

From the Interim Director, Department of Transportation and the President & CEO, Milwaukee County Transit System, providing an Action Item Report on MCTS' Plan to maximize 2026 Transit and Paratransit service levels and minimize community disruption, by recommending adoption of the following:

### A RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the Milwaukee County Transit System (MCTS) is projecting a budget deficit in 2026 of approximately \$14 million and thus has proposed the elimination of six bus routes, modification of five routes, and frequency adjustments on twenty-two routes, to realize enough savings to close this \$14 million deficit; and

WHEREAS, an appropriation of \$4,785,785 is included in an allocated contingency account within the departmental budget, to help mitigate potential transit and paratransit service reductions for 2026; and

WHEREAS, MCTS will realize an additional \$250,000 in savings from changes to the service contract regarding Waukesha Metro, providing a total allocation for modified service continuation of \$5,035,785; and

WHEREAS, MCTS intends to utilize the aforementioned \$5,035,785 to fund the following actions:

- \$750,000 to maintain the same-day paratransit program in a reduced/limited form, which may include limiting rides to work or medical-related trips, reducing the number of round-trip rides per month, per customer, and/or a reduction in times of day and days of the week;
- \$1,400,000 to delay implementation of proposed route-segment eliminations from January 11, 2026, to March 7, 2026, to give passengers on the following segments more time to adjust to the reductions: Route 11 (Hampton Avenue), Route 22 (Center Street), Route 24 (Forest Home Avenue), Route 80 (6<sup>th</sup> Street), and Route 88 (Brown Deer Road);
- \$2,500,000 to maintain peak service on the following six routes proposed for elimination, generally providing service from 6:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. and from 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. on weekdays, and shifting to more mid-day service on weekends (route-specific times may vary): Route 20 (South 20<sup>th</sup> Street), Route 28 (108<sup>th</sup> Street), Route 33 (West Vliet Street), Route 34 (Hopkins Street), Route 55 (Layton Avenue), and Route 58 (Villard Avenue);

- 47                   • \$385,785 to be held as contingency for service adjustments throughout  
48                   2026 for the routes noted in the two preceding bullet points and/or  
49                   routes with frequency reductions  
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51 ; and  
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53               WHEREAS, the use of these departmental contingency funds requires a fund  
54               transfer to move the funds to the appropriate account; and  
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56               WHEREAS, the Committee on Transportation and Transit, at its meeting of  
57               December 3, 2025, considered File No. 25-792 for informational purposes only, per  
58               Section 59.60(8), Wisconsin State Statutes; and  
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60               WHEREAS, the Committee on Finance, at its meeting of December 11, 2025,  
61               recommended adoption of File No. 25-792 (vote 6-0); now, therefore,  
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63               BE IT RESOLVED, the Director, Department of Transportation, is hereby  
64               authorized to utilize the budgeted 2026 departmental contingency funds in  
65               accordance with the activities outlined in this resolution and the accompanying  
66               report; and  
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68               BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors  
69               authorizes and directs the Department of Administrative Services and the Office of  
70               the Comptroller to process an administrative appropriation transfer, to effectuate the  
71               requested changes contained herein.  
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