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Statement on Proposed Sales Tax for Milwaukee County - July 10, 2023

MobiliSE is a convener and advocate for regional multimodal transportation in SE Wisconsin. We envision a transportation future with a robust array of safe, accessible transportation options for all residents. We convene regional leaders and advocate for meaningful improvements to our region's multimodal transportation system. And we oversee FlexRide Milwaukee, a workforce transportation program serving Milwaukee residents who lack access to cars.

We understand the importance of safe and reliable transportation options in connecting residents with jobs and building healthy, strong communities. The City and County of Milwaukee are both critical drivers of our region's multimodal transportation ecosystem and their long term fiscal success is essential to realizing the equitable transportation future we envision.

While the recent State legislation addressing Milwaukee's fiscal challenges is not perfect, and no one is fully satisfied with the legislation's provisions, MobiliSE strongly encourages the Milwaukee County Board to approve a sales tax as allowed for under this legislation. This would put Milwaukee County in a stronger fiscal position to: Ensure a well funded Milwaukee County Transit System, a critical connection to jobs, schools and other essential destinations for tens of thousands of Milwaukee County residents.

The long term fiscal health of the County is essential for our region's transportation future. Transportation in our region is at a crossroads, and Milwaukee County plays a central role in ensuring we have a transportation system that benefits all residents. As a consortium of business, community and civic leaders who live and do business in Milwaukee County, MobiiliSE's board of directors asks for the Milwaukee County board to approve the proposed sales tax.