listen. Yes, I asked them to keep the noise down or they'll going to be asked to leave."

**7/26/2025**

## Item 2b

Signal Security Report: "Female, 40s, white, called an ambulance for sharp pain. Signal officer [REDACTED] stayed with her until EMS arrived."

### 7/31/2025

Signal Security Report: "A male individual who is around age 27-30 came to the bus terminal and went to the male bathroom. He thought that he had been there for a long time. So i went there and tried to call his attention but he did not respond. I quickly called the police dispatch at 1146AM. Police officer [REDACTED] got to GTC at 1154AM and the ambulance arrived at 1156AM. Police Officer [REDACTED] went to the bathroom and introduced himself and call the individual whether he was okay and he redponded that he was fine. He was then asked to leave the bathroom and he left."

### 7/31/2025

Signal Security Report: "Homeless customer was being treated and disrespectful to another customer on bus 16. I was called on the radio before the bus could get to the mall. I was able to make sure that everyone was then I asked the homeless guy to keep it down."

# Memorandum

**To:** MAT Coordination Board

**From:** Shaun Crowell, Mobility Manager

**Date:** August 20, 2025

**RE:** *City of Fargo Transit Title VI Civil Rights Program*



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**RECOMMENDATION:** The MATBUS Coordination Committee are asked to consider the following actions:

1. Approval in substantial form the Fargo Transit Title VI Civil Rights Program; and
2. Authorization to submit same to the Fargo City Commission and then to the Federal Transit Administration (FTA).

**BACKGROUND / KEY POINTS:** All programs receiving financial assistance from the FTA are subject to Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (42 U.S.C. 2000d) and the Department of Transportation's implementing regulations, Circular 4702.1B.

As a recipient of federal funding, MATBUS for the City of Fargo Transit must:

- Ensure that the level and quality of public transportation service is provided in a nondiscriminatory manner;
- Promote full and fair participation in public transportation decision-making without regard to race, color or national origin;
- Ensure meaningful access to transit-related programs and activities by persons with limited English proficiency.

Every three years, City of Fargo Transit must report to FTA by submitting materials that show their programs, policies and activities comply with DOT's Title VI regulations. All recipients must also have their Title VI program approved by the appropriate governing official, i.e. the City Commission for City-operated entities.

Fargo Transit's Title VI program includes the following:

- Any notices to the public of protections against discrimination afforded by Title VI, as well as a list of their locations;
- A Title VI discrimination complaint form and instructions to the public on how to complete it;
- A list of any public transportation-related Title VI investigations, complaints or lawsuits filed with the recipient since the time of the last submission;
- A public participation plan including outreach to minority and limited English proficient populations within the service area (may also include other traditionally underserved constituencies, such as people with disabilities and low-income populations);
- The recipient's plan for assisting persons with limited English proficiency;
- The recipient's service standards and service policies;
- Any additional relevant information that demonstrates adherence to Title VI regulations.

### Item 3a

The previous program submission received approval from the regional FTA Civil Rights Officer in 2022 and will expire November 30, 2025. The 2025 submission must be received and approved prior to October 1, 2025; therefore, the draft program must be approved by the City and a certified resolution forwarded to FTA upon approval. FTA may require additional documentation during their review, which will be provided by Transit staff upon request.

**FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS:** There are no costs involved in the approval of this policy.

**Requested motion:** Authorize staff to bring the proposed City of Fargo Transit Title VI Civil Rights Program to the City of Fargo Commission for approval and submit same to the Federal Transit Administration (FTA).

# Memorandum



**To:** MATBUS Coordination Committee

**From:** Julie Bommelman, Transit Director

**Date:** August 20, 2025

**RE:** *Proposed Route Changes in Fargo and West Fargo*

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The City of Fargo Transit Department is proposing route changes per the attached due to the ongoing rise in operational costs and the stagnation of revenue streams that support the City's transit services. Transit Department staff have done extensive research to ensure the proposed changes affect the smallest number of riders possible.

**Attached:**

Notice of Public Hearing on September 2, 2025 at 5:05 pm during Fargo City Commission meeting.

Notice of informational display at Ground Transportation Center (GTC) August 18 – 27, 2025.

Notice of informational meeting at GTC with Transit staff August 25, 2025 4:00 – 6:00 pm.

Detailed descriptions and maps of the proposed changes are as follows:

- **Route 13:** The proposed change would reduce the frequency of Route 13. Route 13 would only depart the Ground Transportation Center at :15 after the hour. Currently Route 13 departs at :15 and :45 after the hour from 6:15am to 5:45pm Monday through Friday.
- **Route 14:** The proposed change would reduce the frequency of Route 14. Route 14 would only depart the Ground Transportation Center at :45 after the hour. Currently Route 14 departs at :15 and :45 after the hour from 6:15am to 5:45pm.
- **Route 15:** The proposed change would increase Route 15 from a 60-minute route to a 90-minute route to improve on-time performance. A pilot program of this change was introduced in May of 2025 to determine the effectiveness of this change.
- **Route 16:** The proposed change would eliminate Route 16 (Transit staff discussed this proposed change with the Fargo Housing Authority; with Route 14 servicing 4<sup>th</sup> Street going past the old High Rise, there were no concerns about serving the new public housing at the same location.)
- **Route 18:** The proposed change would reduce Route 18 from a 90-minute route to a 60-minute route. Route 18 would end at the Essentia Health clinic on 32<sup>nd</sup> Ave S, and would no longer service any areas south of 32<sup>nd</sup> Ave S. The northern portion of the route would also be adjusted to service the Cass County Jail and surrounding areas.

## Item 3b

- **Route 20:** The proposed change would reduce Route 20 from a 60-minute route to a 30-minute route. Route 20 would only travel as far east as 42<sup>nd</sup> St S. This would eliminate service to the Cass County Jail and surrounding areas.
- **West Acres Transit Hub:** The proposed change is to no longer utilize the West Acres Transit Hub as a transfer point for MATBUS routes. Instead, transfers would be made at the Walmart bus shelter, located at the intersection of 47<sup>th</sup> St S and 11<sup>th</sup> Ave S. This change would affect Route 14, Route 15, Route 20 and Route 24 (as well as Route 16 if it is not eliminated).
- **Industrial Park On-Demand Service:** The proposed change would eliminate the Industrial Park On-Demand Service.
- **Paratransit Service:** The proposed change would eliminate Sunday Paratransit services. Currently, MAT Paratransit operates from 7:00am to 5:00pm on Sundays.

**Requested action:** Approve the proposed route changes and allow MATBUS staff to bring the approved changes forward for adoption through a public hearing.

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING  
CITY OF FARGO  
PERMANENT ROUTE AND SERVICE CHANGES**

The City of Fargo is seeking to permanently eliminate the following routes and services as described below.

This proposed increase is due to the ongoing rise in operational costs and the stagnation of both State and Federal revenue streams that support the City's transit services. Transit Department staff have done extensive research to ensure that the proposed changes affect the smallest amount of citizens possible.

***Changes to Route 13:*** The proposed change would reduce the frequency of Route 13. Route 13 would only depart the Ground Transportation Center at :15 after the hour. Currently Route 13 departs at :15 and :45 after the hour from 6:15am to 5:45pm Monday through Friday.

***Changes to Route 14:*** The proposed change would reduce the frequency of Route 14. Route 14 would only depart the Ground Transportation Center at :45 after the hour. Currently Route 14 departs at :15 and :45 after the hour from 6:15am to 5:45pm.

***Changes to Route 15:*** The proposed change would increase Route 15 from a 60-minute route to a 90-minute route to improve on-time performance. A pilot program of this change was introduced in May of 2025 to determine the effectiveness of this change.

***Changes to Route 16:*** The proposed change would eliminate Route 16.

***Changes to Route 18:*** The proposed change would reduce Route 18 from a 90-minute route to a 60-minute route. Route 18 would end at the Essentia Health clinic on 32<sup>nd</sup> Ave S, and would no longer service any areas south of 32<sup>nd</sup> Ave S. The northern portion of the route would also be adjusted to service the Cass County Jail and surrounding areas.

***Changes to Route 20:*** The proposed change would reduce Route 20 from a 60-minute route to a 30-minute route. Route 20 would only travel as far east as 42<sup>nd</sup> St S. This would eliminate service to the Cass County Jail and surrounding areas.

***West Acres Transit Hub:*** The proposed change is to no longer utilize the West Acres Transit Hub as a transfer point for MATBUS routes. Instead transfers would be made at the Walmart bus shelter, located at the intersection of 47<sup>th</sup> St S and 11<sup>th</sup> Ave S. This change would affect Route 14, Route 15, Route 20 and Route 24 (as well as Route 16 if it is not eliminated).

***Changes to Industrial Park On-Demand Service:*** The proposed change would eliminate the Industrial Park On-Demand Service.

***Changes to Paratransit Service:*** The proposed change would eliminate Sunday Paratransit services. Currently, MAT Paratransit operates from 7:00am to 5:00pm on Sundays.

***Informational Display:*** An informational display on the proposed route and service changes, as well as comment cards, will be in the lobby of the Ground Transportation Center from August 18 – August 27 2025. Staff will be at the Ground Transportation Center to answer questions on August 25, 2025, from 4:00pm to 6:00pm. Written comments may be turned into the customer care center

window and will be considered by staff prior to the final recommendation to the Fargo City Commission.

**Public Hearing Dates:** Notice is hereby given that public hearings will be held for the purpose of permanent route and service changes:

Fargo City Commission  
Tuesday, September 2, 2025  
5:05 p.m.  
Fargo City Hall  
225 4th Street North  
Fargo, ND 58102

At the hearing, interested persons will be afforded an opportunity to be heard with respect to the route reduction. In addition, written comments may be submitted in advance of the public hearing to:

Julie Bommelman  
City of Fargo Transit Director  
650 23<sup>rd</sup> St N  
Fargo, ND 58102  
(701) 476-6737  
For TDD Relay Service call 7-1-1  
[transit@matbus.com](mailto:transit@matbus.com)

Upon request, accommodations for people with disabilities, language barriers, or other needs to allow participation in meetings will be provided. To arrange assistance, call at least 48 hours before the meeting to give staff adequate time to make arrangements. For the Fargo City Commission call 701-241-1310 or 7-1-1 (TDD/TTY).

