

FONDY-NATIONAL BUS RAPID TRANSIT PROJECT

January 2009



Milwaukee County is proposing to construct and have the MCTS operate a 12-mile long street-running Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) running over Fond du Lac Avenue, downtown streets, National Avenue, and Greenfield Avenue. This proposed transit improvement, called the **Fondy-National Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) Project**, will connect the Midtown Center at 60th Street and Capitol Drive to Downtown Milwaukee and continue through Downtown to operate over National and Greenfield Avenues to Wisconsin State Fair Park. The proposed BRT route is shown below and closely follows the alignment of express bus Route 18/23X shown in Map 2 of the second Newsletter for the Milwaukee County Transit System

The existing local bus routes serving the corridor along Fond du Lac, National, and Greenfield Avenues (e.g. Routes 23 and 18) make frequent stops every two or three blocks to accommodate passenger demand and carry approximately 15,000 passengers each weekday. The Fondy-National BRT project will feature stops spaced about 1/3 of a mile apart with no other underlying local bus service and would operate with 10-minute headways or better during peak-periods and 15-minute headways during the weekday off-peak.

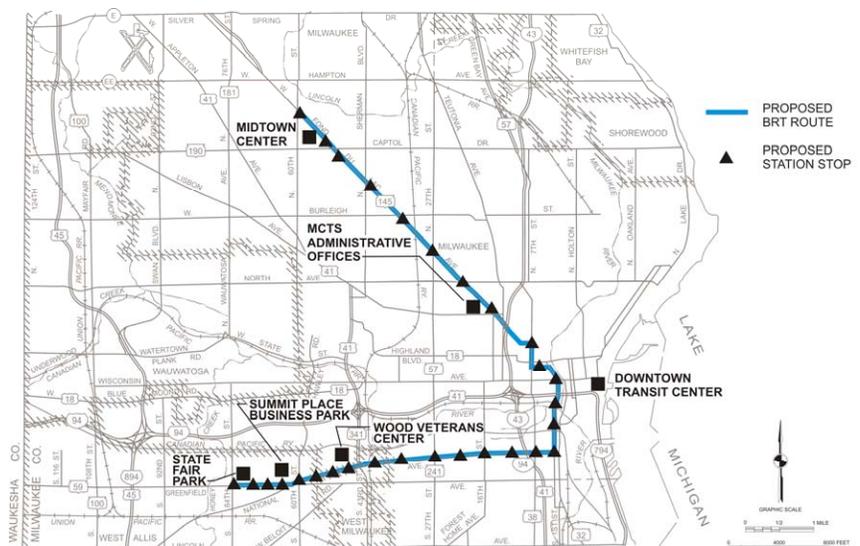
Every bus stop/station along the Fondy-National BRT line is proposed to include a shelter and “real-time” (next bus) passenger information displays. Traffic signal prioritization which will speed up the time to a green signal or reduce the time of a red signal whenever buses approach the intersection will also be considered. New buses will be used to provide the new BRT service and consideration will be given to using state-of-the art 60-foot buses. The vehicles will be equipped with new fare boxes that take a variety of fare forms, possibly including daily passes, weekly passes, monthly passes, credit cards, etc. The vehicles will also be equipped with wheel-chair ramps, bus stop announcements, security cameras, and bike racks.

The Fondy-National BRT service will provide much faster transit service with greatly improved passenger amenities in a more user-friendly environment for a large number of existing MCTS transit riders. The project is designed to achieve the following goals:

- Improve Mobility
- Reduce Travel Time to Downtown Milwaukee
- Attract Increased Ridership
- Enhance the Community and Local Economy
- Preserve and Protect the Environment

Other BRT projects across the nation have produced gains of over 20 percent in transit ridership for the respective systems. Similarly, the Fondy-National BRT Project is expected to generate increased ridership on, and attract new riders to, the MCTS. The County anticipates submitting a funding application to the FTA for the project in Spring 2009.

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FOR MORE INFORMATION

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A mailing list has been developed of individuals and organizations interested in receiving summary information. If you would like to directly receive such materials in the future, please contact us.