



June 23, 2020

Dear Mr. Sponcia,

Near West Side Partners has reviewed the 2020 Recommended System plan of the MCTS NEXT Route Redesign Project and would like to offer our full support for the proposal to improve Milwaukee County's overall transit system and its High Frequency Network of routes with more connections, faster service and increased accessibility.

Public transportation is vital in any urban community. We have dense residential clusters in the Near West Side and increasing access to transit routes will help to connect our residents to work, school and leisure activities. We are eager to see an extension of the Vliet St route west and increased frequency for the 35th street route.

Expanding the High Frequency Network also means MCTS will bring vastly better transit service to underrepresented populations across our county—something which Near West Side Partners cares about deeply—just like Milwaukee County seeks to advance Racial Equity to become the healthiest county in the state. Low-Income residents, Limited English Proficient populations, No Vehicle households, Senior Citizens, Youth and Persons with Disabilities will all see major expansions of people served by MCTS' proposed High Frequency Network. With this proposal being cost-neutral, this is a plan we can definitely endorse.

We encourage the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors and its Transportation, Public Works and Transit Committee to fully support and approve MCTS NEXT. Once approved, we look forward to our residents benefiting from the improvements in our county's transit system for decades to come.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "K Stanley". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large "K" and a stylized "S".

Keith Stanley  
Executive Director  
Near West Side Partners/BID #10  
director@nearwestsidepartners.org