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# Route 13



28 service hours/day (15 Saturday)  
**16 Service hours/day (15 Saturday)**



30-minute frequency until 6:15pm  
 60-minute frequency until close  
**60 minute frequency M-Sat. 39% fewer trips M-F**



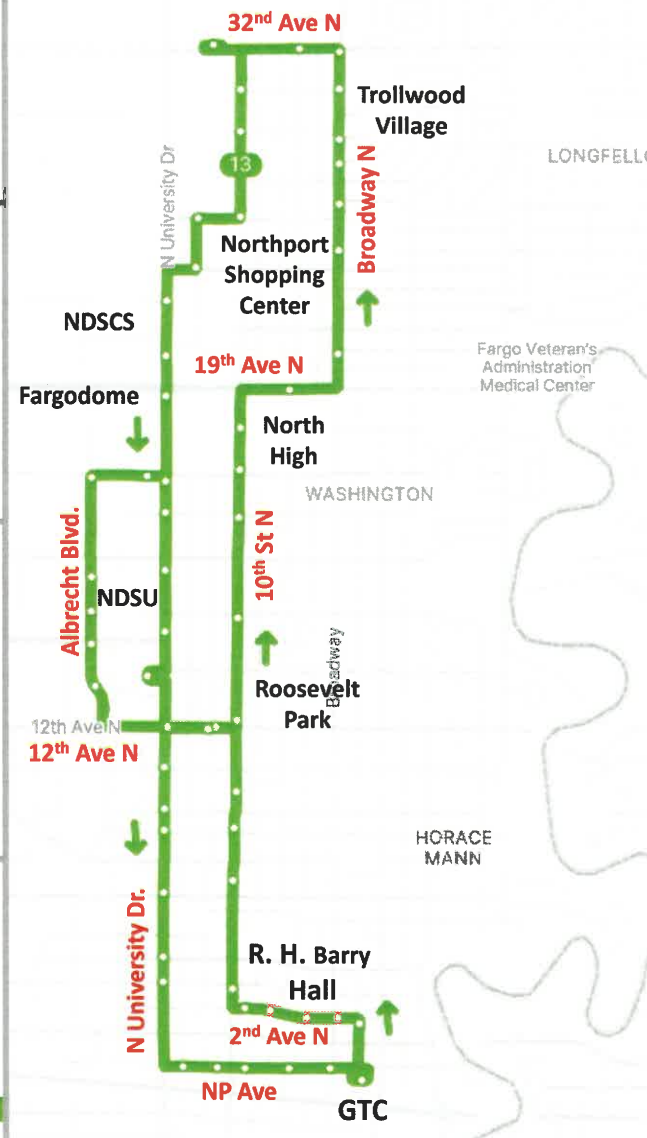
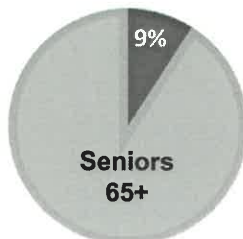
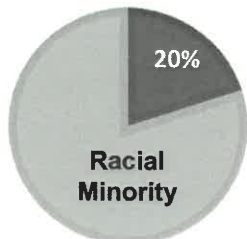
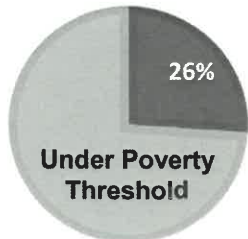
83,534  
 Revenue Miles  
 Per Year  
**50,955**

Population: 17,500  
 Jobs: 17,000



112,900  
 Ridership  
 Per Year

**Route 13 frequency reduced  
 from every 30 minutes to every  
 60 minutes M-Sat.**



# Route 14

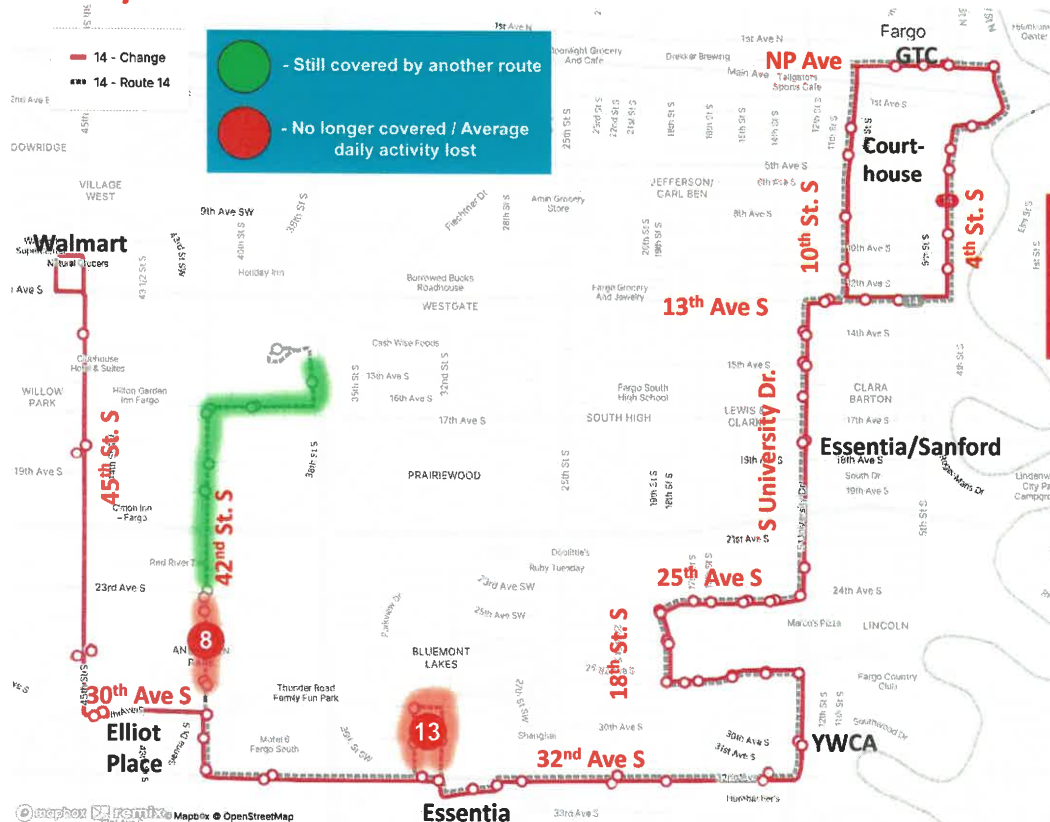


43 service hours/day (41 Saturday)  
24 Service Hours per Day ( 22.5 Sat.)



30-minute frequency until 6:15pm  
60-minute frequency until close  
60 minute frequency M-Sat. 45% fewer trips

Route 14 frequency reduce from every 30 minute to every 60 minutes M-Sat.



191,121  
Revenue Miles  
Per Year  
105,116

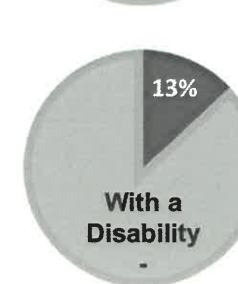
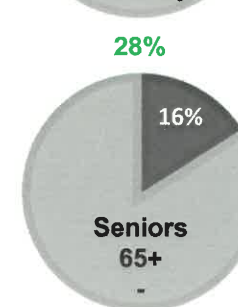
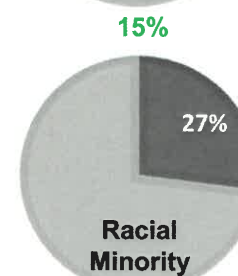
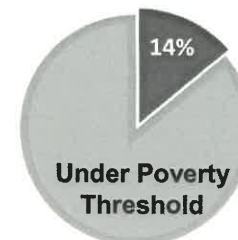
Population: 20,300  
20,500  
Jobs: 18,900  
19,300



98,600  
Ridership  
Per Year



Changes to this route  
will affect Route 11



Island Park  
Hornbacher's  
Plaza Senior Apartments  
Family Fare  
Essentia  
Anne Carlson  
West Acres  
YMCA  
Preference Employment  
Sanford  
YWCA  
Boys & Girls Club  
Courthouse  
People Ready

# Route 15



48 service hours/day (35.5 Saturday)  
48 service hours/day (45 Saturday)



30-minute frequency all day  
30/60-minute frequency Saturday  
30 minute frequency M-Sat.

- Route 15 frequency increased from 30/60 minutes to 30 minutes on Saturday.
- Route 15 will no longer serve the West Acres hub.

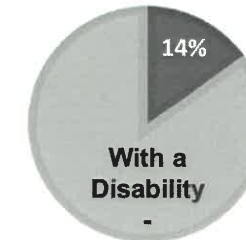
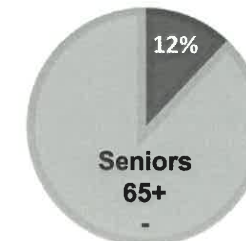
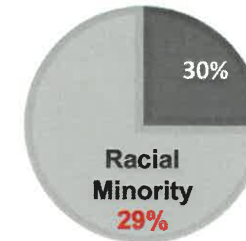
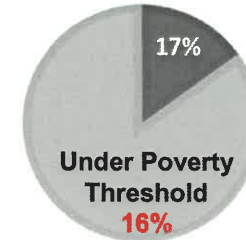
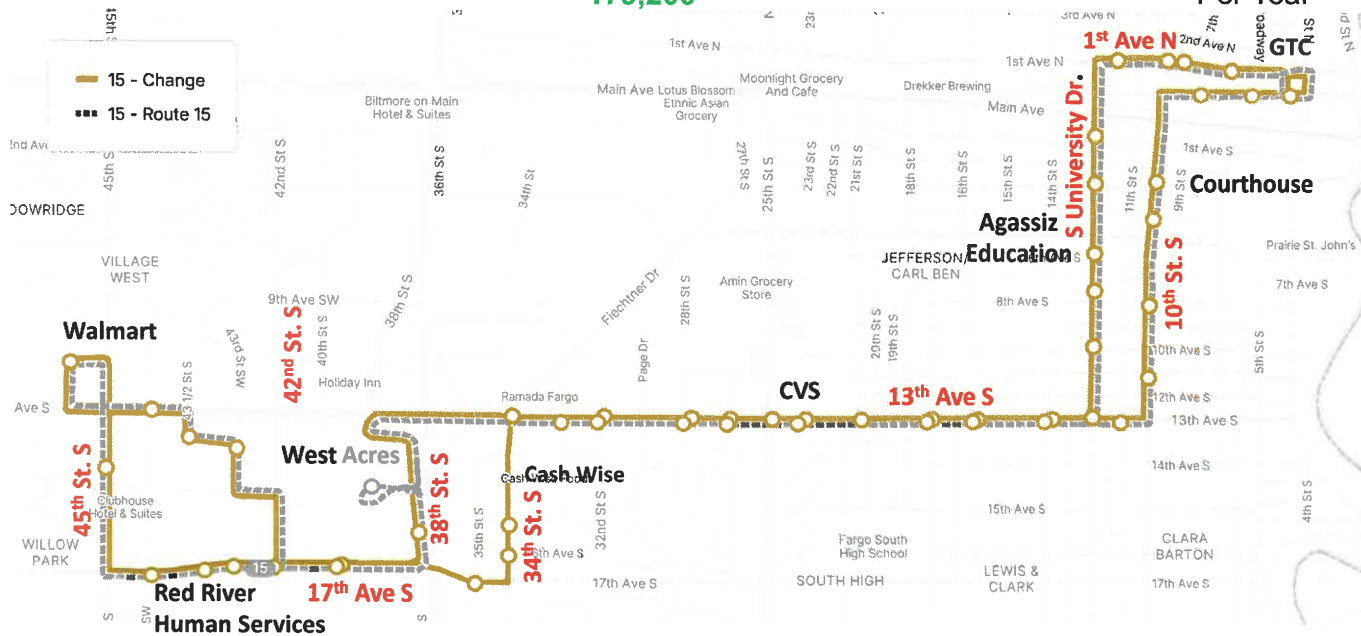


