

# Executive Summary

## Circulator Specification Report

### Prepared for the City of Wheaton

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#### **Background on Local Circulator Study**

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The Service Specification Report is the third in a series prepared for the DuPage Area Local Circulator Study. The study is a project of the DuPage Area Transit Plan, adopted jointly in 2002 by the DuPage Mayors and Managers Conference (DMMC) and the DuPage County Board to address congestion and mobility in DuPage County. DMMC contracted with LSC Transportation Consultants, Inc. (LSC) to provide technical assistance for this study. The first report—Market Analysis—identified markets where circulator service was needed and wanted. The second—Service Type—identified service areas and defined general parameters for service.

The Service Specification Report provides a detailed set of specifications for the Addison Circulator Service. Vehicle type, stop locations, hours of operation, headways, and staffing requirements are addressed. Appropriate standards are provided for the service type selected for the Addison Circulator Service such as deviation service areas, scheduling procedures for deviations, and demand-response service (if necessary). Finally, a financial plan is included in this report that includes recommended fares to use the service, capital costs, operating costs, and existing and potential revenue sources.

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#### **Service Alternatives**

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##### **EXISTING TRANSPORTATION OPTIONS**

There is extensive public transit in the City of Wheaton with two Metra stations in the city and eight Pace routes. The City also purchases taxi vouchers at a discounted rate for qualified seniors and persons with disabilities. Pace

recently started a new route (#714) that provides service to Wheaton College and Danada Square.

##### **PROPOSED CIRCULATOR SERVICE**

The proposed circulator service is designed primarily to meet the needs of people traveling between the DuPage County Government Center and the Wheaton Metra station. An alternative adds service to Central DuPage Hospital and the Marianjoy Rehabilitation Hospital.

For the Wheaton Community Area, the Planning Team has developed a route-deviation service. With route-deviation, transit vehicles follow a specific route but leave the route to serve demand-response origins and destinations. The vehicles are required to return to the designated route within one block of the point of deviation to ensure that all intersections along the route are served. The passengers on the bus may have a longer travel time than for fixed-route service, and the service reliability is lower than on fixed-route service because of the additional flexibility needed to deviate from the route.

Two service alternatives based on route-deviation service have been developed for the Wheaton Circulator Service.

##### **ALTERNATIVE 1**

Alternative 1 represents the conceptual service depicted in the August 2006 Service Type Report. The proposed route is shown in Figure III-1. Starting at the Wheaton Metra station, the route travels west on Liberty Drive to Commerce Drive and then west on Manchester Road to the DuPage County Government Center. The bus would serve an area three-quarters of a mile on either side of this route to provide service for individuals with disabilities.

The basic concept of this route is to enhance the existing service provided by Pace route 712 by providing more frequent connections between the Wheaton Metra station and the DuPage County Government Center. Service would also be provided to residents along the route. As this option is focused on serving employees and visitors to the Government Center, service would only be provided on weekdays between 6:15 a.m. and 7:15 p.m. Service would not be provided on holidays when the County Government Center is closed. In this option, service is provided every 30 minutes throughout the day.

### ALTERNATIVE 2

The second alternative incorporates ideas gathered through the community involvement process. The route is extended to serve the Central DuPage Hospital in Winfield and the Marianjoy Rehabilitation Hospital as shown in Figure III-2. Leaving the Wheaton Metra station, the route travels south on West Street to Roosevelt Road and then west to County Farm Road. From this intersection the route goes north on County Farm Road past the County Government Center to Jewell Road and then west to the Central DuPage Hospital. The route returns following the same streets to the Metra station.

This route was developed to provide access to the DuPage County Government Center as well




as the Marianjoy Rehabilitation Hospital and Central DuPage Hospital. Residential areas along Roosevelt Road would also be served.

As this alternative will serve the two medical clinics, service is also provided on weekends. The weekend schedule is shown in Table III-4. Service is provided every 30 minutes on weekdays and hourly on weekends. Service would not be provided on major holidays.

### VEHICLES

Based on the proposed service and input from the local community, the suggested vehicle type for the Wheaton circulator is a low-floor, small transit coach. Possible vehicles are shown in Table III-6. The vehicles should have a capacity of 25 to 30 passengers with two or three wheelchair positions.

**Table III-6  
Suggested Vehicles for Wheaton Circulator**

Characteristic	Vehicle Type		
	Optima Opus	Bluebird Ultra LMB	El Dorado National EZ-Rider II
			
Length	30'	28'	30'
Chassis	Transit Coach	Transit Coach	Transit Coach
Low-Floor	Yes	Yes	Yes
Accessible	Yes	Yes	Yes
Seating Capacity	19-27	19-28	17-27
Wheelchair Positions	2	2	2

Source: LSC, 2007.

