



Milwaukee County Transit System

Media Release

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NEW CLEAN DIESEL BUSES ARRIVE IN MILWAUKEE

Milwaukee, WI --- The first of the 136 new clean diesel buses have arrived and Milwaukee County Transit System, along with the assistance of the Milwaukee County Executive Chris Abele and the Milwaukee County Board, will usher the new buses into service on Thursday, March 8, 2012 at 1:30 pm. For the first time, MCTS will have a special demonstration, showing the steps it takes to prepare a new bus for service. This will take place at MCTS Fleet Maintenance Building, 1525 W. Vine Street.

"We appreciate this opportunity to add these buses and their 'green' technology to our fleet. They will help us fulfill our commitment to providing reliable, convenient and safe public transportation services for our riders while also improving to the quality of life of all residents of Milwaukee County with these environmentally-friendly buses," stated MCTS Managing Director Lloyd Grant, Jr.

\$36.6 million of the new bus purchase comes from Interstate Cost Estimate Substitute (ICE) funds which sat idle since being appropriated for transit projects in 1991. The other funds used to purchase the buses were \$7 million of recently awarded federal State of Good Repair program funding and \$2.1 million of existing State of Good Repair funds.

"The new clean diesel buses with near zero emissions will upgrade our transit system fleet and also improve the environment," Milwaukee County Executive Abele commented. "Being able to use the long-idle funds to benefit transit riders ensures that federal funds are kept here for our community. Transit is essential to connect workers to jobs, students to education and others to their important destinations."

Fifty-five new clean diesel buses will be delivered in 2012 and the additional 81 will be delivered in 2013 and after. These buses along with the 125 new clean diesel buses which were purchased in 2010 and 2011 will total 261 buses. Thus, more than half of the 420 bus fleet will have low emissions. Vehicles need to be replaced every 12 years or driven more than 500,000 miles.

The new vehicles will emit 80% less particulate matter, 95% less oxides of nitrogen and 88% less non-methane hydrocarbons than the older buses they will replace.

The Milwaukee County Transit System is a vital service to the community, providing 45 million rides each year to jobs, schools, shopping, healthcare and recreation in Milwaukee County.

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