



Honoring our legacy. Connecting our future.

MCTS Forward

MCTS Forward is a collaborative effort to think about the future of public transit in Milwaukee County. Amidst the current budget deficit, this initiative will be a transparent, conversation with the public, stakeholders, and County Supervisors about what MCTS' bus network could look like within a set budget.

MCTS' Fiscal Challenge

Operating costs at MCTS are rising faster than the revenue available to cover them. Without a change, the gap forces a service reduction, followed by another the next year, and another after that. A reduction of **25% less service** keeps the budget in balance through 2028, 2029, and 2030, a three-year horizon.

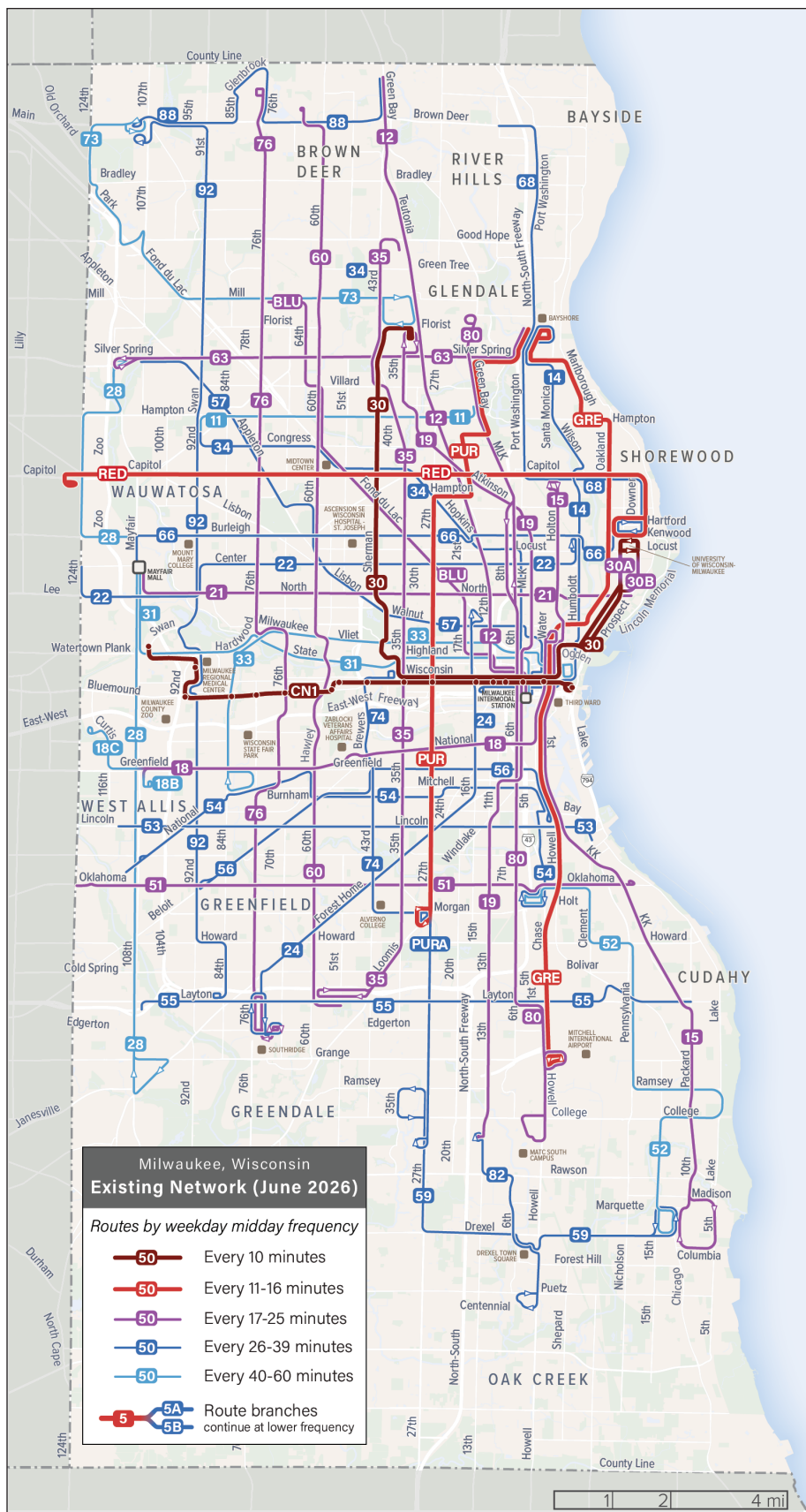
How should we design our new network?

