



How Lawmakers Can Improve Transportation Options for All Minnesotans in 2019

In Minnesota, everyone should be able to get where they need to go in affordable, healthy, and sustainable ways. Our families, climate, and communities are counting on you to take action this session!

PREVENT FUTURE CUTS TO METRO-AREA TRANSIT SERVICE & FUND OVERDUE IMPROVEMENTS

Every day, people in our cities and suburbs rely on transit to get to work and school, buy groceries, visit the doctor, and connect with friends and family. It's critical that legislators fix Metro Transit's projected funding gap now before Minnesotans lose the transit service they depend on. Even more essential is a bigger, long-term solution that fully funds transit in our growing metro region for years to come.

The 1/8-cent sales tax increase that Gov. Walz has proposed is a great start! Now we need legislators to do more. With greater investment we can not only protect the service we have today, we can create a better system that will connect communities, stabilize our climate, and improve daily life for people of all ages, races, incomes, and abilities.

- Support at least a half-cent metro-area sales tax increase to fund more bus routes, more electric buses, and more frequent, reliable service.
- Support dedicated funding for 10 transformative new bus rapid transit lines in the next 10 years.
- Support moving Metro Mobility, a federally mandated and critical service, to be funded through the State General Fund.

INVEST IN GREATER MINNESOTA TRANSIT

Public transportation is a growing need in Greater Minnesota. Getting around is a struggle for too many people. Legislators need to ensure communities of all sizes have enough resources to build out transit options that fit their needs.

- Support at least \$10 million/year in new funding for transit operations, technology, facilities, and buses in Greater Minnesota communities.
- Support keeping the full amount of revenue from the sales tax on leased vehicles dedicated to transportation. This is an important funding source for transit in Greater Minnesota.



Transportation is now the top contributor of greenhouse gas emissions in Minnesota.

Voters already know it is time for lawmakers to prioritize statewide investment in sustainable options:

3 in 4 Minnesotans support the State making additional investments to expand & improve public transit, including buses, trains & light rail.

68% of Minnesotans want a transportation package that includes funding for safe bicycling & pedestrian routes.

DEDICATE RESOURCES TO GROW WALKING & BIKING STATEWIDE

We all benefit when it's easy to walk and bike. With accessible sidewalks, seniors and people with disabilities can keep more of their independence. With safe bike routes, kids and families can get to school and explore their towns and neighborhoods without fear of being hit by a car. Funding for bicycling and walking falls short every year. To expand these healthy options, we need to invest in walking and biking connections and programming statewide.

- Support at least \$30 million in the budget and/or bonding bill to fund Active Transportation grants, with a minimum of \$1 million/year for planning, education, and other programs.
- Support at least \$10 million in the bonding bill and increase MnDOT's base budget from \$500K/year to \$750K/year for Safe Routes to School grants.



EQUITABLE ELECTRIFICATION OF THE METRO TRANSIT BUS SYSTEM

In Minnesota, communities of color and low-wealth communities are disproportionately impacted by traffic-related air pollution and resulting health problems. We are excited that the Met Council has made a commitment to transition to an electric bus fleet. Electric buses will reduce air pollution and greenhouse gas emissions. We agree with Rep. Lee that electric buses should serve communities with poor air quality first.

- Support HF195, which prioritizes zero-emissions buses in communities with poor air quality.

UPDATE TRANSIT FARE ENFORCEMENT

Being unable to pay for a bus ticket should not be a criminal offense. To build a thriving transit system, all people need to feel safe and welcome. In recent years, negative interactions between Metro Transit police officers and riders have threatened to undermine that feeling of inclusion, particularly among communities of color. By reforming how fares are enforced, we can restore some of that lost trust and better utilize both our police force and Metro Transit resources.

- Support allowing the Metropolitan Council to issue administrative citations for transit fare evasion instead of issuing criminal citations.

Transportation Forward is a statewide coalition led by Move Minnesota, over 50 partners & thousands of supporters. Together, we are calling on the legislature to invest in transit, bicycling & walking options in communities across Minnesota.

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