

From the Director, Department of Transportation and the Interim President and Managing Director, Milwaukee County Transit System, requesting approval to not implement the Transportation Network Companies (TNC) bus driver relief pilot program, as directed in the 2025 Adopted Budget for Milwaukee County, by recommending adoption of the following:

AN AMENDED RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the 2025 Adopted Budget included an appropriation of \$35,000 to develop a pilot program offering driver relief rides through Transportation Network Companies (TNCs), to provide a cost-effective operation for enhancing the safety and security of bus operators; and

WHEREAS, in June of 2024, the Milwaukee County Transit System (MCTS) and the Amalgamated Transit Union, Local 998, agreed to implement a temporary pilot van relief program (the Van Pilot Program) for bus operators, to enhance safety and security; and

WHEREAS, the Van Pilot Program was to provide a total of two vans, one for each station, to pick up bus operators at scheduled relief points Monday through Friday until 6:00 p.m., after which remaining service terminates at the stations; and

WHEREAS, funding to cover Van Pilot Program expenses (operator wages, fuel, and maintenance) was made available within the existing budget for Fiscal Year 2024 only; and

WHEREAS, the 2025 Adopted Budget included the purchase of two additional vans for the Van Pilot Program, but operating funds were neither budgeted nor appropriated for the increased expenditures, so the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors also approved a \$35,000 appropriation to purchase services from TNCs as an alternative option; and

WHEREAS, MCTS developed specifications for procurement of TNC services for a TNC Bus Driver Relief Pilot Program (the TNC Pilot Program), to provide operator relief at 123 daily relief points (58 at the Fond du Lac Station and 65 at the Kinnickinnic Station); and

WHEREAS, each TNC contacted through the bidding process charges \$10 per ride for a total estimated weekly cost of \$6,150, which would exhaust funding fewer than six weeks into the TNC Pilot Program; and

WHEREAS, implementing a short-term TNC Pilot Program for driver relief will not be practical, therefore, it is recommended that the TNC Pilot Program not be implemented; **and**

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48 **WHEREAS, at their meetings on April 9 and April 17, 2025, the Committees**
49 **on Transportation and Transit and Finance received testimony indicating that**
50 **available funding was insufficient to support continued operation of the pilot van**
51 **relief program; and**
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53 WHEREAS, the Committee on Finance, at its meeting of April 17, 2025,
54 recommended adoption of File No. 25-270 as amended (vote 4-1); now, therefore,
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56 BE IT RESOLVED, the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors authorizes the
57 Milwaukee County Transit System (MCTS) to not implement the Transportation Network
58 Companies Bus Driver Relief Pilot Program, as directed in the 2025 Adopted Budget;
59 **and**
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61 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that MCTS is authorized to repurpose the**
62 **\$35,000 previously designated for the TNC bus driver relief pilot program to**
63 **support expenses related to the van relief pilot program, including operator**
64 **wages, fuel, and vehicle maintenance.**
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