

## AMENDMENT TO THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE'S 2015 RECOMMENDED BUDGET

By Supervisors Dimitrijevic, Bowen, Haas, Jursik, Broderick, Lipscomb, and Romo West

Amend Org. Unit No. 5600 – DOT- Transit as follows:

### **Strategic Implementation:**

The 2015 Fixed-Route service levels are increasing by 1,036,022 miles (6 percent) and 86,473 hours (6.5 percent). This service increase includes the addition of two new Metro Express routes (27X and 10/30X) funded with Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) funds, and other new service funded by the Zoo Interchange litigation agreement. Operations costs increase \$4,500,916 from \$143,168,090 to \$147,669,006 primarily due to the additional service being provided. Passenger fare revenues decrease ~~\$1,195,000 from \$42,410,000 to \$41,215,000~~ \$2,117,617 from \$42,410,000 to \$40,292,383 based on current ridership trends and the addition of two special fare programs outlined later in the narrative. CMAQ funds in the amount of \$5.7 million per year from 2015 through 2017 are available to cover the costs of the two new Metro Express routes. Zoo Interchange litigation funds in the amount of \$2.6 million per year from 2015 through 2018 are available to provide new traffic mitigation service.

### **Special Fare Programs<sup>1</sup>**

Two new special fare programs will begin in 2015. The first program, the GO Pass, allows seniors and persons with disabilities to travel for free beginning April 1, 2015. Free senior fare programs have been successfully implemented in metropolitan areas similar and larger in size than Milwaukee, such as Pittsburgh and Houston. The second program, Summer Youth Jobs Fare, is a pilot project for 2015. MCTS will explore securing private funding to continue the Summer Youth Jobs Fare beyond 2015. In addition, the County will explore expanding the program to a larger population of employed, 14-21 years-old students during future summers.

### **Growing Opportunities (GO Pass) Fare**

Persons 65 years of age or older or persons with disabilities that present a Milwaukee County Transit System photo I.D. or a valid Medicare card to bus operators are eligible for free fares. MCTS will evaluate the benefits and costs of distributing a unique ID for participants. MCTS will present its findings and recommendations to the Board of Supervisors during the January 2015 committee cycle. If MCTS, with the approval of the Board of Supervisors, decides to pursue the distribution of participant IDs, it will work with

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<sup>1</sup>Fares collected from fixed route transit services are budgeted as negative abatements not revenue within the County's budget. The fare abatements offset expenditures from operating the transit program. When fares decrease, the abatement amount decreases and less money can be used to offset expenditures, thus causing expenditures to increase.

the Department on Aging and DAS- Office for Persons with Disabilities to determine the best method for issuing said IDs.

The Federal Transit Administration requires a Fare Equity Analysis prior to the implementation of this fare program. The Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission (SEWRPC), with the assistance of MCTS, will complete the analysis to determine if there is potential for a disparate impact on minority populations or a disproportionate burden on low-income populations if free fares are offered to seniors and persons with disabilities. SEWRPC will present the study's findings to the Board of Supervisors during the December 2014 committee cycle.

#### Summer Youth Jobs Fare

Youth participants in the Milwaukee Area Workforce Investments Boards (MAWIB) Earn & Learn Summer Youth Employment program are eligible to receive discounted fares for eight weeks during their summer employment. MAWIB students who choose to participate will be offered two 31-day adult passes. The County will cover 50 percent of the cost, the student's employer will cover 25 percent, and students will pay the remaining 25 percent. Participating employers will be given the option to opt-in to the program. MCTS will work with MAWIB to implement the program.

#### **Route Changes**

Services will be expanded to Brown Deer and Oak Creek with the extension and creation of Route 80 and Route 276, respectively. Service for these routes will begin before the end of March.

#### Route 80 Extension

Route 80 will be extended to provide service to the future Drexel Town Square and increase the frequency of Route 80's current trips from MATC's South Campus through the business park along S. 6<sup>th</sup> Street and then east along W. Drexel Avenue. The route's extension will travel south to provide service to Woodman's, Target, and Kohl's, in addition to other businesses and residences in the vicinity. The Route 80 extension will operate from 5 a.m. to 10 p.m. every day at a service frequency of 60 minutes.

