

# COUNTY OF MILWAUKEE

## Inter-office Communication

DATE: 11/7/2022  
TO: Marcelia Nicholson, Chair, County Board of Supervisors  
FROM: Donna Brown-Martin, Director, Department of Transportation  
SUBJECT: Milwaukee County's 2023 Section 85.21 Grant Application Information and Public Hearing Notice  
FILE TYPE: Public Hearing

### REQUEST

### POLICY

Wisconsin Section 85.21 Specialized Transportation Assistance Program for Counties

### BACKGROUND

State financial aid is available to counties through the 2023 Specialized Transportation Assistance Program for Counties, as authorized by Section 85.21, Wisconsin Statutes. This aid is allocated according to each county's share of the state's elderly and disabled population.

A county may use its allocated aid in a variety of ways. It may directly provide specialized transportation service. It may purchase service from, or assist, any other public or private organization that supplies such service or it may directly subsidize elderly or disabled persons for their use of existing services such as taxis. Both equipment acquisitions and operating expenses are eligible, as are the related expenses of coordination, technical studies, and in-service training.

In order to receive its allocation, a county must provide a 20 percent cash match, conduct a public hearing, and submit an application. The due date for submission of the 2023 application is December 31, 2022.

Milwaukee County is scheduled to receive \$2,255,862 in 2023, a 1.44 percent decrease over the 2022 allocation. The funds will provide support to Transit Plus (\$1,636,458) and the Department of Health and Human Services Division on Aging's Specialized Transportation Program (\$619,404). There may be a slight bottom-line financial impact to the County as the estimated program funds in the requested 2023 operating budgets for the respective departments were determined before the actual amount was provided (\$33,006 decrease from 2022).

### ALIGNMENT TO STRATEGIC PLAN

Describe how the item aligns to the strategic plan:

- 3A: Invest "upstream" to address root causes of health disparities – Transit is an upstream investment.
- 3B: Enhance the County's fiscal health and sustainability – State grant funds help to support services within Milwaukee County.
- 3C: Dismantle barriers to diverse and inclusive communities – The availability of transit provides for a healthier community by bridging the gap between where our passengers live and where they need to go to live happy and healthy lives. .

RECOMMENDATION

This report is for informational purposes unless otherwise directed

FISCAL EFFECT

TERMS (If applicable)

Funding is for 2023.

VIRTUAL MEETING INVITES

Julie Esch, Deputy Director, Department of Transportation, [julie.esch@milwaukeecountywi.gov](mailto:julie.esch@milwaukeecountywi.gov)

PREPARED BY:

Anthony Geiger, Sr. Manager Grants Development

APPROVED BY:

*Julie Esch, Deputy Director*

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Donna Brown-Martin  
Director, Department of Transportation

ATTACHMENTS:

cc: Kelly Bablitch, Chief of Staff, County Board of Supervisors  
Janelle M. Jensen, Legislative Services Division Manager, Office of the County Clerk

**COUNTY OF MILWAUKEE**  
Inter-office Communication

DATE: 11/7/2022  
TO: Marcelia Nicholson, Chair, County Board of Supervisors  
FROM: Donna Brown-Martin, Director, Department of Transportation  
SUBJECT: Public Hearing on Milwaukee County's 2023 Section 85.21 Grant Application

**OPENING STATEMENT BY THE CHAIRMAN**

The Committee on Transportation, Public Works & Transit will now conduct a public hearing on the subject of Milwaukee County's application for a state grant in the amount of \$2,255,862 under Section 85.21 of the Wisconsin Statutes – the Specialized Transportation Assistance Program for Counties. The grant is proposed to be used during 2023 to support Transit Plus and one transportation program for the elderly offered through the Department of Health and Human Services Division on Aging.

Persons wishing to speak today on this particular subject should sign up on the county board Public Comment page. Please limit your comments to the two projects proposed in the grant application.

Cc: Supervisor Priscilla E. Coggs-Jones, Chair  
Transportation and Transit Committee

## NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

On an application for a grant under the Specialized Transportation Assistance Program for Counties - Section 85.21, Wisconsin Statutes.

Notice is hereby given that the Committee on Transportation, Public Works and Transit of the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors will hold a public hearing on Tuesday, November 29, 2022, at 1:30 P.M. This meeting will be live streamed on the County Legislative Information Center:

<https://milwaukeecounty.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx>

Milwaukee County intends to apply for a grant for calendar year 2023 requesting \$2,255,862 under Section 85.21 of the Wisconsin Statutes. Milwaukee County will provide matching funds of at least 20 percent of the state grant.

It is proposed to use the total funds available to partially support Transit Plus - Milwaukee County Paratransit Services, which will subsidize the transportation of persons who meet the eligibility requirements prescribed in the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 and a specialized elderly transportation program offered through the Department of Health and Human Services Division on Aging. At the hearing, there will be an opportunity for all persons or agencies interested in the grant application for these projects to submit written or oral comments and recommendations.

A copy of the grant application is available for public inspection in the Milwaukee County Department of Transportation, Director's Office, 10320 West Watertown Plank Road, second floor, Wauwatosa, WI.

Members of the public are invited to submit one written comment per agenda item (2,000 character maximum) through the County Legislative Information Center's (CLIC) "e-comment" function. Please include in the first line of your submitted comment whether you support, are neutral, or oppose the item.

The creation of a user login is required in order to submit comments, by using the link below: <https://milwaukeecounty.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx>

E-Comments will be accepted upon agenda publication and through the duration of the meeting. The Office of the County Clerk collects e-comments submitted via CLIC, and appends these official public records to Reference File No. 22-11 at the conclusion of each meeting.