

# Summary of Preliminary 2012 Milwaukee County Transit Budget

Prepared by Transit NOW

www.transitnow.org

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## Milwaukee County Budget Timeline

- Mid June Transit budget request is submitted to County Executive
- > **July-Aug Dept. of Administration and County Executive review request**
- Sept County Executive presents his budget to the County Board
- Oct-Nov 4 Finance and Audit Committee reviews the County Executive Budget and works with supervisors to develop amendments
- Nov 7 County Board Budget Hearing
- Nov 22 County Board adoption of the budget & tax levy
- Jan-March 2012 Transit budget implementation is phased in

**Summary: Milwaukee County 2012 Transit-Paratransit System Budget Request**  
(This budget request is subject to change throughout the budget process.)

### Key Transit Funding Considerations for 2012

- State transit operating assistance reduced by 10%, a \$6.8 million cut to Milw. Co. The state transportation fund totals \$6.4 billion.
- Reduction of over \$3.3 million in fare revenue due to the drop in ridership caused by service cuts
- Fuel costs are projected to increase 36%
- County levy has no change over 2011, remaining at \$17.6 million
- Milwaukee will receive \$1.5 million annually for 2 years from a new state paratransit fund created in the budget.

Approach: Despite significant financial constraints, provide efficient services by focusing on core service areas.

- 2012 operating budget requested: \$148.1 million (a reduction of \$16.6 million over 2011)

### Fare Changes Proposed

- Fixed route: No increase in fares. Current single adult, one-way trip fare is \$2.25.
- Paratransit: increase of \$1.25, from \$3.25 to \$4.50 per one-way trip

### Major Transit Service Changes Proposed

- Fixed route service reduced by 12.6% (service miles) over 2011.
- Paratransit service reduced from county-wide service to the ADA minimum of within ¼ mile of fixed route services.
- Elimination of all Freeway Flyer, festival and special event routes (except UBUS routes)
- Elimination of 6 regular routes
- Elimination of route segments on 5 additional routes
- Restructuring of 17 other routes
- Frequency reductions on 9 routes
- See more details at [www.ridemcts.com](http://www.ridemcts.com)

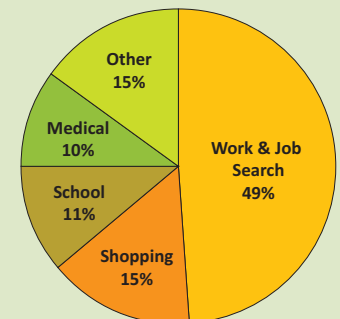
### MILWAUKEE COUNTY TRANSIT

Daily weekday passenger trips:  
140,000

Top among U.S. peer systems in key cost-effectiveness measures (WisDOT)

Nearly 1 out of every 6 households in Milwaukee County (16.6%) does not have access to an auto.

### HOW IS PUBLIC TRANSIT USED?



### Major Impacts from Proposed Cuts

- Loss of access to jobs, education, healthcare, and shopping
- Business and job growth harmed by reducing access to workforce and customers.
- Over 2200 persons with disabilities would lose access to transportation. The new state paratransit fund may reduce this impact.