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WIPTA STATEMENT ON GOVERNOR EVERS' EXECUTIVE BUDGET

The Wisconsin Public Transportation Association (WIPTA) commends Governor Evers for his executive budget proposal that reflects the needs of public transportation in Wisconsin and the immense role it will play in growing our economy post-pandemic.

The last twelve months have taken a staggering toll on public transportation and the many Wisconsin residents who rely on transit to get to work and for basic mobility. The Governor's proposed increases in mass transit operational and capital funding will be vital for Wisconsin's rebound from COVID-19.

Based on WisDOT data, in 2019 Wisconsin's bus systems provided nearly 60 million trips: 55% to work; 14% for education; 20% for shopping, tourism, and recreation; and 11% for medical visits. Over the next two years, getting employees to work, students to school safely, and making sure our residents have mobility for healthcare and to go shopping and patronize local businesses will be more important than ever.

We thank the Governor for his commitment to public transportation and we look forward to working with the State Legislature to make sure that our bus systems and shared ride services have the ability to meet the needs and demands of every community across the state.

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