



News Release Contact: Tom Wagener Date: April 19, 2021 Phone: (715) 839-5111

## EAU CLAIRE TRANSIT TO OFFER FREE RIDES ON EARTH DAY

To celebrate Earth Day, on Thursday, April 22, 2021, Eau Claire Transit is offering everyone a chance to try public transit at no cost thanks to a generous donation by the Chippewa Valley Transit Alliance.

Public transportation helps cut down on pollution and traffic congestion, and with eight diesel-electric hybrid buses in our fleet and more on the way, Eau Claire Transit is doing its part to help meet the City's Strategic Goals of carbon neutrality, reducing reliance on automobile transportation, and creating connected neighborhoods and people.

Transit officials are hopeful that by waiving fares for the day, a new crop of passengers can help contribute to a cleaner city and a healthier planet. Eau Claire Transit Manager Tom Wagener says of the plan, "We want to encourage the public to give transit a try. For so many people in Eau Claire and Altoona, the bus offers a safe, convenient, and cost-effective way to reduce their carbon footprint. We're thrilled to be able to give everyone a chance to see that."

All 22 buses in the fleet are accessible to individuals using mobility devices and "kneel" so they are level with the curb for those who otherwise may have difficulty boarding. And all buses have bike racks for those who include bicycling in their transportation plan.

Try the bus! Visit <a href="www.ecbus.org">www.ecbus.org</a> to plan a route, view maps and schedules, see the live "bus tracker", and more. Or if you're new to public transportation call the Eau Claire Transit office at (715) 839-5111 for personalized help planning your trip.

####