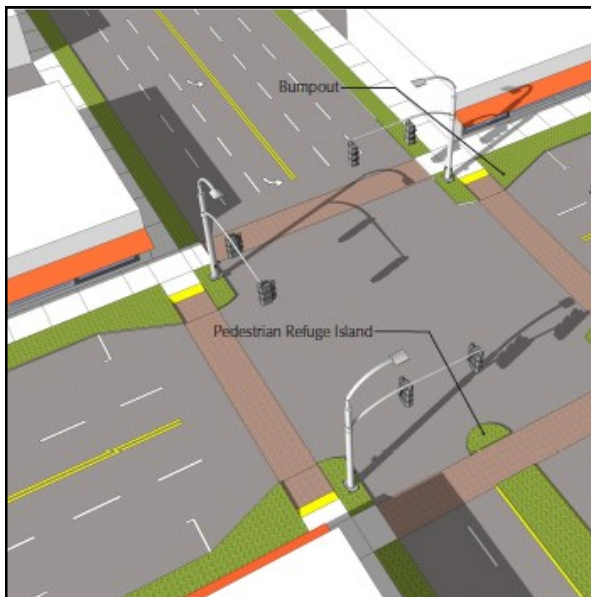




Milwaukee Avenue



Intersection Improvements along Milwaukee Avenue
(Photo Credit: Village of Niles 2030 Comprehensive Plan)

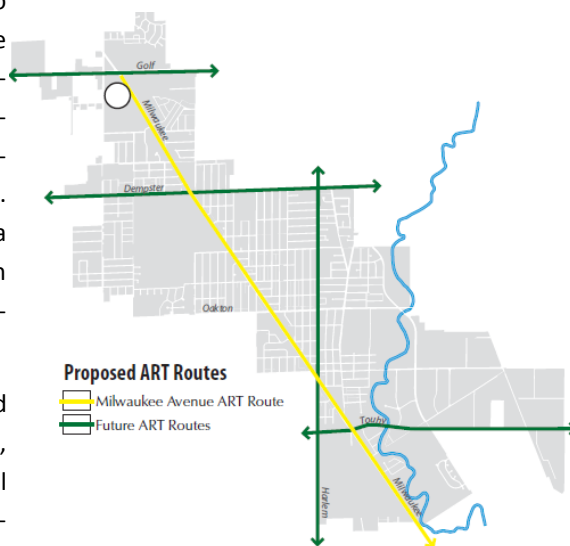
The [Niles Bus Oriented-Development Plan for Milwaukee Avenue](#) project, completed through the Community Planning program, explored transit-oriented development opportunities along Milwaukee Avenue within the Village of Niles. The plan focused on strategies to improve transit facilities and services that enhance the function and aesthetics of the Milwaukee Avenue corridor. Improvements to transit facilities, new pedestrian amenities, streetscaping, traffic circulation, access to transit and businesses, and potential redevelopment opportunities are major components addressed in the plan. The Niles Village Board approved the plan in January 2006.

In August 2011, the [Pace Transit Signal Priority Planning for the Milwaukee Avenue Arterial Rapid Transit](#) project developed Transit Signal Priority (TSP) Signal Timing Strategies and Signal Timing Optimization Plans for the future Milwaukee Arterial Rapid Transit (ART) corridor along Milwaukee Avenue from the Jefferson Park Transit Center in the City of Chicago to Golf Mill Mall in the Village of Niles. TSP improves traffic flow for all vehicular traffic, allowing transit vehicles to better adhere to posted schedules.

Implementation Highlights

The Village of Niles actively continues to implement the BOD Plan recommendations to improve transit-oriented development and increase access to transit. Since 2008, the Village has installed paver crosswalks, decorative fencing, new traffic signal poles with arms, street furniture, sidewalks, pedestrian light poles, and street trees along Milwaukee Avenue. These improvements contribute to a robust pedestrian and transit environment, while fostering community and economic development as well as area beautification. Additionally, through CMAP’s Local Technical Assistance (LTA) program, a Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan was completed, and adopted by the Village in March 2014. This plan identifies steps the Village can pursue to further develop the pedestrian and bicycle networks throughout the Village.

Pace continues to advance Transit Signal Priority (TSP) and Arterial Rapid Transit (ART) along the corridor. Through an RTA Innovation, Coordination, and Enhancement (ICE) project, Pace will test the integration of transit signal priority technology that will allow CTA and Pace buses to interact with multiple types of traffic signal systems located on the same arterial. Also, Pace received a Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) grant in 2014 to fund the following components of Milwaukee Avenue ART from Jefferson Park to Golf Mill: Phase 1 Engineering, stations, real time information, ART vehicles, and queue jump lanes (where appropriate), which are elements of the Pace TSP Planning for the Milwaukee Avenue Arterial Rapid Transit. The proof of concept demonstration is expected to begin in 2015. For more information regarding Pace’s ART program, visit <http://pulse.pacebus.com/>.



Proposed ART Routes

(Photo Credit: Village of Niles 2030 Comprehensive Plan)