



## City of Racine, Wisconsin

### AGENDA BRIEFING MEMORADUM

**AGENDA DATE:** Transit Commission, Thursday May 26<sup>th</sup>, 2022

**PREPARED BY:** Trevor Jung, Transit & Mobility Director

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

Communication sponsored by Alder Jones, on behalf of the Transit & Mobility Director, requesting permission to waive fares for City of Racine youth participating in *Mayor Cory Mason's Employment Opportunity Program* on RYDE Racine transit from June through August 2022.

**BACKGROUND:**

*Mayor Cory Mason's Employment Opportunity Program* is a new 8-week initiative that provides City of Racine youth ages 16 to 23 with enriching and constructive workplace experiences through direct placements within departments of the City of Racine. The 2022 cohort will include approximately 40 students.

The mission of the program is to create career experiences today to build the employment pipeline, form career dreams for the Racine's youth and enhance the diversity of Racine's workforce.

The program provides the opportunity to:

- Earn an income and gain meaningful work experience
- Learn and develop the skills, attitudes, and commitment necessary to succeed in today's world of work
- Gain exposure to various career industries
- Interact with dynamic working professionals in a positive work environment

The program will include part-time employment experiences with City of Racine departments and biweekly cohort engagements that will include job and life readiness experiences including interview, resume, city resources and community partnership.

**ANALYSIS:**

The City of Racine's goal is to ensure that barriers such as access to transportation are eliminated as much as possible to create an inclusive and desired program and working environment. Some students may not have the transportation to be on time, visit different work sites or competing with their parent's work schedule.

Providing free RYDE Racine bus passes to the MMEOP employee's (which will also be classified as temporary City of Racine employee) will eliminate the transportation barrier, create an inclusive work environment, and provide an opportunity for Racine's youth to become acclimated to RYDE Racine's services.

**BUDGETARY IMPACT:**

Cost of passes amounts to \$7,800.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

That the Transit & Mobility Director be granted permission to waive fares for City of Racine youth participating in *Mayor Cory Mason's Employment Opportunity Program* on RYDE Racine transit from June through August 2022.