## **Community Input**

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A Community Forum will be held in Wheaton July 19, 2007 at the DuPage County Government Center. More detailed information on each option will be presented and members of the community will have opportunities to select the preferred service plan. Additional opportunities for providing input are also provided. Visit the project website, visit City Hall, or contact your local Project Team Member. **Please provide your feedback by Friday, July 27.**

### **WHEATON COMMUNITY FORUM**

**Thursday July 19, 2007**

**11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.**

**DuPage County Government Center**

**For more information or to contact the  
Project Team with comments:**

Website: [www.GetAroundDuPage.org](http://www.GetAroundDuPage.org)

Contact: Jim Kozik

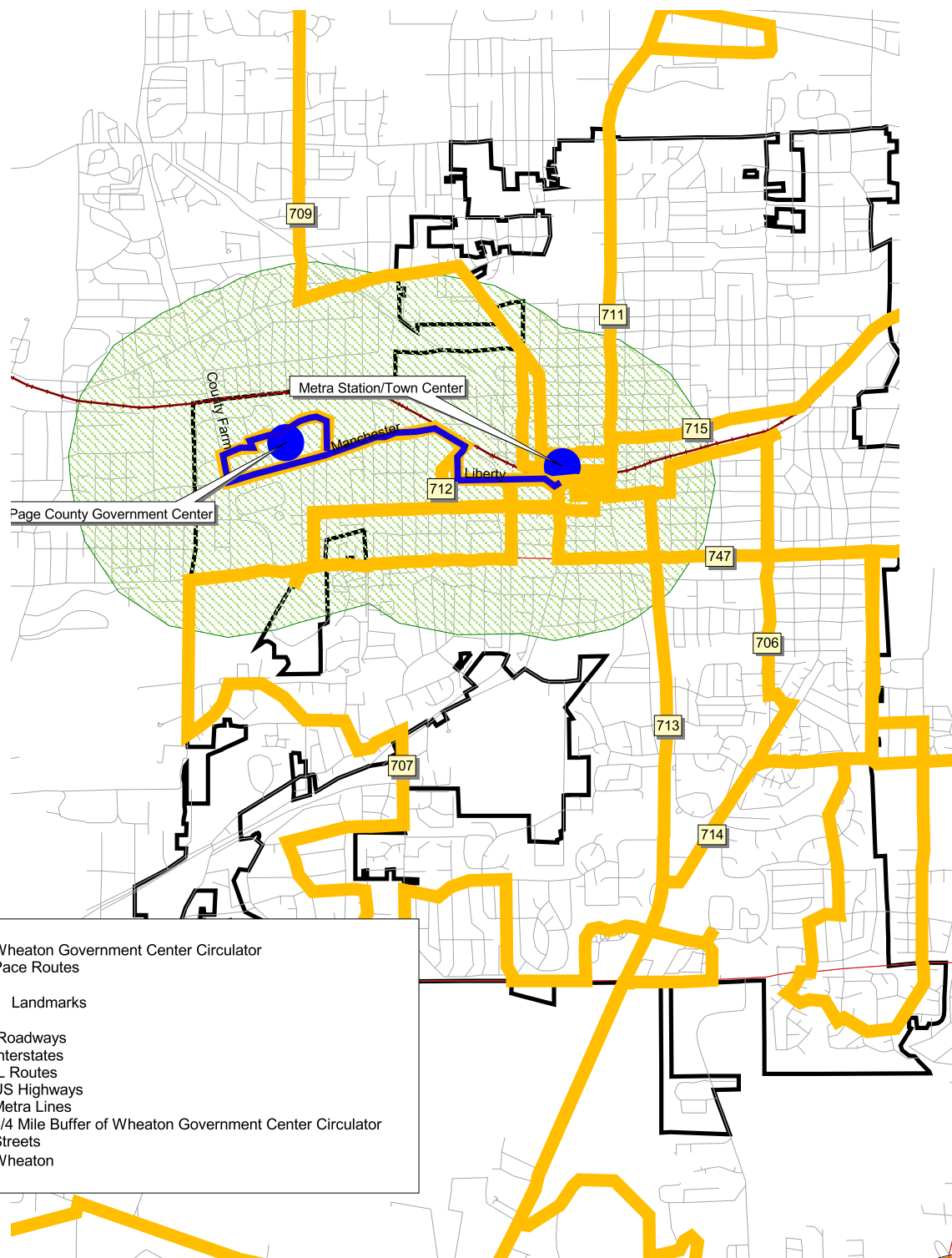
Director of Planning and Economic  
Development

Email: [JKozik@wheaton.il.us](mailto:JKozik@wheaton.il.us)

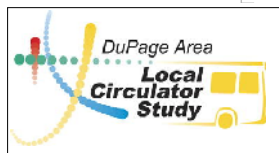
Phone: (630) 260-2008

**Please provide your feedback by Friday  
July 27.**

Figure III-1  
Wheaton Circulator Route Alternative 1



- Wheaton Government Center Circulator
- Pace Routes
- Landmarks
- Major Roadways
  - Interstates
  - IL Routes
  - US Highways
  - Metra Lines
- 3/4 Mile Buffer of Wheaton Government Center Circulator
- Streets
- Wheaton