173,140  
Revenue Miles  
Per Year  
179,200

Population: 14,300  
15,800  
Jobs: 22,500  
22,600



240,400  
Ridership  
Per Year



Fraser  
Emergency  
Shelter

Agassiz  
Education

Carl Ben  
Eielson

CVS

West Acres

Target

Walmart

Cash Wise

ND Job  
Service

Courthouse

People  
Ready

# Route 16



13.5 service hours/day (12.5 Saturday)  
**0 Service hours M-Sat.**



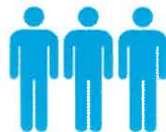
30-minute frequency all day  
**0 Frequency**

**Route 16 Cancelled due to low ridership. Western portion of route 16 will be covered by changes to Route 15.**

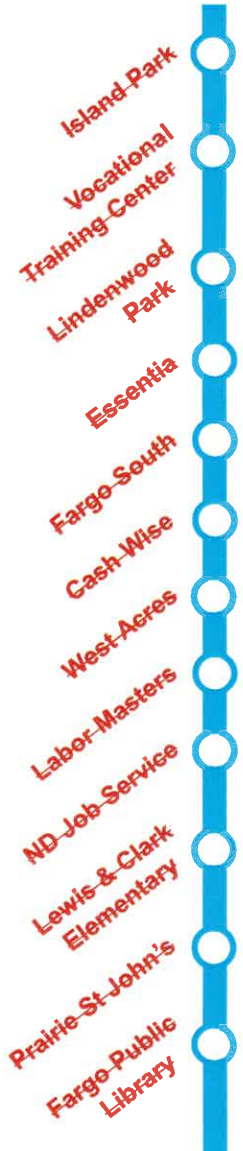
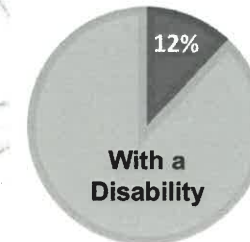
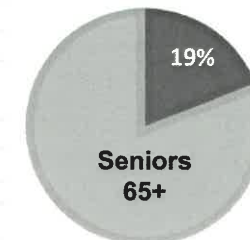
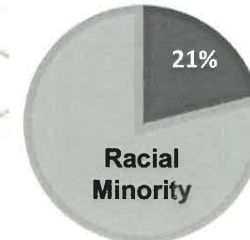
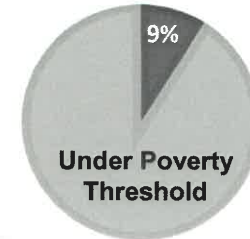
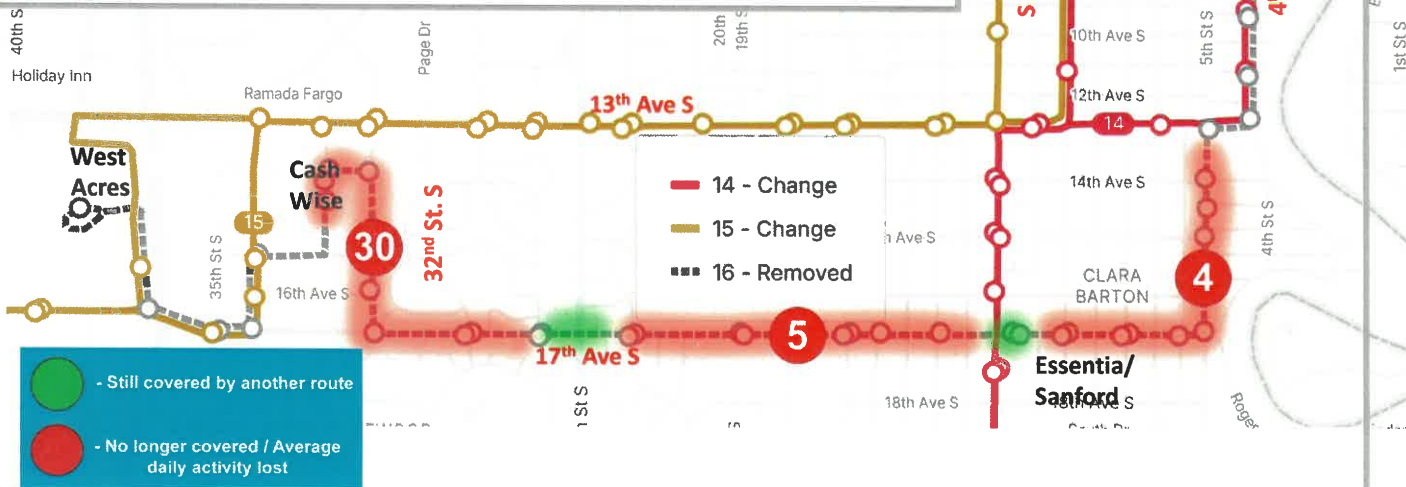


47,812  
Revenue Miles  
Per Year  
**0**

Population: 10,700  
Jobs: 11,900



22,600  
Ridership  
Per Year  
**0**





# Route 18



23.5 service hours/day (22.5 Sat.)  
**16 service hours/day (15 Sat.)**



60-minute frequency all day  
**60-minute frequency. More, shorter trips.**

**Route 18 trip length reduced from 90 minutes to 60 requiring 2 fewer buses and drivers daily. Route 18 will serve Cass County Jail.**



106,832  
Revenue Miles  
Per Year  
**76,920**

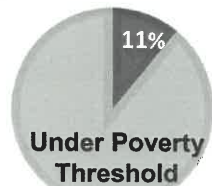
Population: 23,200  
**14,800**  
Jobs: 19,000  
**16,900**



38,600  
Ridership  
Per Year



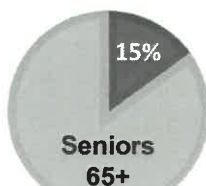
Changes to this route  
will affect Route 17



**14%**



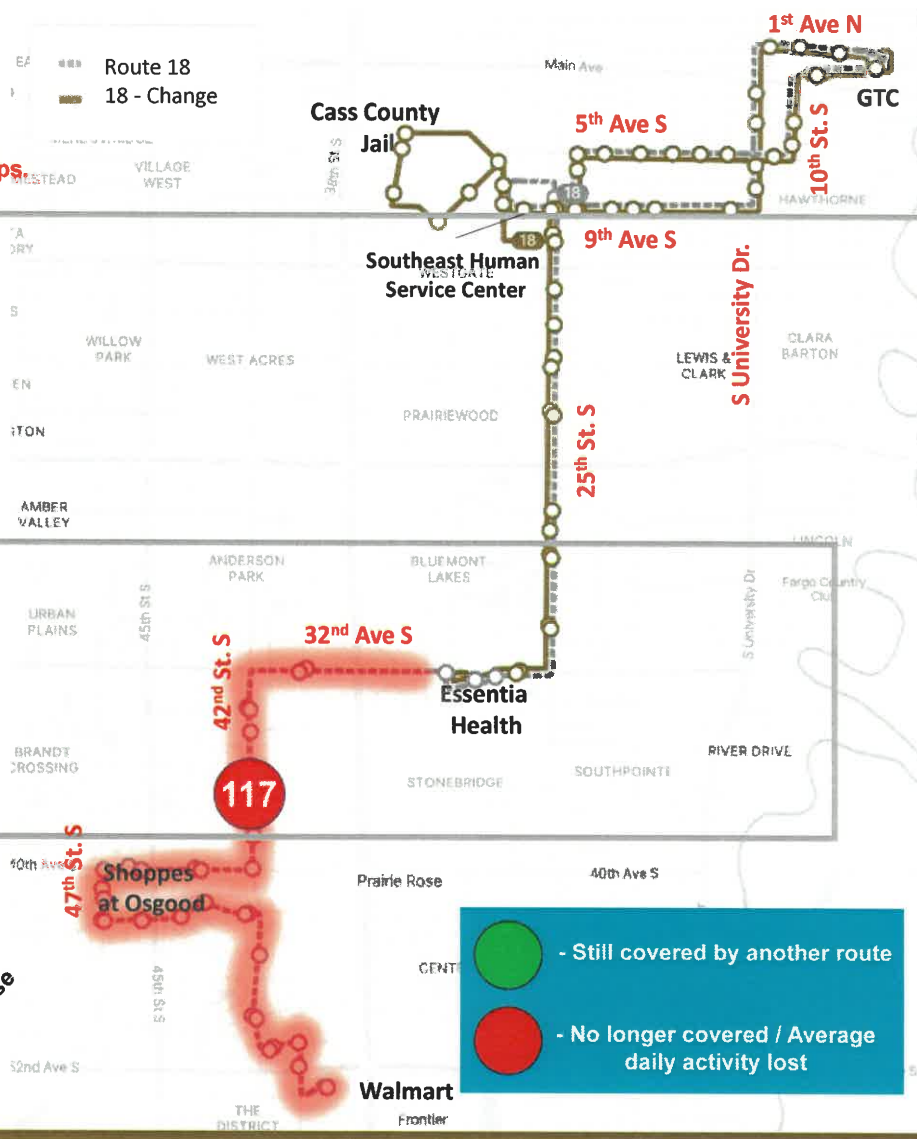
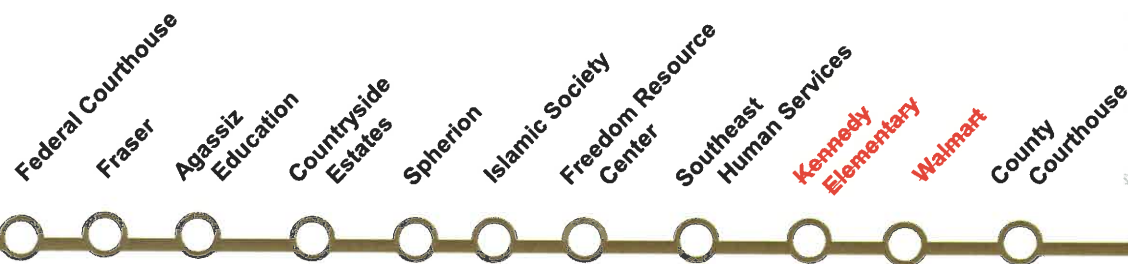
**20%**



**14%**



**16%**



# Route 20



15.6 service hours/day (14.6 Saturday)



60-minute frequency all day M-Sat.

