

# COUNTY OF MILWAUKEE

## Inter-office Communication

DATE: 4/22/2022  
TO: Marcelia Nicholson, Chair, County Board of Supervisors  
FROM: Donna Brown-Martin, Director, Department of Transportation  
SUBJECT: From the Director of the Department of Transportation Requesting Authorization to Apply for funding under the WisDOT Federal Fiscal Year 2022 Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) Carbon Reduction Program.  
FILE TYPE: Action Report

### REQUEST

Authorization to apply for funding under the WisDOT FFY2022 Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) Carbon Reduction Program.

### POLICY

Per section 56.06 of the Milwaukee County General Ordinances, authorization is required from the appropriate county board standing committee prior to applying for discretionary federal or state grants that require a local match.

### BACKGROUND

The Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WisDOT) announced on April 11, 2022, the opportunity to apply for funding under the WisDOT FFY 2022 Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) Carbon Reduction Program. Grant awards require a minimum 20% local match and applications are due May 6, 2022.

The Milwaukee County Department of Transportation (MCDOT) intends to request funding for the following projects:

1. \$2,400,000 (total cost = \$3,000,000) in funding toward the purchase of two battery electric buses (BEBs) for the Milwaukee County Transit System (MCTS).
2. \$592,000 (total cost = \$740,000) toward the funding of ten electric vehicles (EVs) and five two-vehicle charging units for the Milwaukee County Department of Transportation - Fleet Management Division (MCDOT Fleet) for a pilot program to study the viability of using EVs in various roles that are currently being performed by internal combustion engine vehicles.

If approval to apply is granted, and if an award is received, BEB funding will be used in a future capital budget request depending on the specific needs of MCTS at that time. If funding is awarded for the MCDOT Fleet pilot vehicles, the local share is anticipated to be covered in 2022 by a combination of auction revenue from pre-2010 vehicles and re-purposed bonds. If bonds are needed, a report will be provided to the County Board detailing the changes.

### ALIGNMENT TO STRATEGIC PLAN

3B: Enhance the County's fiscal health and sustainability.

RECOMMENDATION

The Director of the Milwaukee County Department of Transportation recommends authorization to submit requests to the Carbon Reduction Program for \$2,400,000 and \$592,000, respectively, for the purchase of two BEBs for MCTS and ten EVs for MCDOT Fleet.

FISCAL EFFECT

The direct fiscal impact is dependent on the grant amounts (if any) that are ultimately awarded. In the event of a full award for MCTS, the local share requested in the applicable county capital budget would be \$600,000. The total requested MCTS capital amounts will not be impacted by this submission because MCTS' needs are independent of whether an award is received. A full award for Fleet Management would result in a local share of \$148,000.

TERMS (If applicable)

N/A

VIRTUAL MEETING INVITES

Donna Brown-Martin, Director, Department of Transportation  
Julie Esch, Deputy Director, Department of Transportation

PREPARED BY:

Anthony Geiger, Grants Development Manager, MCDOT Director's Office

APPROVED BY:

*Donna Brown-Martin*

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Donna Brown-Martin  
Director, Department of Transportation

ATTACHMENTS:

Resolution/Ordinance, Fiscal Note

cc: Kelly Bablitch, Chief of Staff, County Board of Supervisors  
Janelle M. Jensen, Legislative Services Division Manager, Office of the County Clerk