



## **Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors** *Supervisor Marina Dimitrijevic, 4th District*

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### **County Board Gets in the Driver's Seat to Operate Streetcar** *Leadership Needed for this Generational Transit Opportunity*

MILWAUKEE – The Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors took action Wednesday to authorize the County's Department of Transportation to submit a proposal to operate the Milwaukee Streetcar.

"This is an historic opportunity to put the County in the driver's seat when it comes to the future of public transportation in Milwaukee," said Supervisor Dimitrijevic.

"Milwaukee County is perfectly situated to run the streetcar as it will be heavily integrated into our current transit system. Operating the streetcar will allow MCTS to provide our riders with an enhanced experience and will attract new riders," concluded Dimitrijevic.

Supervisors on the Transportation, Public Works, and Transit Committee adopted a resolution stating that "it is in the County's best interest to ensure a seamless interaction between the Milwaukee County Transit System and the streetcar system."

Members of the Transportation committee noted that advantages of having the Milwaukee County Transit System (MCTS) operate the streetcar included the potential to integrate fare systems and route planning with the existing county-wide bus system and efficient delivery of quality public services, rather than duplicate services.

If the City of Milwaukee were to accept the County's bid to operate the streetcar it would expand the number of employees represented by Amalgamated Transit Union Local 998, which represents county bus drivers and other MCTS employees.

The County Board adopted an amendment to the 2017 county budget that prohibited any financial contribution from the county for the development or operation of the streetcar

County Executive Chris Abele sought to privatize the operation of MCTS in 2015, a move that was blocked by the County Board.

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