30 Minute frequency M-Sat.

- Route 20 will be reduced from a 1 hour loop to a 30 minute loop with increased frequency.
- Route 20 will hub out of Walmart on 13<sup>th</sup> Ave S.

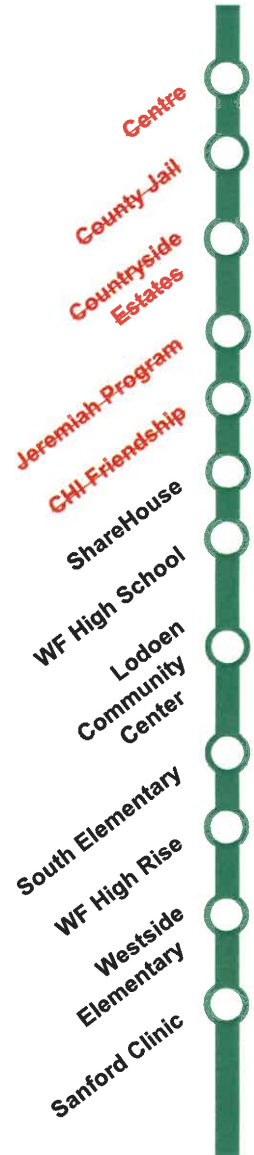
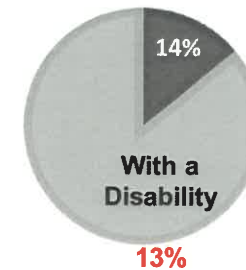
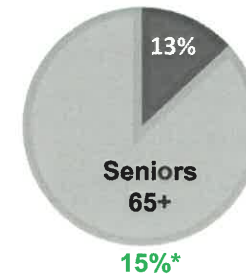
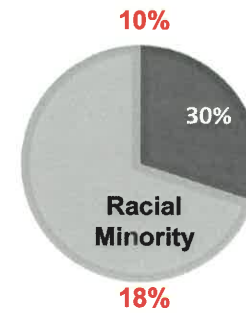
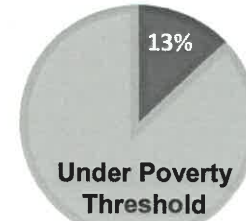


70,590  
Revenue Miles  
Per Year  
**64,236**

Population: 18,700  
**13,800**  
Jobs: 21,100  
**9,400**



30,300  
Ridership  
Per Year



# Route 24

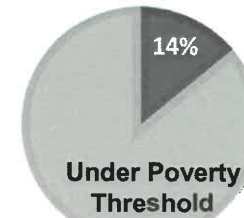
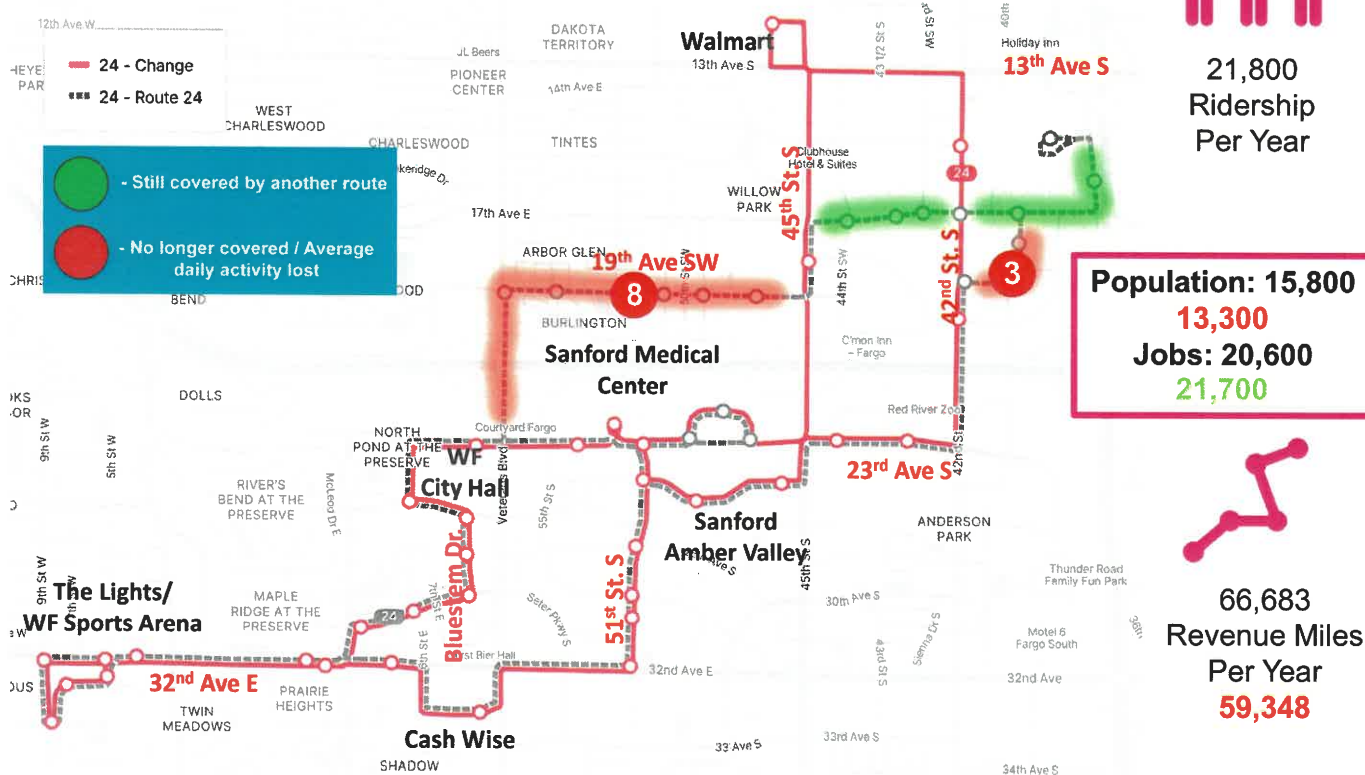


15.6 service hours/day (14.6 Saturday)

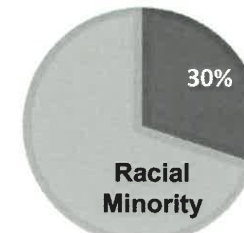


60-minute frequency all day

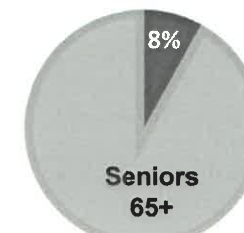
- Route 24 will no longer serve the West Acres hub.
- Route 24 will hub out of Walmart on 13<sup>th</sup> Ave S.