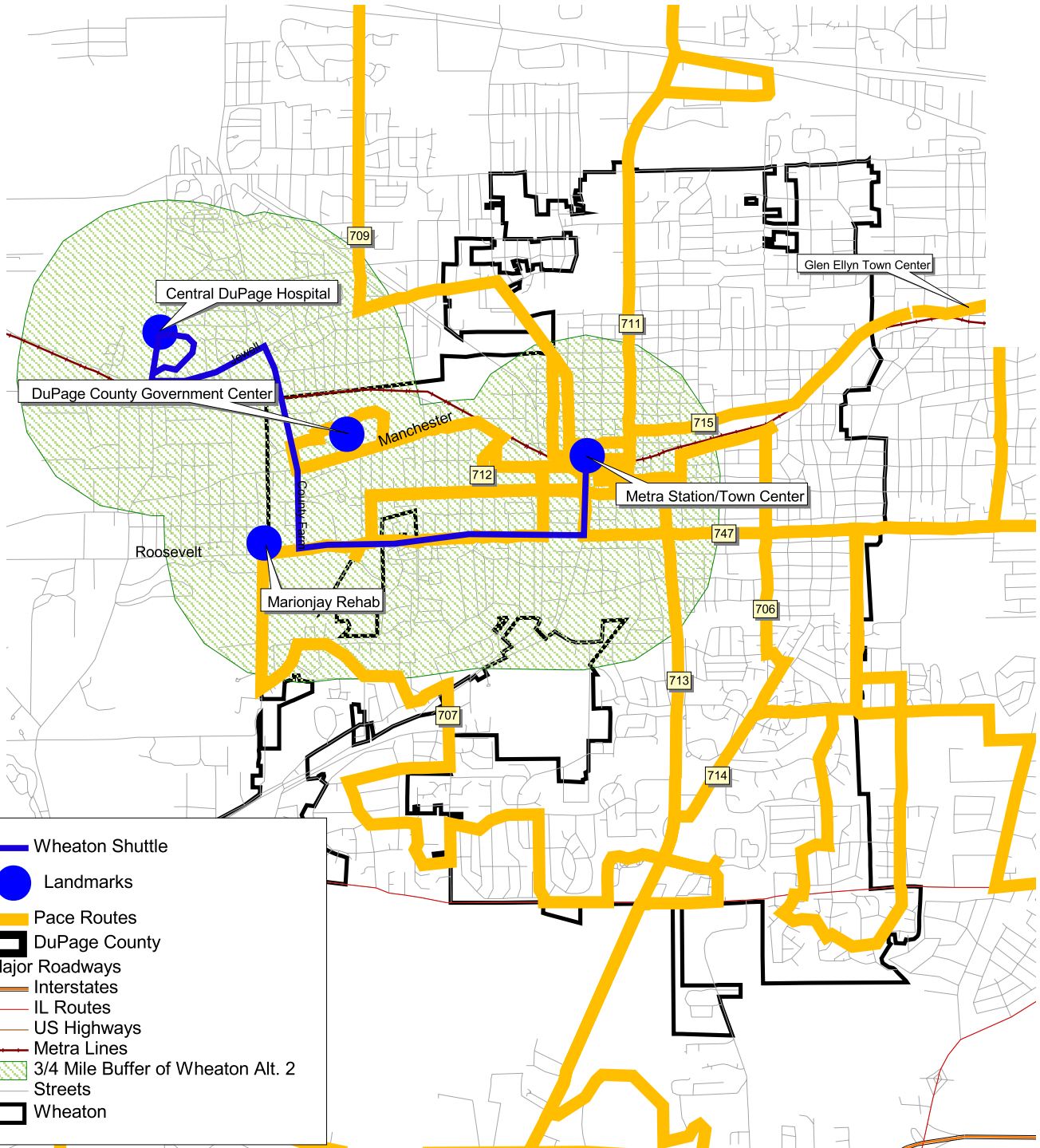
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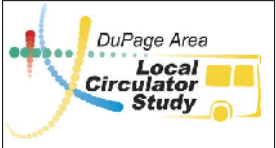
This map produced by LSC Transportation Consultants, Inc.

Landmarks are shown for orientation purposes only. Service is not limited to - and may not include - landmarks shown on this map.

Figure III-2  
Wheaton Circulator Route Alternative 2



- Wheaton Shuttle
- Landmarks
- Pace Routes
- DuPage County
- Major Roadways
- Interstates
- IL Routes
- US Highways
- Metra Lines
- 3/4 Mile Buffer of Wheaton Alt. 2
- Streets
- Wheaton



0.5 0 0.5 1 Miles



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