



Milwaukee County

Board Chairman Lee Holloway

Supervisor Richard D. Nyklewicz, Jr.

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ADEQUATE MASS TRANSIT FUNDING IS KEY TO REDUCING UNEMPLOYMENT

Response to County Executive's statement on taxes and unemployment

Milwaukee, WI – Milwaukee County Board Chairman Lee Holloway and Supervisor Richard D. Nyklewicz, Jr., Chairman of the Finance and Audit Committee, released the following statement in response to County Executive Scott Walker's news release on taxes and unemployment in Milwaukee County:

“Every time bus fares are increased or routes are shortened or eliminated, it's incrementally harder for Milwaukee County residents to obtain meaningful employment. Each year, the County Board restores funding in key areas, including mass transit, in response to the many residents and businesses that depend on these transit services.

The County Executive still does not understand that Milwaukee's unemployment rate is directly related to his series of cuts to departments that include the Milwaukee County Transit System. If Scott Walker were genuinely concerned about unemployment, he would understand the urgency in identifying and enacting a dedicated source of funding to support mass transit.

The County Executive claims that he is ‘working with members of the County Board to complete a budget that does not raise the tax levy.’ While we appreciate his stated intent to work with us on the budget, we're not aware of anyone he's working with on the Finance and Audit Committee, which does the lion's share of the work reviewing and amending the budget. It would help if the County Executive would shed some light on whom he is working with.”

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