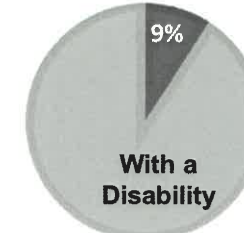
17%



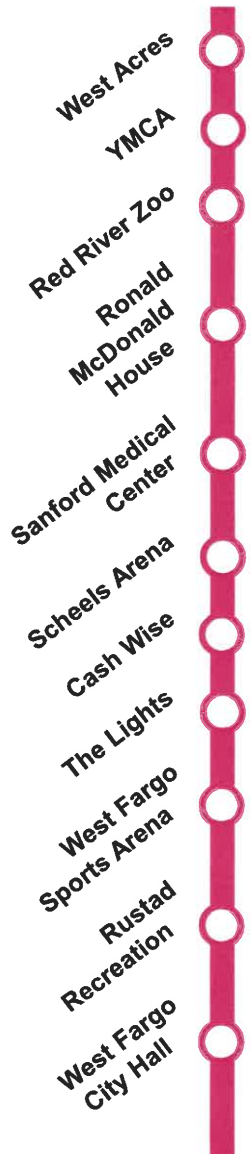
27%



7%

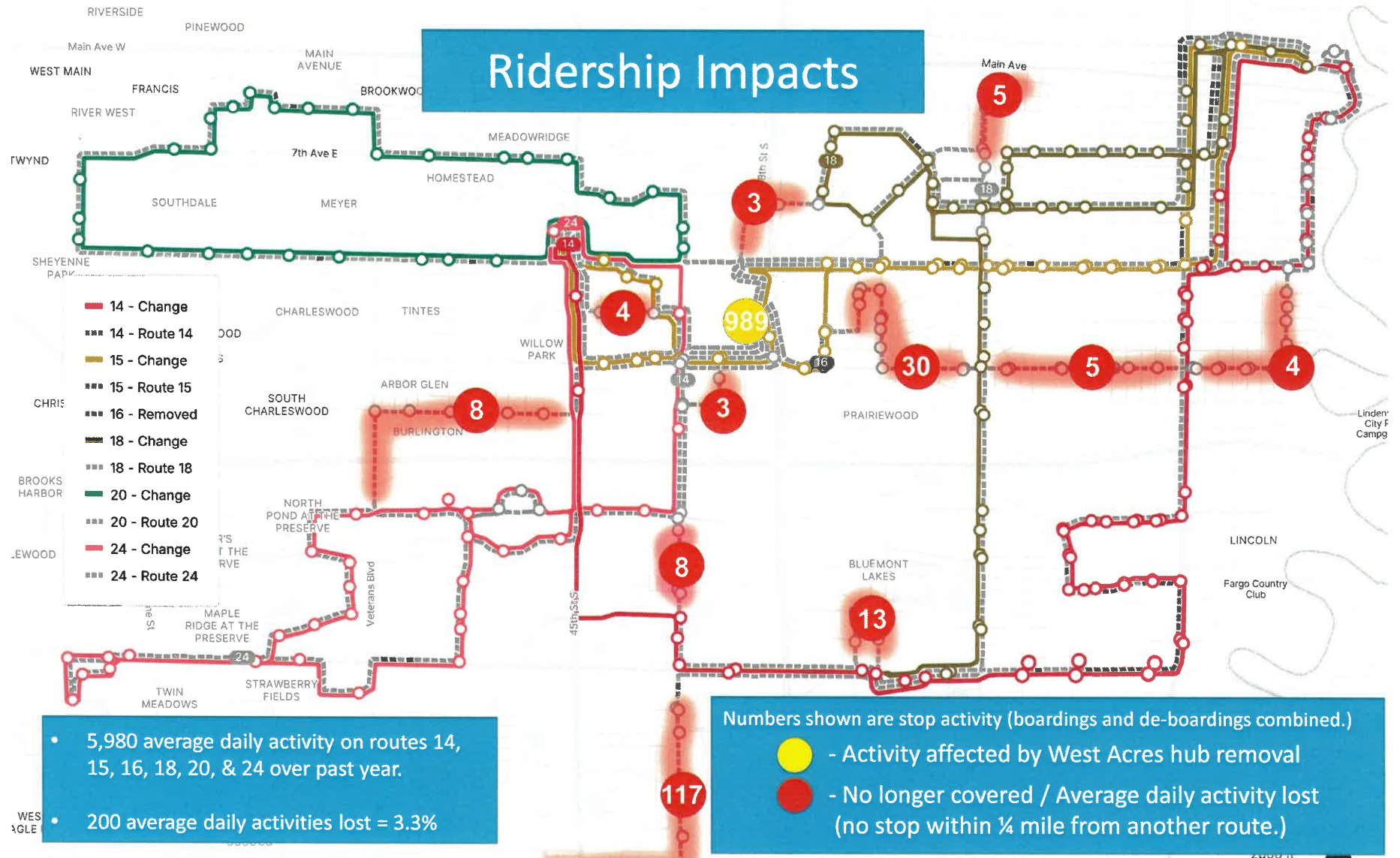


8%





# Ridership Impacts





# Route 13



28 service hours/day (15 Saturday)  
**16 Service hours/day (15 Saturday)**



30-minute frequency until 6:15pm  
60-minute frequency until close  
**60 minute frequency M-Sat. 39% fewer trips M-F**

**Route 13 frequency reduced  
from every 30 minutes to every  
60 minutes M-Sat.**

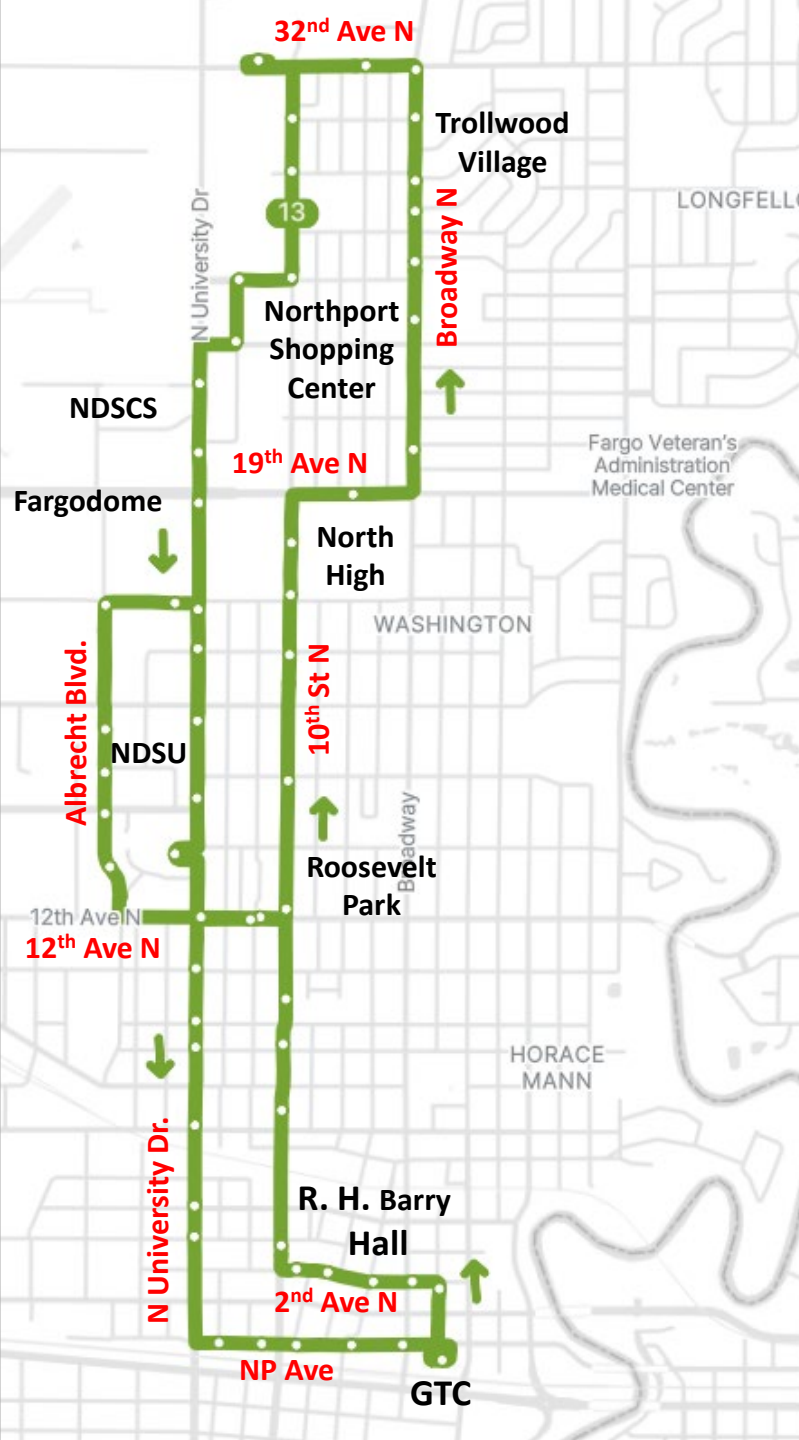
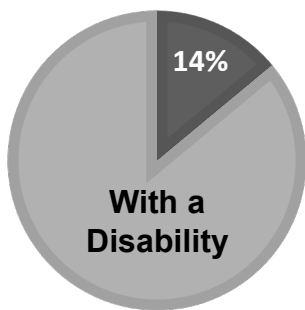
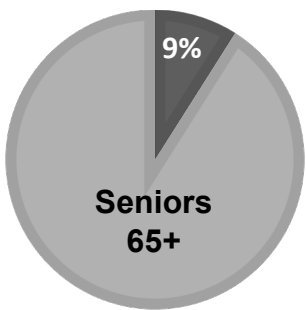
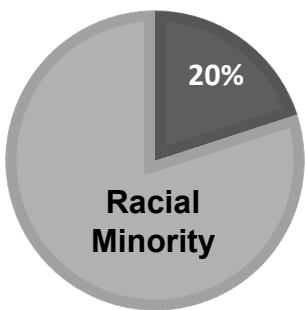
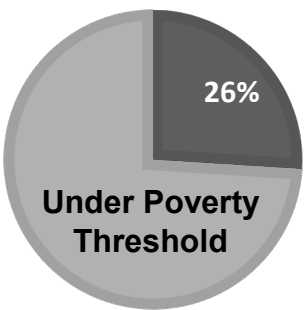


