

Fiscal Crisis Leads to Bus Route Reductions



Milwaukee County has reached a fiscal crisis point, and we need your help. Over the past decade, Milwaukee County taxpayers have increased income and sales tax payments to the State by \$355 million, yet shared revenue and other funding from the state has declined or remained flat over the same time period.

County Executive Chris Abele and County Supervisors have been strong supporters of transit.

Unfortunately, limitations in state law have caused Milwaukee County to effectively reach the cap on the amount it can collect from property and sales tax. State and Federal transit support has been stagnant, especially in comparison to inflationary cost increases, and grant monies that have helped past budgets are increasingly scarce.

These fiscal constraints on Milwaukee County impact MCTS's ability to maintain and expand transit services. Unless there is a state solution, balancing future County budgets will continue to involve tough decisions.

The proposed 2020 Transit Budget includes significant service changes. Although 97% of annual ridership would not be impacted by these changes, the total number of bus routes could be reduced from 51 to 35 by ending the following services:

- ▶ 6 Freeway Flyer routes - 40, 43, 44, 46, 48, 49
- ▶ 4 UBUS Routes - 40U, 42U, 44U, 49U
- ▶ 5 Shuttles - 17, 137, 219, 223, 276
- ▶ Route 52 Clement - 15th Avenue
- ▶ Route 55 Layton Avenue: would no longer have service west of S.76th Street
- ▶ Route 80 6th Street: would no longer have service south of MATC South Campus

Seasonal services could also be eliminated as a cost-saving measure:

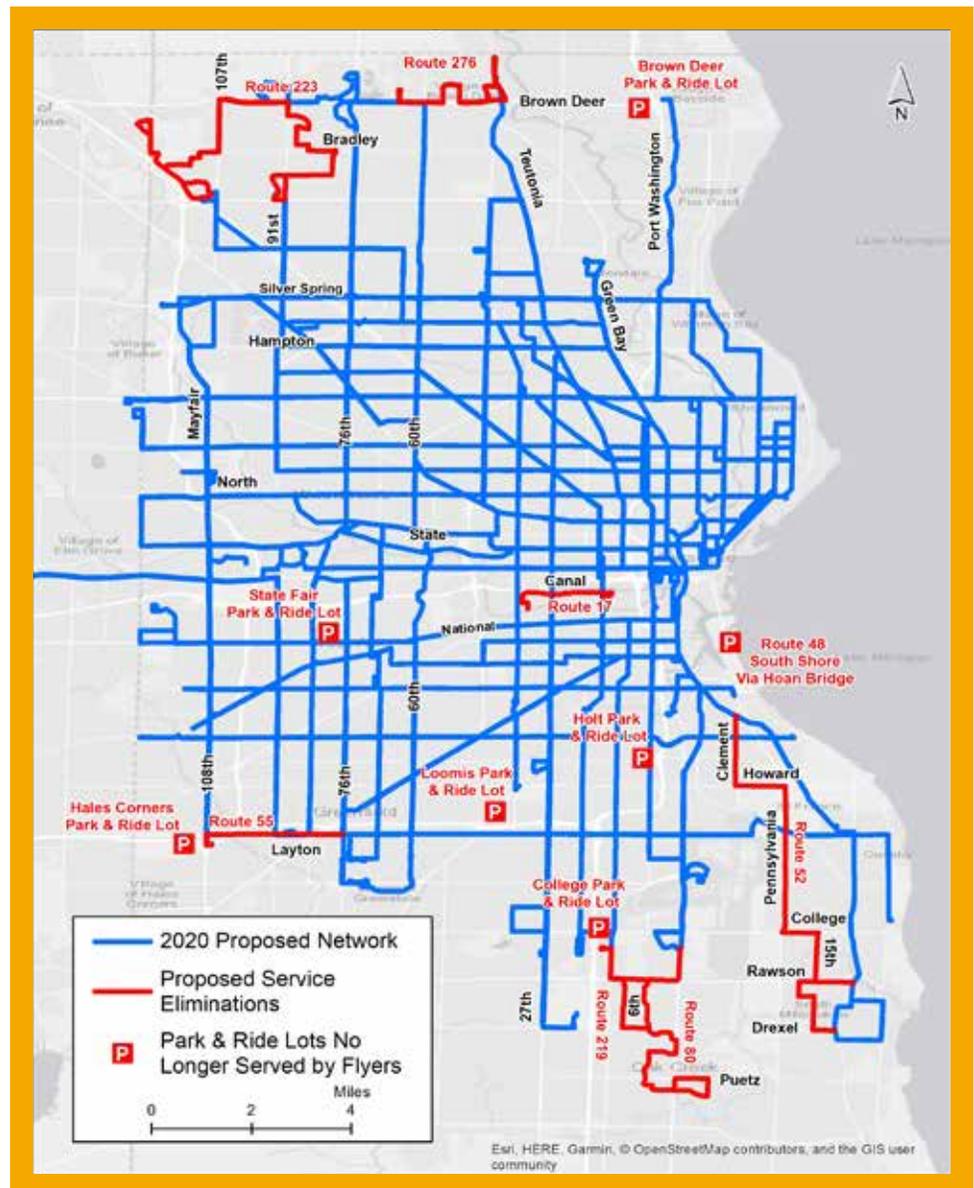
- ▶ Brewers Line buses for Miller Park
- ▶ Wisconsin Avenue Downtown shuttles for ethnic festivals and Summerfest
- ▶ Freeway Flyer service for Summerfest may also be impacted
- ▶ Freeway Flyers for German Fest, Irish Fest and Festa Italiana
- ▶ Shuttle and Freeway Flyer services for Wisconsin State Fair

For more information, visit [RideMCTS.com/Budget](https://www.rideMCTS.com/Budget)



The proposed changes are necessary to bring expenses in line with limited revenues. These changes were informed by Racial Equity considerations and route efficiency measures to minimize impacts on total riders.

There are no budgeted changes to the Paratransit Program.



WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?

- 1 Voice your concerns at upcoming budget open houses across the County.
- 2 Sign the petition supporting a **Fair Deal for Milwaukee County** -- a proposed partnership between state government and Milwaukee County that will help generate the revenue Milwaukee County needs to fund essential public services and cultural amenities, and invest in our future.
Visit [county.milwaukee.gov/Fair-Deal](https://www.county.milwaukee.gov/Fair-Deal) for more.
- 3 Tell your state legislators how important public transportation is to you.