#### Route 276 Creation

Route 276 is created and will provide service from the intersection of N. 60<sup>th</sup> Street and W. Brown Deer Road through industrial and office facilities northeast of that intersection, and then north on N. Green Bay Road to the businesses on W. Schroeder Drive. Route 276 will provide service 5 a.m. to 10 p.m. weekdays and 5 a.m. to 7 p.m. on weekends.

PROPOSED FARE NAME	CURRENT FARE	PROPOSED FARE	COMMENT
<b>Cash Fares</b>			
Adult	\$2.25	\$2.25	No change from current fare
Premium	\$3.25	\$3.25	No change from current fare
Concession (Half-Fare)	\$1.10	\$1.10	No change from current fare
<b>Advance Purchase Fares</b>			
Adult Tickets	10/\$17.50	\$1.75	Value deduction smart card; replaces paper
Premium Tickets	10/\$23.50	\$2.35	Value deduction smart card; replaces paper
Concession (Half-Fare) Tickets	10/\$11.00	\$1.10	Value deduction smart card; replaces paper
<b>Pass Fares</b>			
1-Day Adult Pass	New Product	\$4.00	Purchased in advance at ready fare outlet
1-Day Adult Pass	New Product	\$5.00	Loaded on existing smartcard at fare box
1-Day Premium Pass	New Product	\$6.00	Purchased in advance at ready fare outlet or
1-Day Concession Pass	New Product	\$2.00	Purchased in advance at ready fare outlet
1-Day Concession Pass	New Product	\$3.00	Loaded on existing smartcard at fare box
3-Day Adult Pass	New Product	\$12.00	Purchased at ready fare outlet
3-Day Premium Pass	New Product	\$18.00	Purchased at ready fare outlet
3-Day Concession Pass	New Product	\$6.00	Purchased at ready fare outlet
3-Day Concession Premium	New Product	\$9.00	Purchased at ready fare outlet
7-Day Adult Pass	\$17.50	\$17.50	Replaces paper calendar based pass. Purchased at
7-Day Premium Pass	New Product	\$24.00	Purchased at ready fare outlet or on-line
7-Day Concession Pass	New Product	\$11.00	Purchased at ready fare outlet or on-line
31-Day Adult Pass	\$64.00	\$64.00	Replaces paper calendar based pass. Purchased at ready fare outlet or on-line
31-Day Premium Pass	New Product	\$85.00	Purchased at ready fare outlet or on-line
31-Day Concession Pass	New Product	\$32.00	Purchased at ready fare outlet or on-line
<b>Other Special Fares</b>			
Student Pass	\$16.50	\$16.50	Valid weekdays, available to schools only
U-PASS	\$45.00	\$45.00	Per semester
Commuter Value Pass	\$201.00	\$201.00	Per quarter
New Freedom Pass	Free	Free	Free to eligible paratransit clients
<u>GO Pass</u>	<u>New Product</u>	<u>Free</u>	<u>Free to persons 65 years of age or older or persons with disabilities that present a Milwaukee County Transit System photo I.D. or valid Medicare card</u>
Transfer	Free	Free	When paying cash, transfer encoded on passenger's
Paratransit Fare	\$3.50	\$3.50	Per one way trip

(1A010)

Org Unit No: 5600

Org. Name: Department of Transportation - Transit

Date: October 29, 2014

This amendment would increase the tax levy by \$1,582,000.

Org. No.	Department (or Capital Project)	Expenditure	Revenue (or Bonds*)	Tax Levy
5600	DOT- Transit	\$1,582,000	\$0	\$1,582,000
<b>TOTALS:</b>		\$1,582,000	\$0	\$1,582,000

*If approved, the Adopted Budget narrative shall be modified as needed to reflect this amendment.*

FINANCE, PERSONNEL AND AUDIT COMMITTEE ROLL CALL		
	AYES	NOES
Haas	X	
Mayo	X	
Schmitt		X
Romo West	X	
Jursik	X	
Lipscomb	X	
Bowen	X	
Co-Chair Cullen	X	
Co-Chair Johnson	X	
<b>TOTALS:</b>	8	1

Approved 8-1