File No. 20-529

Prohibiting the transportation of on-duty law enforcement officers and military personnel on Milwaukee County Transit System (MCTS) buses when regular service is suspended for the public, and prohibiting the use of MCTS vehicles to move detainees or be used as barricades, by recommending **REJECTION** of the following:

AN AMENDED RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, in the wake of civil unrest and protests subsequent to the murder of George Floyd in Minneapolis by police officers, early in the afternoon on Thursday June 4, 2020, the Milwaukee County Transit System abruptly announced it would suspend service early that evening, ceasing normal operations at 10:00 PM rather than the usual approximately midnight or 2:30 AM depending on the route; and MCTS further announced it was suspending service for the entire weekend of June 5 to June 7, 2020; and

WHEREAS, Milwaukee County residents reported to their elected officials and captured images of Milwaukee County Transit System (MCTS) buses transporting police officers and Wisconsin National Guard soldiers after regular public service had been suspended; and

WHEREAS, on June 16, 2020, the Director of Transportation and President and Managing Director of MCTS told the Committee on Audit that MCTS suspended service due to orders from the Milwaukee Police Department and safety concerns from bus operators and their supervisors from substantial reckless driving and reports of significant unlawful activity; the President and Managing Director further testified that MCTS coordinates with the Milwaukee Police Department and Office of the Sheriff via the Office of Emergency Management and the local Emergency Operations Center (File No. 20-452); and

WHEREAS, the content of Chapter 99 of the Milwaukee County Code of General Ordinances relates to emergency activities of County government and Section 99.085(2) defines "emergencies" as "events arising out of natural or civil disaster as declared by the governor, the directives of the sheriff, or resolutions, ordinances or other pronouncements of the county board as provided in section 99.04 of this chapter."; and

WHEREAS, the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors wants to ensure MCTS provides reliable, convenient, and safe public transportation for the public; and

WHEREAS, the Committee on Judiciary, Safety, and General Services, at its meeting of September 10, 2020, recommended **REJECTION** of File No. 20-529 as amended due to a failed motion to recommend adoption as amended (vote 2-3); now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors hereby declares, except when responding to an emergency which meets at least two of the criteria outlined in Milwaukee County Code of General Ordinances Section 99.085(2), Milwaukee County Transit System (MCTS) shall not transport law enforcement or military personnel on any MCTS vehicle not already in service on a regular route making usual and customary stops with service available to the public: and

 BE IT RESOLVED, the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors hereby urges the County Executive, Office of Emergency Management Director, Director of Transportation, and President and Managing Director of the Milwaukee County Transit System (MCTS) to not comply with requests to transport law enforcement or military personnel or equipment for civil unrest events on any MCTS vehicle not already in service on a regular route making usual and customary stops with service available to the public; and

 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, MCTS buses **shall ought** not be used to transport detailed, detained, or arrested individuals and MCTS buses **shall should** not be deployed as barricades or to divert pedestrian traffic in the presence of protestors or in anticipation of protests; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOSLVED, none of these restrictions should be interpreted as any limit to using MCTS buses to aid disaster victims, support humanitarian organizations, paramedics, or fire departments if called upon.

09/10/20

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