



**Amalgamated Transit Union Local 998**

734 N. 26th Street  
Milwaukee, WI 53233  
414-342-4300  
Fax: 414-342-1998  
[www.atu998.org](http://www.atu998.org)

## Coinsurance Explained - And Why We Say No

Milwaukee County Executive Chris Abele wants transit workers to accept **coinsurance** instead of the health insurance they now have.

This would mean much higher out-of-pocket costs for transit workers – thousands of dollars more per year for some, especially single parents and other families.

And there's these types of high-deductible healthcare plans can provide lower-quality care.

### **What health insurance do transit workers have now?**

The current healthcare plan for most Milwaukee County Transit System employees requires them to pay a **deductible**, a set fee for services like doctor visits, prescriptions and hospital services. The worker's insurance pays the rest of the actual cost. For example, the current deductible for a worker's regular doctor visit is \$30.

The worker pays the deductibles until an annual out-of-pocket maximum is reached. Then the insurance pays 100 percent of healthcare costs for the rest of the year.

Under the current system the out-of-pocket maximum is:

- \$750 for a single employee.
- \$1,500 for a family of two (single parent with one child or a worker and spouse, for example).
- \$2,250 for a family of three.

### **What changes does Chris Abele want?**

Under the current contract offer, workers would be switched to **coinsurance**, which would require them to pay 20 percent of all healthcare costs **AFTER** they reach their annual deductible. They'd continue to pay 20 percent until they reached their out-of-pocket maximum, which would be **MUCH** higher:

- \$2,000 for a single employee – \$1,250 more a year.
- \$4,000 for a family of two – \$2,500 more a year.
- \$6,000 for a family of three – \$3,750 more a year.

Remember, these are out-of-pocket expenses for every calendar year. If a family of three has a serious health issue that starts late in the year and extends into the new year, they could be on the hook for \$12,000 in only a few short months.

**For more details visit [www.atu998.org](http://www.atu998.org)**