

Originally, the transit system proposed cutting routes and raising fares. County Executive Scott Walker held a series of budget briefings around the county. After hearing from many people who would lose access to their job or lose a route to their school, the County Executive asked us to restore the routes.

In his 2007 budget, all of the bus routes are back in. The cash fare remains the same while the discount on passes is reduced in this budget.

Some may raise a concern about the change in passes, but costs for the transit have gone up too. Between rising fuel costs and new accounting rules from the federal government, they had a large amount to cover this year.

With these costs going up, doesn't it make sense that the people who use the service would help cover part of those costs too?

A recent story on the budget suggested that the budget was raising costs for the Milwaukee Public Schools system. While the cost of passes will go up for everyone, it is important to remember that other school districts who use yellow buses have to cover higher costs as a part of their budgets.