



Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors

Supervisor Patricia Jursik, District 8

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SUPERVISOR PATRICIA JURSIK HONORS LATE OAK CREEK MAYOR ON BUS RIDE **Jursik Says Mayor Richard Bolender Pushed for Better Transit in Oak Creek**

Milwaukee County Supervisor Patricia Jursik today honored the late Oak Creek Mayor Richard Bolender by dedicating to him her inaugural bus ride on the newly expanded bus route in Oak Creek. Bolender was mayor of Oak Creek from 2003 until his death in office in 2011.

While Mayor Bolender was immersed in Oak Creek's ambitious plans to develop the new Towne Center on Howell Avenue, he encountered difficulties with developers. The Mayor told Jursik that the first question he was asked by developers was whether the new development was served by transit. The negative response caused these developers to turn to other areas. Mayor Bolender asked to have the county extend the current service on Howell Avenue which ended at College serving the MATC campus to the new Towne Center.

"The Oak Creek area has been under-served by bus service for too long," Jursik said. "These new routes will bring people to areas such as industrial centers, Drexel Town Square, Target, Kohl's and many other businesses and residences along the way. Just after the county board announced the new extension, Oak Creek was able to bring in a new Froedtert Medical Clinic along this new route extension.

"Dick Bolender was a passionate supporter of bringing better bus service to Oak Creek when he was mayor, and I am proud to ride the bus in his honor," Jursik said. "When Mayor Bolender first asked for the extension, I knew it would be an uphill battle. During that same year, the Scott Walker administration's budget called for terminating all service in District 8 south of Oklahoma Avenue. I was fighting just to keep service along the south shore, much less get this extension for Oak Creek. I was thrilled to have an opportunity to work with my colleagues during the 2015 budget to realize this dream even though we had to fight a budget veto to get the extension.

"Mayor Bolender always let me know in no uncertain terms that Oak Creek needed better bus service. I know he would be happy today to see the expanded route to job centers in his city. That's why I'm dedicating my ride today on this route extension in his memory."

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