

Milwaukee County Commission on Transportation and Transit Meeting File  
25-792, Agenda Item 6

To: Steve Shea, Chairperson  
Juan Miguel Martinez, Vice-Chairperson  
Priscilla Coggs-Jones, Supervisor  
Justin Bielinski, Supervisor  
Jack Eckblad, Supervisor

I would like to thank all who sit on this committee and the remaining county supervisors for passing amendments 19 and 20 to the 2026 Milwaukee County budget related to transit services. The county supervisors heard transit riders' many concerns about the impact the proposed service reductions would have on their lives.

Amendment 19 required the Milwaukee County Transit System (MCTS) to submit a report that includes recommendations on how to best utilize allocated contingency funds to prevent service reductions. On November 26, John Rodgers submitted an action report to the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors. In reviewing this report, I would like to address several key points it contains.

- MCTS and Transit Plus should continue collaborating with the previously established same-day paratransit program task force members. Same-day paratransit program task force members spent many hours defining the program scope and conditions. They are knowledgeable of the program's history and the few changes made since its inception.
- Reach out to agencies that employ a large amount of staff that are non-drivers—i.e., Industries for the Blind and Visually Impaired and Beyond Vision. Agencies can provide the following information:
  - What are their work hours?
  - Are there key staff members who have earlier or later arrival times than others?
  - Would a reduction or elimination of transit services result in employees not being able to get to work?

- MCTS will engage various stakeholders regarding any route modifications on the five previously proposed routes. Please also include agencies that employ or work with PwDs in this engagement process.

Unfortunately, demographically speaking, PwDs are one of the largest groups of non-drivers within Milwaukee County. Many have no other transportation options; therefore, PwDs need to be engaged at each step.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Rebecca J. Rabatin".

Rebecca Rabatin  
Community Access and Legislative Policy Analyst  
Independence First