It depends on our goal. If our goal is to get lots of people to ride the bus (**high ridership**), we would run frequent service where there are lots of people and jobs close together. If our goal is to reach as many places as possible (**high coverage**), we would spread out our bus service.

Existing Transit Network

MCTS' Existing Network mostly provides a grid of services that come every 17-25 minutes, shown in purple. There are five frequent routes in red and dark red. The rest of the network is blue. Dark blue routes run every 26-39 minutes, and light blue routes run every 41-60 minutes.

Existing Network



Ridership Concept

The **Ridership Concept** concentrates MCTS' limited resources into frequent, useful service where there are the most people and jobs. Here, a bus would arrive every 15 minutes during most of the day, all week. So many people would have to wait less for a bus, and many people would find the service useful.

However, by concentrating so much bus service in these places, there would be fewer total routes within the same amount of money. This would cause some riders to have longer walks to their bus routes, while others may not have bus service at all.

A key difference between each concept is the frequency of service (how often a bus is coming). The frequency of service is shown by the color of the lines on the map.

Higher Frequencies

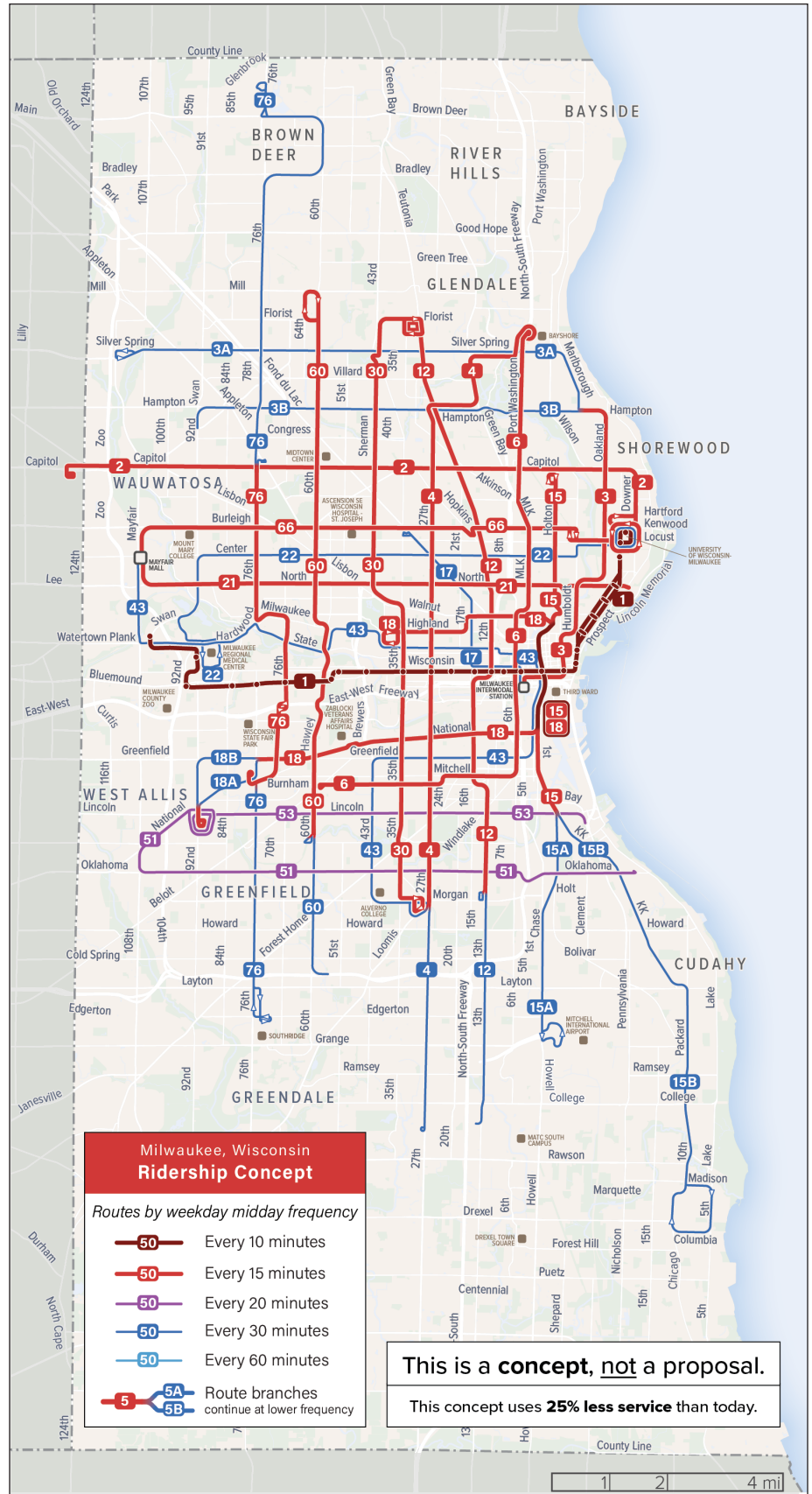
Buses on a grid of routes would come every 15 minutes. The number of residents near frequent service would increase from 30% to 51%, reducing travel time for many trips.

