



WisDOT / Transit Safety Oversight Program

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Tony Evers
Governor

Kristina Boardman
Secretary

WisDOT Transit Safety Oversight
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Public and Specialized Transit
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Madison, WI 53705
– PO Box 7910 (53707-7910) –

Transmitted electronically

August 20, 2025

Jim Owczarski, City Clerk
Milwaukee City Hall
200 E. Wells St., Room 205
Milwaukee, WI 53202

Dear Jim:

I am transmitting the rail transit system safety status report for calendar year 2024 to the Milwaukee Common Council, in compliance with 49 CFR § 674.13(a)(7), which requires that WisDOT report:

...[T]he status of the safety of each rail fixed guideway public transportation system to the Governor, the FTA, and the board of directors, or equivalent entity, of the rail fixed guideway public transportation system.

WisDOT, through its transit safety oversight program (aka state safety oversight, SSO), oversees safety compliance at each of the State's two rail transit systems: the Kenosha Area Transit (KAT) Streetcar and the Milwaukee Streetcar System (MSS; aka The Hop). The attached report (Microsoft Excel workbook) follows required federal formatting, but I have also included a high-level summary of the report (pdf) for the Common Council's review. In short, the Milwaukee streetcar safety program remains compliant with federal and state rail transit safety requirements.

Thank you for your attention to this matter and please let me know if you have any questions or comments.

Sincerely,

Eric Stoegbauer
State Safety Oversight (SSO) Program Manager
Wisconsin Department of Transportation
Public and Specialized Transit Section
(608) 286-0041
eric.stoegbauer@dot.wi.gov

Attachments: 2024 Annual Report (3-14-2025).xlsx
2024 Rail Transit Safety Status Report (7-17-2024).pdf

cc: Jerrel Kruschke, DPW Commissioner
Danielle Rodriguez, DPW Operations Director
James Vineau, Streetcar System Manager
Brian Hinkle, Chief Safety Officer
Ian Ritz, Chief, WisDOT Public and Specialized Transit Section
Josh Gearhardt, Vital Assurance (WisDOT SSO team)
TJ Thorn, Vital Assurance (WisDOT SSO team)