



Waconia Wavelength

A City of Waconia Newsletter Publication

February 2018



WeCAB Update

The City of Waconia is working hard to bring WeCAB, a supplemental transportation resource, into the community. WeCAB is a network of volunteers whose mission is to provide safe, affordable, and flexible supplemental transportation for medical appointments, shopping, worship services, community events, errands, and access to metro transit, just to name a few. Rides are available seven days a week, pending driver availability.

For those interested in becoming a rider with WeCAB, a “rider application” must be filled out. Once accepted, riders call WeCAB to request their rides. Volunteer dispatchers receive these calls and enter ride requests into the WeCAB system. Volunteer drivers then “pick up” the rides they are available for, and, when a requested ride is picked up, the rider is notified of the driver’s name and confirmed pick-up time. WeCAB sends a monthly bill for suggested contributions, but payment is not required.

WeCAB would not function without the help of many volunteers, and Waconia needs support from volunteers and community organizations in order to bring WeCAB to the community. There are several different volunteer opportunities, such as drivers, dispatchers, and rider registrars.

Driver volunteers select the rides, locations, and times that best fit their schedule and provide the transportation for riders. Drivers must have their own vehicle and insurance, and go through a vehicle and driving record check prior to being accepted as a driver. Mileage reimbursement is available for drivers at the charity rate of \$0.14 per mile. In order to bring WeCAB to Waconia, we need five to ten individuals to volunteer to be a driver.

Dispatchers take phone calls from riders and enter the ride requests into the WeCAB software system. Dispatchers are able to volunteer from home, and work in four-hour shifts. Access to a phone, as well as a computer with internet, is necessary for those volunteering as dispatchers. Three to five dispatcher volunteers are needed in order for WeCAB to come to Waconia.

Rider registrars talk with people and register them as riders for WeCAB. They are able to volunteer from home (or any location). Rider registrars use a web-based software requiring internet service in order to register the riders. Waconia needs one to two people to volunteer as rider registrars.

WeCAB is currently serving the Carver County communities of Carver, Chanhassen, Chaska, Mayer, New Germany, Victoria, and Watertown. If you are interested in learning more or volunteering with WeCAB, please be sure to attend one of the informational meetings. The meetings are scheduled for **Tuesday, February 13 at 7:00 a.m. and 3:30 p.m.** at City Hall in the Council Chambers. Applications for volunteers and riders can be picked up at the information meeting, and can also be found on our website at www.waconia.org by clicking on the senior services box on the home page.

For those who are interested, but unable to attend one of the community meetings, please contact Jackie Schwerm, Assistant City Administrator, at jschwerm@waconia.org or 952-442-3103.



2018 City Council Meeting Schedule

The Waconia City Council typically meets the 1st and 3rd Mondays of each month at 6:00 p.m. Sometimes, due to holidays, meetings are moved to another day. Occasionally, there may be additional special meetings added. Schedule changes are posted to the City's website. Individuals who would like to have an item added to the agenda for Council consideration at a meeting can contact the City Administrator one week before the meeting. All council meetings and work sessions are open to the public and take place at City Hall, 201 Vine Street South. Below is the 2018 schedule:

February 5, 20

March 5, 19

April 2, 16

May 7, 21

June 4, 18

July 16

August 6, 20

September 4, 17

October 1, 15

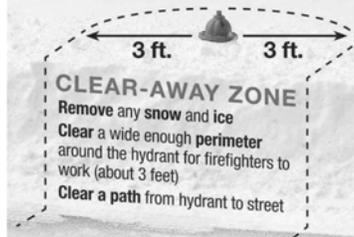
November 8, 19

December 3, 10

Council meetings are shown live and rebroadcast on Cable Channel 8 in the week following the meeting. You can view streaming video of past meetings and view media agenda packets online at www.waconia.org.

Don't Forget to Clear Around Your Hydrants!

After the first major snowfall of 2018, we'd like to remind our residents to clear out the area surrounding nearby fire hydrants when shoveling driveways and sidewalks. Quick access to your neighborhood hydrant is essential in stopping the spread of destructive smoke and fire in emergency situations!



Comprehensive Plan Open House

Interested in helping the City of Waconia plan for the future? Want to provide input on what you think Waconia should look like in 20 years? Stop by the next Comprehensive Plan Open House and provide your feedback!

Thursday, February 22, 2018

6:30 p.m.

**Waconia City Hall
201 South Vine Street**



Garbage Cans and Street Maintenance Don't Mix Well

It's a good time for us to reflect on the placement of trash receptacles for pickup and street and sidewalk maintenance activities. No one likes to see garbage dancing down the street from poor placement of a trash receptacle which get inadvertently tipped over during snow removal operations and wind. This contributes to unsightly neighborhoods and potential contamination issues of storm water systems in our community.

As we move forward through the winter season and head into the spring and summer seasons, Public Services asks that you place your trash receptacles in your driveways. This allows them to be out of the way for snow removal on streets and sidewalks, street sweeping and pavement marking activities. Keeping the units in your driveway, out of the curb and street, allow our staff to complete maintenance activities quicker and more efficiently.



We know that this can be an inconvenience with your coming and goings on trash day and appreciate your efforts to help in this area.

Family Fun Night at Safari Island

Saturday, February 3, 2018

4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

**Safari Island Community Center
1600 Community Drive**

Come experience the Wibit, our water obstacle course!

Hot Topics!

Did you know..... That for the first time in 50 years the U.S. has lowered its recommended level on fluoride levels in drinking water?

Follow the code for more information on this month's (and previous months') Hot Topic or visit the Utility Billing section of www.waconia.org.



City Offices will be closed on Monday, February 19 in observance of the Presidents' Day holiday.