

COUNTY OF MILWAUKEE

Inter-office Communication

DATE: 8/25/2025

TO: Marcelia Nicholson, Chairwoman, Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors

FROM: John Rodgers, Interim Director, Department of Transportation
Sandra Kellner, Interim President & CEO, MCTS

SUBJECT: From the Interim Director of the Department of Transportation and Interim President & CEO of Milwaukee County Transit System an Informational Report on the organizational structure of Milwaukee Transport Services (MTS), Inc.

FILE TYPE: Informational Report

POLICY

At the request of the Chair of the Committee on Personnel on August 18th, 2025, this informational report is submitted so that the Committee may better understand the relationship between Milwaukee County and Milwaukee Transport Services (MTS), Inc, on matters pertaining to the management and operation of Milwaukee County Transit System (MCTS).

BACKGROUND

Milwaukee Transport Services, Inc. (MTS) is a quasi-governmental instrumentality of Milwaukee County. MTS manages and operates the Milwaukee County Transit System (MCTS), including paratransit services. MTS uses transit facilities and equipment owned and provided by Milwaukee County. All MCTS personnel are employed by MTS and not by Milwaukee County.

Organizational Structure (attached).

Day-to-day operation and management of MCTS is the responsibility of MTS Officials and Managers identified on the attached organizational chart.

MTS By-laws.

The MTS By-laws state that the business and affairs of the Corporation shall be managed by its Board of Directors with policy oversight by Milwaukee County. The Board of Directors for MTS is comprised of five individuals: the Milwaukee County Department of Transportation (MCDOT) Director, the MCDOT Deputy Director, the MCDOT Senior Fiscal Manager, the President/Chief Executive Office of the Milwaukee County Transit System (MCTS), and the Chair of the Committee on Transportation and Transit (appointed by the County Board Chair).

Policy matters regarding transit services are the purview of the Committee on Transportation and Transit. Budgetary matters of transit are addressed by the Committee on Finance. The Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors and Milwaukee County Executive can access and review records necessary to assess the Corporation's performance and have final approval over matters that come before Committees of the County Board.

The MCDOT Director and staff provide oversight of MCTS and support for transit, including the management and administration of Federal and State transit grants. MCDOT personnel conduct various transit studies and facilitate the acquisition of capital equipment, as well as coordinate capital improvement recommendations for MCTS facilities with the Department of Administration Services.

MTS Board Meetings

The MTS board meets once a year to appoint officers, as necessary, and designate who within the organization may sign checks and authorize contracts. Other items that may come before the board include identifying who within MTS is authorized to handle necessary functions for the performance of other day-to-day activities.

ALIGNMENT TO STRATEGIC PLAN

2C: Apply a racial equity lens to all decisions.

3A: Invest “upstream” to address root causes of health disparities.

3B: Enhance the County's fiscal health and sustainability.

3C: Dismantle barriers to diverse and inclusive communities.

FISCAL EFFECT

None

VIRTUAL MEETING INVITES

John Rodgers, Interim Director, Department of Transportation

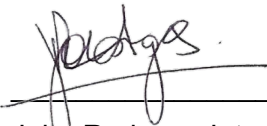
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PREPARED BY:

Sandra Kellner, Interim President and CEO, MCTS

APPROVED BY:



John Rodgers, Interim Director
Department of Transportation

ATTACHMENTS:

MCTS Organizational Chart – 7/28/2025

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