Overview

1. Overview of transit in Wisconsin
2. Impacts from COVID-19 on Wisconsin transit
4. Federal infrastructure bill
5. Wisconsin Non- Driver Advisory Committee (WiNDAC)
Transit in Wisconsin

Milwaukee County Transit System, Madison Metro and...

Over 70 public transit systems and over 130 specialized transit systems for seniors and individuals with disabilities

- Greater than $210m annual investment of federal and state aid (public and specialized)
- Over 50 million passenger trips annually
- Roughly 55% of trips are for work
- COVID-19 pandemic has had significant impacts
COVID-19 Impacts

Service levels, ridership, revenue, staffing, cleaning and other aspects of transit services have been impacted.
WisDOT response to COVID-19

• Monitor service levels and other changes
• Provide greater flexibility in program implementation
• Allocate federal relief funding expeditiously
  ▪ Over $445 million from CARES, CRRSAA and ARPA to Wisconsin transit agencies
• Distribute cloth face masks
• Coordinate with Dept. of Health Services to share information
• Collect and report data
• Provide technical assistance
Act 58: 2021-2023 Biennium Budget

• Signed by Governor Evers on July 8, 2021
• Several increases to transit programs
  ▪ 2.5% increase to Paratransit aids (Wis. Stat. § 85.205)
  ▪ 2.5% increase to Specialized transportation (Wis. Stat. § 85.22)
  ▪ $250,000 increase to TEAM funds (Wis. Stat. § 85.24) that support WETAP
• 50% decrease in operating assistance for CY22 to Milwaukee County and City of Madison
  ▪ Partially offset with ARPA funds by Governor Evers
Federal Infrastructure Bill

- Monitoring the status of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act bill

- Preliminary analysis is that structure of transit programs will be largely unchanged

- Additional funds will be made available for Wisconsin
  - WisDOT estimates that over $30 million additional funds across public and specialized transit formula programs
Wisconsin Non-Driver Advisory Committee (WiNDAC)

- An advisory forum to discuss transportation mobility, safety and access for Wisconsin’s non-driving populations
  - People who do not drive due to physical, mental or developmental disabilities, age, financial constraints, or choice

- Identifies transportation barriers for non-drivers and develops recommendations to reduce these challenges and improve mobility for all travelers in Wisconsin
Thank you

Questions?

Contact Info
Ian Ritz
Chief, Transit Section
Wisconsin Department of Transportation
4822 Madison Yards Way, 6th Floor South
Madison, WI 53705
608-266-0189 (office) / 608-347-0889 (cell)
ian.ritz@dot.wi.gov