83,534  
Revenue Miles  
Per Year  
**50,955**

Population: 17,500  
Jobs: 17,000



112,900  
Ridership  
Per Year

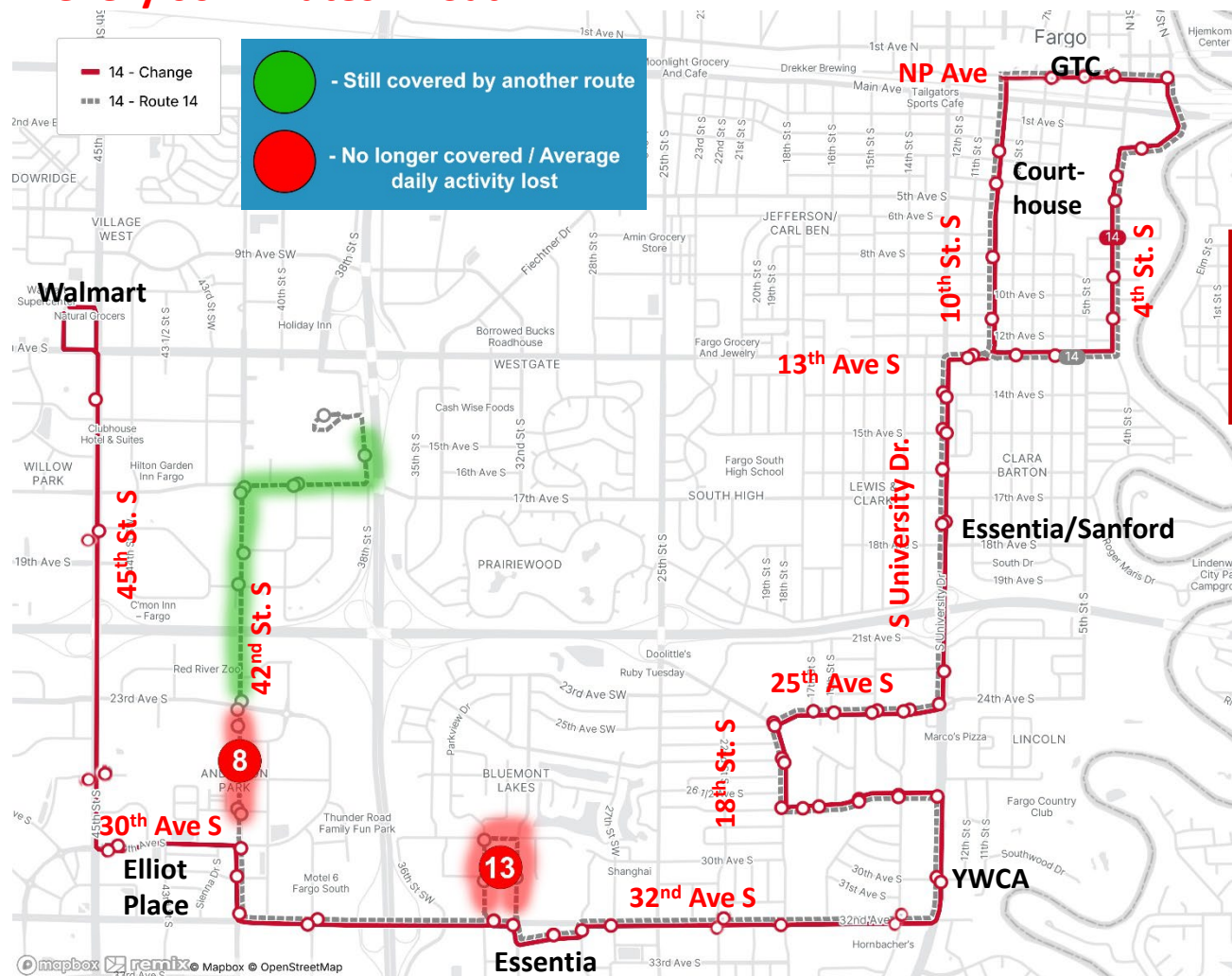


# Route 14



30-minute frequency until 6:15pm  
60-minute frequency until close  
**60 minute frequency M-Sat. 45% fewer trips**

**Route 14 frequency reduce from every 30 minute to every 60 minutes M-Sat.**



191,121  
Revenue Miles  
Per Year  
**105,116**

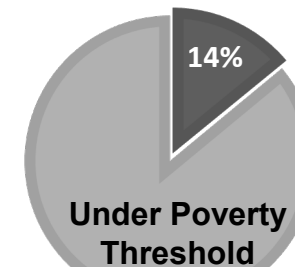
**Population: 20,300**  
**20,500**  
**Jobs: 18,900**  
**19,300**



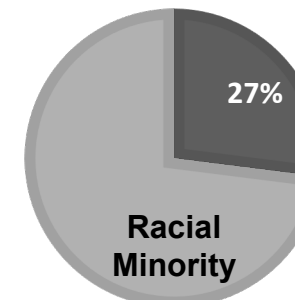
98,600  
Ridership  
Per Year



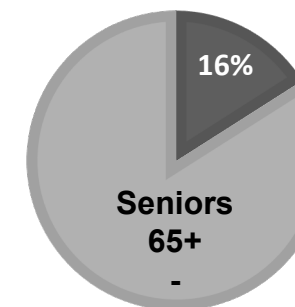
Changes to this route  
will affect Route 11



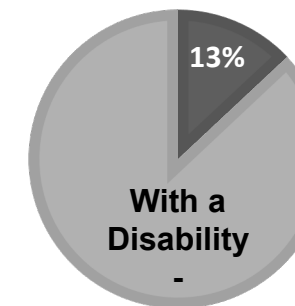
15%



28%



## Seniors 65+



## With a Disability

Island Park  
Hornbacher's  
Plaza Senior  
Apartments  
Family Fare  
Essentia  
Anne Carlson  
~~West Acres~~  
~~YMCA~~  
~~Preference  
Employment~~  
Sanford  
YWCA  
Boys & Girls  
Club  
Courthouse  
People  
Ready

# Route 15



48 service hours/day (35.5 Saturday)  
48 service hours/day (45 Saturday)



30-minute frequency all day  
30/60-minute frequency Saturday  
30 minute frequency M-Sat.

- Route 15 frequency increased from 30/60 minutes to 30 minutes on Saturday.
- Route 15 will no longer serve the West Acres hub.

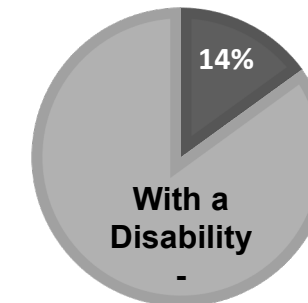
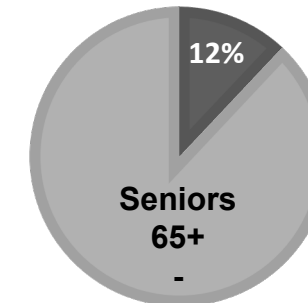
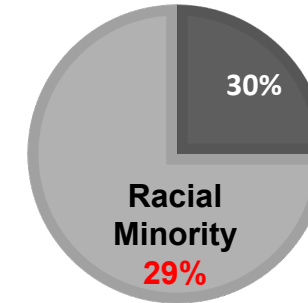
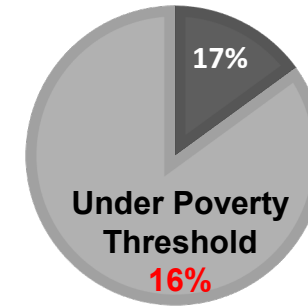
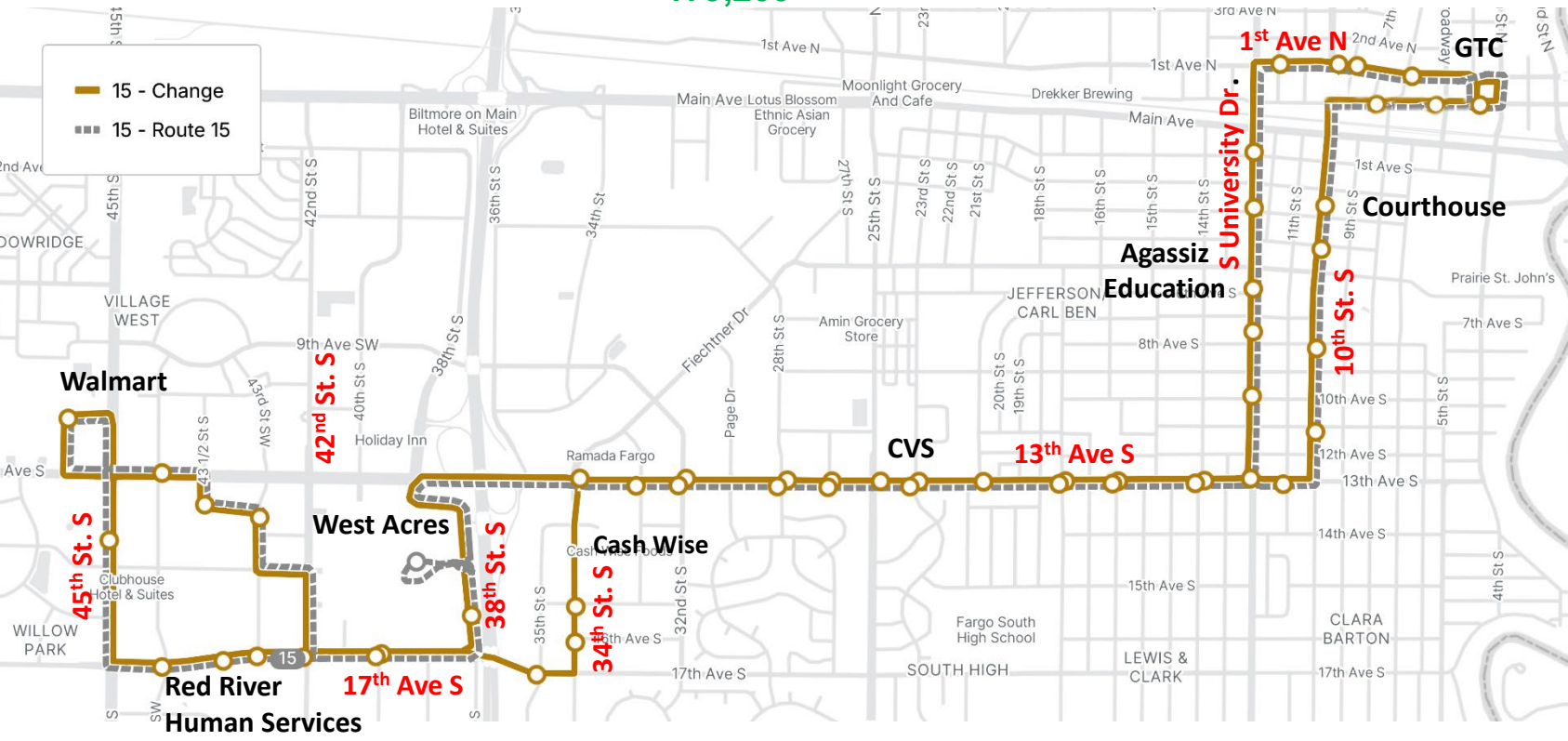


173,140  
Revenue Miles  
Per Year  
179,200

Population: 14,300  
15,800  
Jobs: 22,500  
22,600



240,400  
Ridership  
Per Year



Fraser  
Emergency  
Shelter

Agassiz  
Education

Carl Ben  
Eielson

CVS

West Acres

Target

Walmart

Cash Wise

ND Job  
Service

Courthouse

People  
Ready



# Route 16



13.5 service hours/day (12.5 Saturday)  
**0 Service hours M-Sat.**



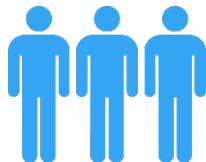
30-minute frequency all day  
**0 Frequency**

