

1 Supervisor Michael Mayo, Sr., Chairperson,
2 From the Committee on Transportation, Public Works, and Transit, reporting on:

3
4 File No. 16-261

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6 (ITEM) From the Director, Department of Transportation, requesting authorization
7 to create a new capital project and allocate \$2,190,000 from 5307 Federal formula
8 funds available to Milwaukee County, and for such funds to be designated for continued
9 planning and design of the Bus Rapid Transit Project, by recommending adoption of the
10 following:

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12 **AN AMENDED RESOLUTION**

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14 WHEREAS, Milwaukee County (the County) and the Milwaukee County Transit
15 System (MCTS) have contracted with AECOM to perform the necessary analytical work
16 as required by the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) to determine the feasibility of a
17 Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) project; and

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19 WHEREAS, recently we have learned that project sponsors such as the County
20 must enter a review phase called Project Development with the FTA that asks for
21 identification of certain project elements including project sponsor and partners, project
22 manager and key staff, statement of purpose and need, proposed project and its
23 preliminary cost estimate, prior studies in the corridor, anticipated cost to complete
24 project development, commitment of local funds, and the anticipated timeline to
25 compete the project; and

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27 WHEREAS, the FTA requests this preliminary information to understand the
28 magnitude of the project and the commitment of the local community to see the project
29 through completion; and

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31 WHEREAS, FTA requires communities in its project development phase to
32 identify local funds that are “committed” or funds that can be spent with no other
33 approvals necessary to release the use of the funds; and

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35 WHEREAS, in order to demonstrate a local commitment to a project the FTA
36 generally wants to see 7 percent of the project total to be committed to the project; and

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38 WHEREAS, the current cost estimate of the BRT project is \$40,000,000 and a
39 7 percent amount of committed funds would be \$2,800,000; and

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41 WHEREAS, the County, MCTS, and Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning
42 Commission have allocated \$610,000 for the contract with AECOM for planning work
43 associated with planning and documentation work associated with the development of
44 the BRT project; and

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WHEREAS, MCTS has sufficient 5307 Federal formula funds available in the amount of \$2,190,000 that could be used to support the BRT project; and

WHEREAS, the allocation of these funds would allow the County to submit for project development, and if for some reason the project development request was denied or the BRT project did not move forward, the amount of unspent 5307 Federal formula funds allocated for BRT could be repurposed for future transit capital needs; and

WHEREAS, the Committee on Transportation, Public Works, and Transit, at its meeting of May 11, 2016, recommended adoption of the Director's request (vote 3-2); now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that a capital project be created in the amount of \$2,190,000 from 5307 Federal formula funds available to Milwaukee County and that such funds be designated for the purpose of project development of the current East-West Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) study; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that should the BRT project enter into the review phase of Project Development with the Federal Transit Administration, the Director, Department of Transportation, will report back regularly to the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors (County Board) on the status of the BRT project, and to request County Board approval of all major development and implementation decisions; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOVLED, that should the BRT study not move forward, the remaining unspent balance of 5307 Federal formula funds in the newly created capital account be made available for further transit capital needs.

srb
05/19/16
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