

FILE NO.
14-311
TPWT

COUNTY OF MILWAUKEE

INTER-OFFICE COMMUNICATION

Referred
APR 01 2014
County Board

DATE: March 31, 2014
TO: Marina Dimitrijevic, Chairwoman County Board of Supervisors
FROM: Chris Abele, County Executive
SUBJECT: Amendment to County policy to maintain operations and management of Milwaukee County transit system through a private provider administered through a competitive process.

This report is a supplement to the resolution and fiscal note submitted to the Chairwoman on Friday, March 28, 2014.

In the 2014 operating budget, the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors adopted a budget amendment authorizing the Director of Transportation to begin the process of transitioning transit management and operations to the County as a division of the Department of Transportation provided the County Board has not approved a transit management services contract by April 1, 2014. To date the County Board has not approved such a contract so the current policy is to bring transit services in-house.

Consistent with this policy statement, the Department of Transportation will submit a \$250,000 initial contract with a management consulting firm for "merger and acquisition" services to guide the County through this process. This is an initial contract estimate to begin the process, and will likely need amendment for a higher amount in the future.

As I have stated to Supervisors previously, it remains my strong preference to issue another RFP as soon as possible. I have heard from several individual Supervisors that is also their desire, however, we cannot responsibly issue another RFP until Supervisors:

- Pass a clear policy directing us to pursue outsourcing instead of insourcing; and
- Move forward with approving a new appeals process.

This is why you have before you this resolution asking for a change in policy. A separate report suggesting an appeals process based on best practices has been submitted by the Comptroller.

I look forward to working collaboratively with Supervisors to make sure we are successful in meeting our shared goal of providing exceptional public transportation services through a highly effective, efficient and safe transit system.

Cc: County Board of Supervisors
Kelly Bablitch, Chief of Staff, County Board of Supervisors
Paul Bargren, Corporation Counsel
Brian Dranzik, Director, Department of Transportation