**Route 16 Cancelled due to low ridership. Western portion of route 16 will be covered by changes to Route 15.**

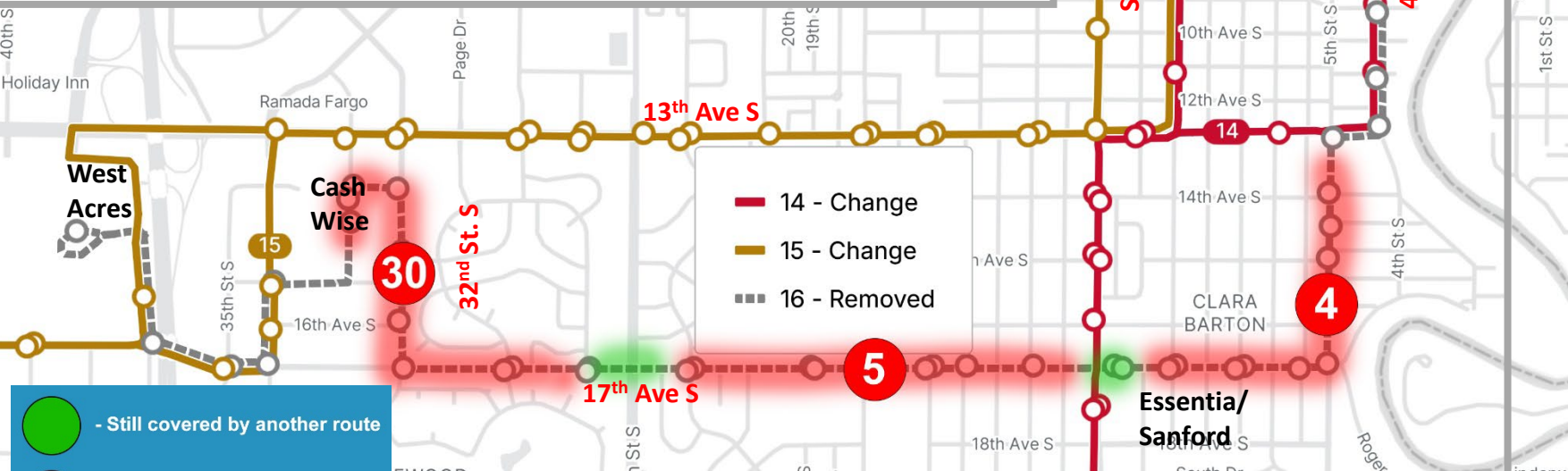


47,812  
Revenue Miles  
Per Year  
**0**

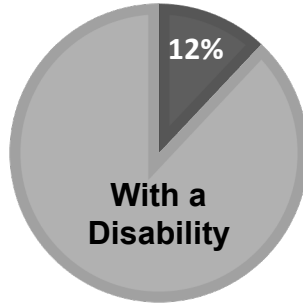
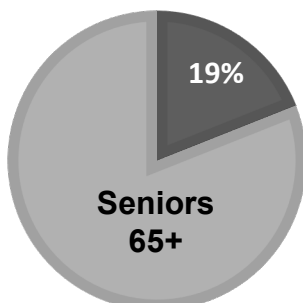
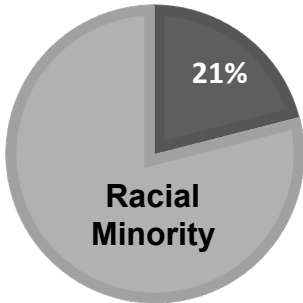
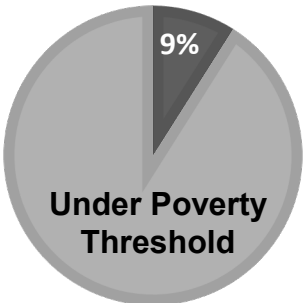
Population: 10,700  
Jobs: 11,900



22,600  
Ridership  
Per Year  
**0**



- Still covered by another route
- No longer covered / Average daily activity lost



- Island Park
- Vocational Training Center
- Lindenwood Park
- Essentia
- Fargo South
- Cash Wise
- West Acres
- Labor Masters
- ND Job Service
- Lewis & Clark Elementary
- Prairie St John's
- Fargo Public Library

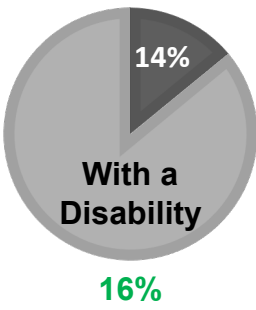
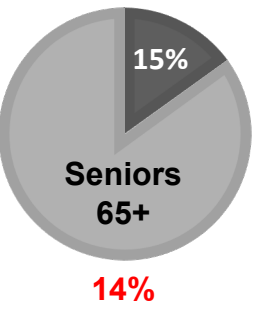
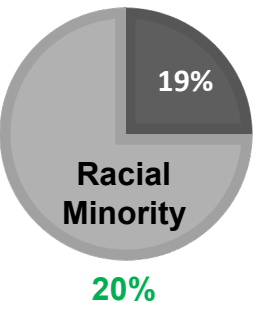
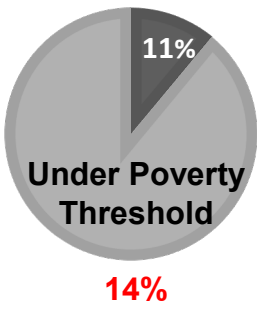
# Route 18

- 23.5 service hours/day (22.5 Sat.)  
**16 service hours/day (15 Sat.)**
- 60-minute frequency all day  
**60-minute frequency. More, shorter trips**

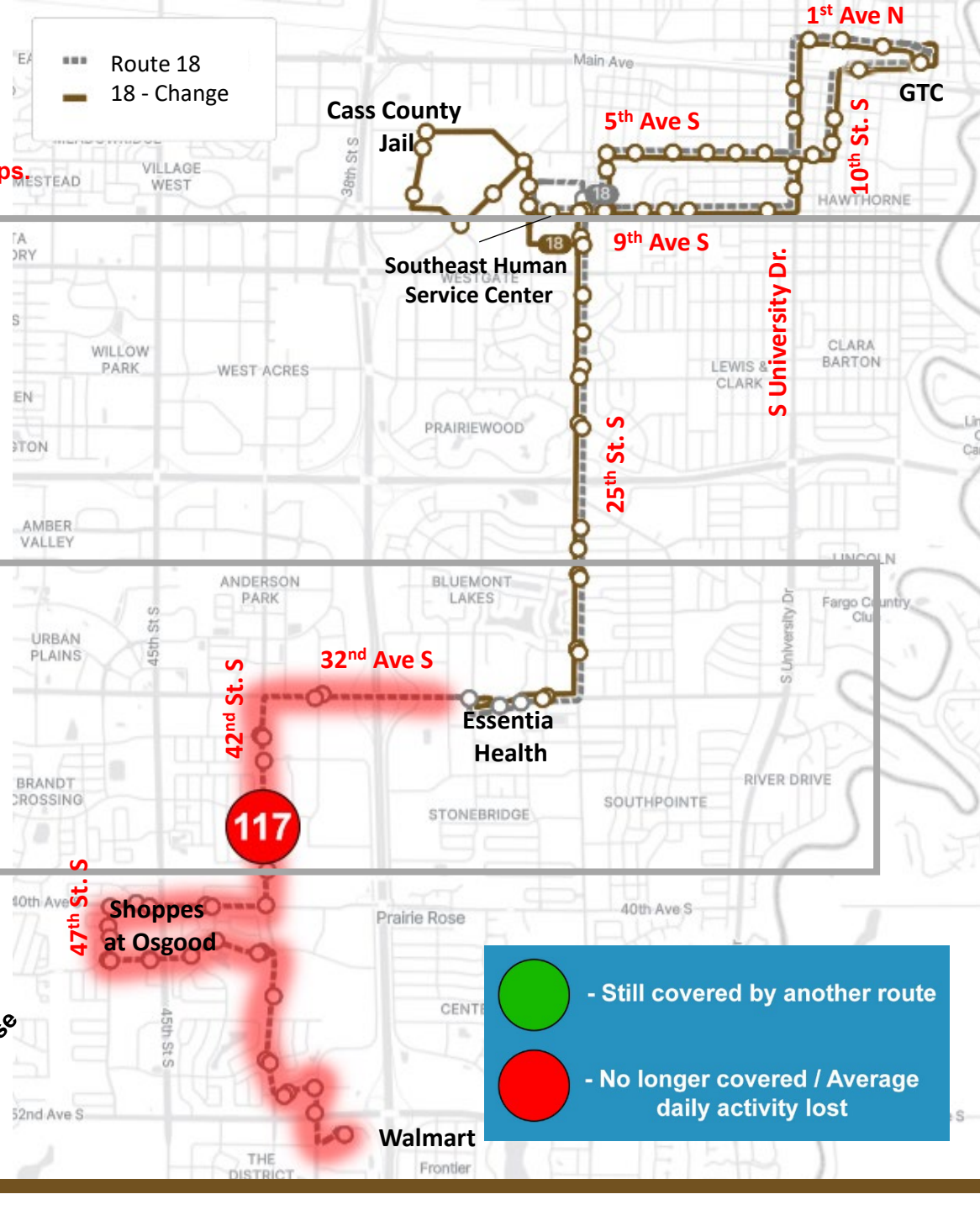
Route 18 trip length reduced from 90 minutes to 60 requiring 2 fewer buses and drivers daily. Route 18 will serve Cass County Jail.



Changes to this route  
will affect Route 17



- Federal Courthouse
- Fraser
- Agassiz Education
- Countryside Estates
- Spherion
- Islamic Society
- Freedom Resource Center
- Southeast Human Services
- Kennedy Elementary**
- Walmart**
- County Courthouse



# Route 20



15.6 service hours/day (14.6 Saturday)



60-minute frequency all day M-Sat.

30 Minute frequency M-Sat.

- Route 20 will be reduced from a 1 hour loop to a 30 minute loop with increased frequency.
- Route 20 will hub out of Walmart on 13<sup>th</sup> Ave S.

