



Milwaukee County

Supervisor Johnny L. Thomas, 18th District

Vice-Chair, Finance & Audit Committee

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FACT CHECKING THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE ON TRANSIT VIDEO REVENUE

Milwaukee, WI – Milwaukee County Supervisor Johnny L. Thomas released the following statement to provide further information opposing County Executive Scott Walker’s decision to include \$2 million in transit video advertising revenue in the 2011 Recommended Budget:

“[As this audio clip from the July Transportation Committee meeting details](#), I was simply asking that we give this idea a test drive, outside of the budget process, during 2011 to see if the projected revenues would be realized. I did not encourage anyone, including the County Executive, to bank on these revenues as part of the 2011 Budget. It’s unfortunate that the County Executive didn’t bother to contact me or potential partners to follow-up on these estimates. Instead, he just jammed the \$2 million figure into his budget without doing any real research.”

“The press release Walker’s office issued yesterday proves that the only due diligence performed by Walker’s administration came from the newspaper. How shameful. Our constituents deserve better than that. I have a private sector accounting background and understand how to create jobs and support small businesses to deliver economic development. That’s the whole premise of my transit video idea was to create dedicated funds for transit. We need to reverse transit’s downward trend from the last eight years. According to UWM, approximately 40,000 jobs are now inaccessible due to these transit cuts.”

Supervisor Michael Mayo, Sr., Chairman of the Transportation, Public Works & Transit Committee, verified the position Supervisor Thomas took at the Committee meeting.

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