Loss of Coverage

The total number of residents near any transit service would decrease from 82% to 70%.

Slightly Less Access

Residents near transit today would be able to reach an average of 2% fewer jobs in 45 minutes.



Coverage Concept

The **Coverage Concept** ensures that MCTS continues to provide some level of transit service in all of the areas it currently serves.

With a 25% budget cut, spreading the service out to so many areas means that most routes are not very frequent or useful. There would be more total routes, but most buses would only come every 30 or 60 minutes. As a result, most people would have to wait a longer time for a bus.

A key difference between each concept is the frequency of service (how often a bus is coming). The frequency of service is shown by the color of the lines on the map.

Longer Waits

Most routes throughout the county would only run every 30-60 minutes. The number of residents near frequent service would decrease from 30% to 16%.

Higher Coverage

Everybody that is served by transit today would continue to have service nearby.

Much Less Access

Residents near transit today would be able to reach an average of 37% fewer jobs in 45 minutes.

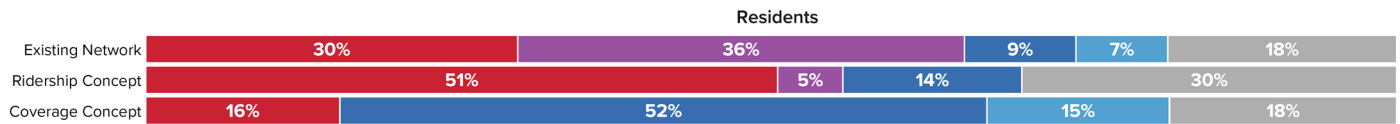


How do the Concepts compare?

Proximity to Transit

What percentage of Milwaukee County is within 1/2 mile of transit that comes every...

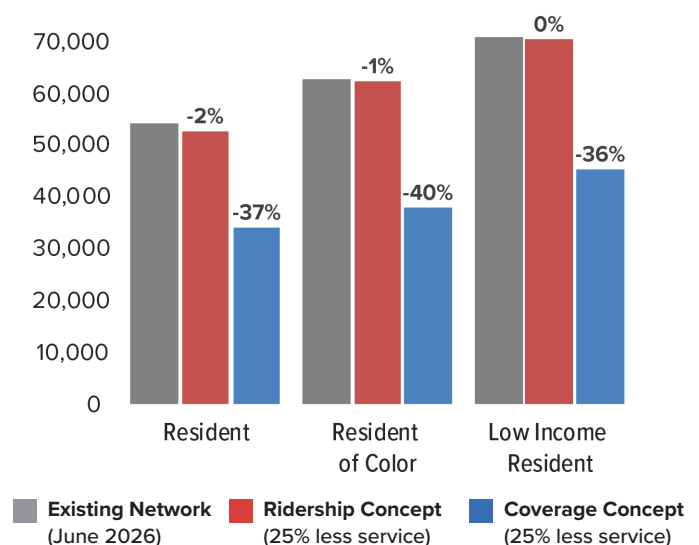
15 Mins 20 Mins 30 Mins 60 Mins Not within 1/2 mile



The Ridership Concept preserves as much access to jobs and opportunities as possible with service cuts.

The Coverage Concept ensures that everybody still has some service even if the service not very frequent.

Jobs Accessible by Transit in 45 minutes by the Average Milwaukee County Resident



We want to hear your feedback!

MCTS would like to hear from you as we rethink bus routes and frequencies in Milwaukee County. Your opinion matters!

Take the survey here!
¡Toma la encuesta aquí!

To learn more about the project, go to
RideMCTS.com/MCTSForward

English



Español

