

**County of Milwaukee**  
**Interoffice Communication**

**19-27**

**DATE:** 11/13/2019  
**TO:** Theodore Lipscomb, Sr., Chairman, Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors  
**FROM:** Donna Brown-Martin, Director, Department of Transportation  
**SUBJECT:** Informational Report – Update on MCTS NEXT System Redesign Project

**BACKGROUND**

This report provides a status update on the MCTS NEXT System Redesign Project and proposed next steps. The goals of MCTS NEXT are to update the transit system route network in a way that creates more high frequency service, improves people’s accessibility to the places they want to go, and reduces their travel times.

**Timeline of Previous Actions**

June 2017 – The County Board adopted resolution File No. 17-435 authorizing MCTS to study a 60/40 service delivery option and present findings in a written report to the County Board for review and approval.

September 2018 - MCTS provided the Transportation, Public Works and Transit (TPW&T) Committee with an informational update on the plan to redesign the transit system’s route structure, branded as MCTS NEXT (File No. 18-638).

December 2018 - MCTS drafted two service proposals (60/40 and 80/20) to give the public a choice regarding the type of system they would like to see. An extensive outreach plan was prepared to ask riders and stakeholders for their feedback, (i.e., multiple public meetings, on-line and on-board bus surveys, a Spanish language open house, and an on-line virtual open house). There was solid support for increasing the number of high frequency bus routes, and a preference for the 60/40 plan. Consequently, MCTS began to modify its 60/40 route redesign plan in response to specific feedback by passengers and stakeholders.

March 2019 – MCTS provided the TPW&T Committee with an informational update on public outreach efforts of MCTS NEXT (File No. 19-241). Later that month, MCTS presented the modified 60/40 route redesign plan to the public for further review and comment.

May 2019 – MCTS drafted a recommended system map based on public comments on the modified 60/40 plan (Reference File No. 19-27). The recommended system map and other related details can be found at <https://www.ridemcts.com/programs/mcts-next/mcts-next-recommended-system-map>.

**Impact of 2020 Budget on MCTS NEXT**

The 2020 Budget currently includes reductions to bus service that were not considered in the scope of MCTS NEXT. As a result, MCTS will wait until the budget is adopted and then update the recommended system map so that service levels fit within the budget.

RECOMMENDATION

This report is for informational purposes unless otherwise directed.

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Approved by:



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