



State of Wisconsin
Statutory Council on Blindness

1 WEST WILSON STREET, ROOM 558
P O BOX 7851
MADISON WI 53707-7851

Voice: 608-266-7498
Fax: 608-266-3256
<https://scob.wisconsin.gov/index.htm>

Dear Taqwanya Smith,

Thank you for meeting with members of the Statutory Council on Blindness (SCOB) earlier this summer. At that meeting you agreed to receive our council's recommendations and forward them on to appropriate personnel within your department.

The Statutory Council on Blindness submits the following transportation recommendations for the Disabled/Visually impaired.

1. Universal eligibility for disability-discounted transportation services

It is recommended that all county or statewide fixed-route and paratransit transportation services which offer free or reduced fair for persons with disabilities provide cross-county eligibility for access to their services. Presently, a disabled person in Milwaukee who has a Transit Plus or MCTS reduced fair access card must go through involved preregistration with their local Transit Plus office to authorize case by case eligibility when traveling to another county and wishes to utilize fixed-route or paratransit services in that county. Universal eligibility by means of an universally accepted card will make transportation more efficient and accessible to persons with disabilities; especially those who travel for professional reasons.

2. Bioptic driving authorization

It is recommended that Wisconsin permit the use of bi-optic aids for driving permits. While other states permit people with low vision to pass driving tests with bi-optic visual aids, Wisconsin does not presently allow this. This has shown to be safe in other states.

3. Road Lane line color contrast

In the past white paint was used to designate lane divisions on streets. Milwaukee has begun to utilize orange paint which when wet, is more difficult to see. White provides a better color contrast.

4. Autonomous vehicle testing

It is recommended that Wisconsin avail itself to studying and testing of autonomous vehicles which show promise for increased independence for disabled persons who could operate such technology.

Thank you for considering these recommendations we look forward to discussing any questions you might have with regards to our recommendations.

SCOB of Wisconsin