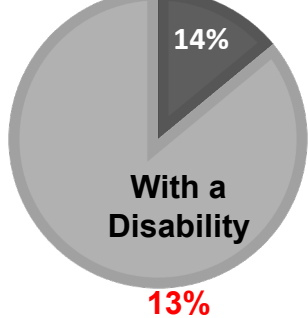
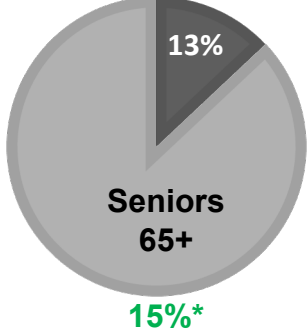
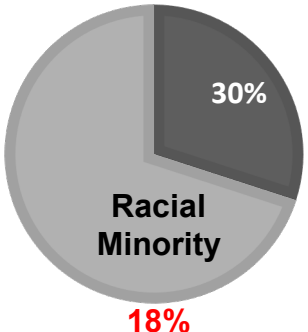
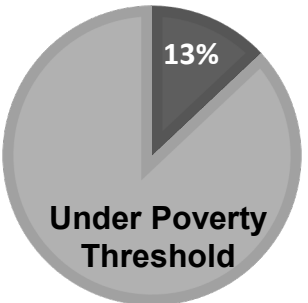
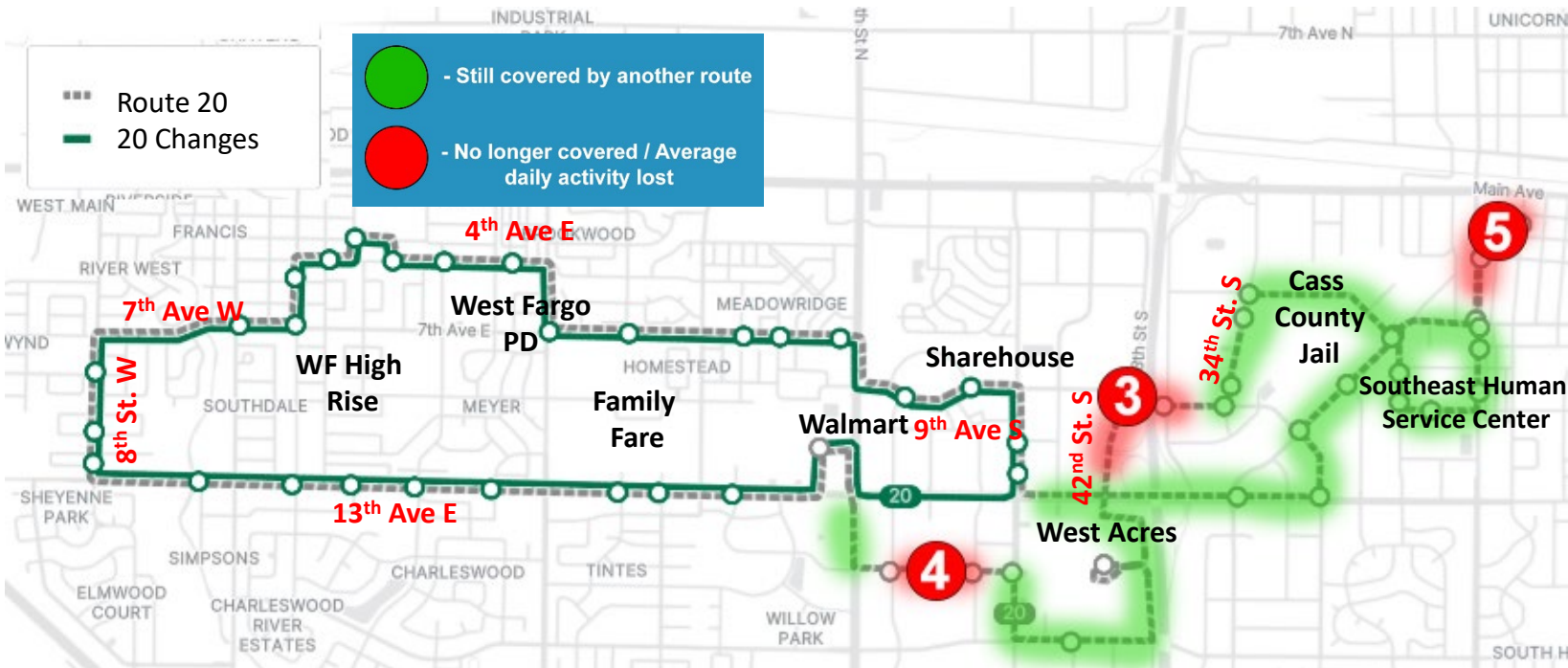


70,590  
Revenue Miles  
Per Year  
**64,236**

Population: 18,700  
**13,800**  
Jobs: 21,100  
**9,400**



30,300  
Ridership  
Per Year



- Centre
- County Jail
- Countryside Estates
- Jeremiah Program
- CHI Friendship
- ShareHouse
- WF High School
- Lodoen Community Center
- South Elementary
- WF High Rise
- Westside Elementary
- Sanford Clinic



# Route 24

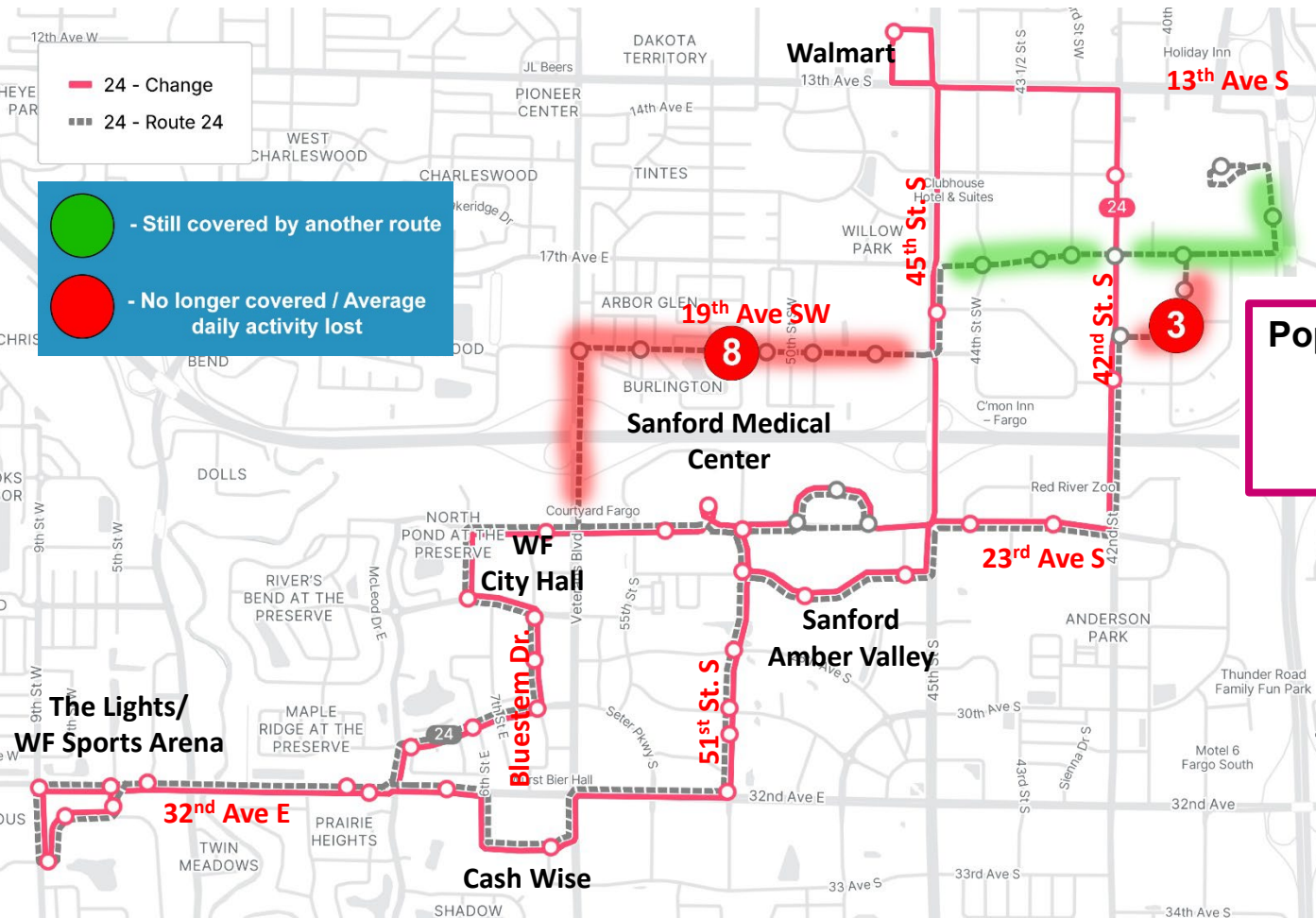


15.6 service hours/day (14.6 Saturday)



60-minute frequency all day

- Route 24 will no longer serve the West Acres hub.
- Route 24 will hub out of Walmart on 13<sup>th</sup> Ave S.

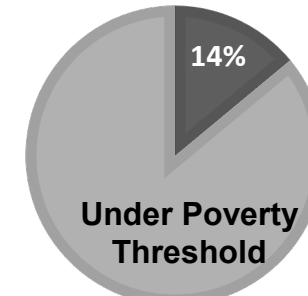


21,800  
Ridership  
Per Year

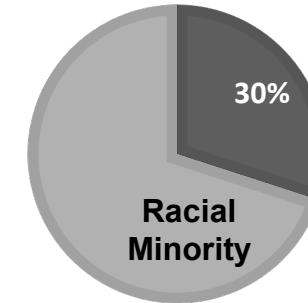
Population: 15,800  
13,300  
Jobs: 20,600  
21,700



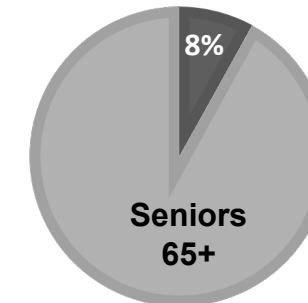
66,683  
Revenue Miles  
Per Year  
59,348



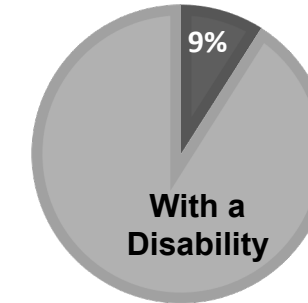
17%



27%



7%



8%

- West Acres
- YMCA
- Red River Zoo
- Ronald McDonald House
- Sanford Medical Center
- Scheels Arena
- Cash Wise
- The Lights
- West Fargo Sports Arena
- Rustad Recreation
- West Fargo City Hall



# Ridership Impacts

- 14 - Change
- 14 - Route 14
- 15 - Change
- 15 - Route 15
- 16 - Removed
- 18 - Change
- 18 - Route 18
- 20 - Change
- 20 - Route 20
- 24 - Change
- 24 - Route 24

- 5,980 average daily activity on routes 14, 15, 16, 18, 20, & 24 over past year.
- 200 average daily activities lost = 3.3%

Numbers shown are stop activity (boardings and de-boardings combined.)

- - Activity affected by West Acres hub removal
- - No longer covered / Average daily activity lost (no stop within ¼ mile from another route.)

