

**RESOLUTION
ROCK COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

Education, Veterans & Aging
Services Committee
INITIATED BY



Joyce Lubben
DRAFTED BY

Education, Veterans & Aging
Services Committee
SUBMITTED BY

December 18, 2018
DATE DRAFTED

Adoption of Rock County Transit Safety Management Policy

- 1 **WHEREAS**, the U.S. Department of Transportation's Federal Transit Administration (FTA) has issued
- 2 the Public Transportation Safety Program final rule that establishes procedural rules for FTA to
- 3 administer a comprehensive safety program to improve the safety of public transportation systems that
- 4 receive federal funds; and,
- 5
- 6 **WHEREAS**, The Public Transportation Agency Safety Plan Final Rule requires certain operators of
- 7 public transportation systems that receive federal funds to develop safety plans that include the
- 8 processes and procedures necessary for implementing Safety Management Systems; and,
- 9
- 10 **WHEREAS**, the Rock County Council on Aging receives federal funds in support of Rock County
- 11 Transit operations; and,
- 12
- 13 **WHEREAS**, Rock County is committed to promoting a positive safety culture whereby everyone
- 14 involved in providing transportation to older adults and persons with disabilities is accountable for safety.
- 15
- 16 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Rock County Board of Supervisors duly assembled
- 17 this 24th day of January, 2019 does hereby adopt the Rock County Safety Management
- 18 Policy and does hereby approve its submission to the Wisconsin Department of Transportation.

19-1B-177

Respectfully submitted,

EDUCATION, VETERANS, AND AGING SERVICES
COMMITTEE

FISCAL NOTE:

No direct fiscal impact.

Rick Richard
Rick Richard, Chair

Sherry Oja
Sherry Oja
Finance Director

absent
Norvain Pleasant, Vice Chair

Tom Brien
Tom Brien

Craig Gramke
Craig Gramke

LEGAL NOTE:

County Board is authorized to take this
action pursuant to § 59.01 and 59.51,
Wis. Stats.

absent
Phillip Owens

ADMINISTRATIVE NOTE:

Recommended.

Richard Greenlee
Richard Greenlee
Corporation Counsel

Josh Smith
Josh Smith
County Administrator

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

As a provider of transportation for older adults and persons with disabilities, the Rock County Council on Aging/Rock County Transit establishes policies and procedures to ensure safety and mitigate hazards while providing this valuable community service. Those policies cover such areas as new hire driver training, a drug/alcohol testing program, a written preventative maintenance policy, passenger policies and procedures, ongoing driver training, annual driver reviews by Transit Supervisor, daily pre-post trip vehicle inspection forms, incident report forms, and Americans with Disabilities training. Regular auditing of these records is conducted by Council on Aging staff, paratransit contractors and the Federal Transit Authority.

As the recipient of federal 5310 funding for vehicle replacement and Mobility Management, the Rock County Council on Aging is required to submit the Rock County Transit Safety Management Policy to the Wisconsin Department of Transportation which commits Rock County to establishing safety as a core value of the organization.

No county tax levy is required.

Rock County Transit SAFETY MANAGEMENT POLICY

MAP-21 and Safety Management Systems (SMS)

Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century (MAP-21) granted the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) the authority to establish and enforce a comprehensive framework to oversee the safety of public transportation throughout the United States. MAP-21 expanded the regulatory authority of FTA to oversee safety, providing an opportunity for FTA to assist transit agencies in moving towards a more holistic, performance-based approach in Safety Management Systems (SMS).

To ensure transit safety and in order to comply with Federal Transit Administration (FTA) requirements, **ROCK COUNTY TRANSIT** has developed and adopted this Safety Management Policy to address FTA regulations established by Section 5329(d) of the Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century (MAP-21) Act signed into law by President Barack Obama on July 6, 2012.

ROCK COUNTY TRANSIT is committed to Safety Management Systems (SMS) as a systematic and comprehensive approach to identifying safety hazards and risks associated with transit system operations and related maintenance activities. **ROCK COUNTY TRANSIT** has adopted a Safety Management Systems (SMS) framework as an explicit element of the agency's responsibility by establishing a safety policy; identifying hazards and controlling risks; goal setting, planning and measuring performance. Furthermore, **ROCK COUNTY TRANSIT** has adopted SMS as means by which to foster agency-wide support for transit safety by establishing a culture where management is held accountable for safety and everyone in the organization takes an active role in securing transit safety.

Safety Beliefs

1. Safety is a core business value;
2. Safety excellence is a key component of our mission;
3. Safety is a source of our competitive advantage; our business will be strengthened by making safety excellence an integral part of all our public transportation activities; and
4. Accidents and serious incidents are preventable and do not occur out of the blue; they are preceded by precursors (events, behaviors, and conditions) that can be identified, assessed and mitigated through physical, administrative and behavioral defense strategies.

Safety Culture

ROCK COUNTY TRANSIT believes safety promotion is critical to the success of SMS by ensuring that the entire organization fully understands and trusts the SMS policies, procedures, and structure. It involves establishing a culture that recognizes safety as a core value, training employees in safety principles, and allowing open communications of safety issues.

Positive safety culture must be generated from the top-down. The actions, attitudes, and decisions at the policy-making level must demonstrate a genuine commitment to safety. Safety must be recognized as the responsibility of each employee with the ultimate responsibility for safety resting with the Rock County Board of Supervisors and Rock County Administration. Employees must trust that they will have management support for decisions made in the interest of safety while recognizing that intentional breaches of safety will not be tolerated.

Safety Reporting

ROCK COUNTY TRANSIT is committed to the safest transit operating standards possible. To achieve this, it is imperative that **ROCK COUNTY TRANSIT** have uninhibited reporting of all incidents and occurrences which may compromise the safe conduct of our operations. To this end, every employee and contract service provider is responsible for the communication of any information that may affect the integrity of transit safety. Such communication must be completely free of any form of reprisal.

Adopted by Rock County Board of Supervisors _____
(Date)

Chair, Rock County Board of Supervisors

Date

County Administrator

Date

Director, Rock County Council on Aging

Date