

**County of Milwaukee**  
**Interoffice Communication**

**DATE:** 2/8/2019  
**TO:** Theodore Lipscomb, Sr. Chairman, Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors  
**FROM:** Donna Brown-Martin, Director, Department of Transportation  
**SUBJECT:** Status of Contract Negotiations with Amalgamated Transit Union

BACKGROUND

Negotiations toward a new Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA) began in February 2018, in advance of the March 31, 2018 expiration of the labor agreement between Milwaukee Transport Services, Inc. (MTS) and the Amalgamated Transit Union (ATU) Local 998.

As has been reported in previous updates, progress towards a new CBA has been slow. Negotiation sessions have been scheduled only about two-times per month. Four dates were set aside for negotiations in December, but an agreement was not reached. A contract extension that was agreed to by both parties expired at midnight on December 31, 2018. ATU is currently working without a contract.

Negotiations could have resumed with the Federal Mediator in January 2019, but ATU refused to meet, as reported at the January meeting of the Transportation, Public Works and Transit (TPW&T) Committee. ATU did agree to hold negotiation sessions at the Federal Mediators Office on two dates in February (2/11 and 2/13).

A verbal update will be provided at the March meeting of the Transportation, Public Works and Transit Committee, as the deadline for this written report preceded the February negotiation meetings.

RECOMMENDATION

This report is for informational purposes unless otherwise directed.

Prepared by:

Dan Boehm, President & Managing Director, MCTS

Approved by:



Donna Brown-Martin  
Director, Department of Transportation

cc: Chris Abele, County Executive  
Raisa Koltun, Chief of Staff, County Executive  
Kelly Bablitch, Chief of Staff, County Board of Supervisors  
Joe Lamers, Budget Director, DAS - PSB  
Steve Cady, Research Director, Office of the Comptroller