

People of Faith United for Justice

April 29, 2015

Madison WI

Maintain transit funding within the segregated transportation fund.

As members of the faith community we want to unite our communities and our people to overcome isolation, poverty and intolerance. Transit systems keep the community moving by helping Wisconsin residents – seniors, people with disabilities and those with limited income – to live more self-sufficient lives. Transit is critical for many in our community to get to work, medical appointments, stores, and remain connected to friends and family. We are troubled by how the current state budget puts at risk the needed funding to keep our community moving and growing.

Transit is an integrated part of the transportation system and must remain in the segregated Transportation Fund! Removing transit funding from the Transportation Fund and moving it to the General Fund makes our transit system funding vulnerable. Transit is transportation and should be planned, funded and viewed as an integrated part of the entire transportation system.

Transit demand is going up across the state, yet funding is being cut. Restore the cut that was made to public transit.

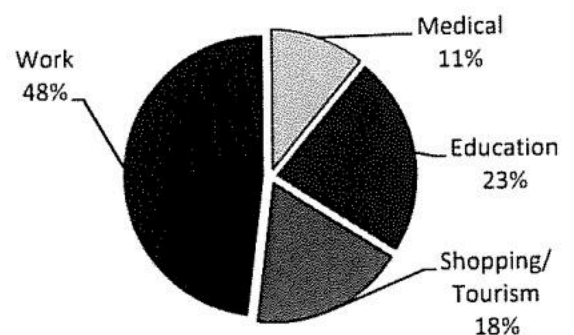
Four years ago transit funding was cut by 10% in the state budget. Because of this cut, transit riders in urban and rural areas have experienced less access to transit options; some communities have lost all access to transit. Demand for transit is rising while funding is decreasing. This is wrong and shortsighted! With a growing aging community and more people that are unable or not wanting to own a vehicle, we must invest in the right kind of transportation that will connect people to jobs, stores, schools, and home. We call for the state legislature to restore the 10% cut that was made to the transit budget.

Keep Complete Streets.

Complete Streets calls for communities to consider ways for pedestrians and bicyclists to be able to safely use the roadway where state dollars are used to build the road. This provision does not mandate sidewalks on every road, but rather where people will likely be using walkways. Safe walkways and bikeways impact us all and especially children, parents, seniors, and those with disabilities. Sidewalks are used to get to school, access transit, get to jobs, shop, maintain health and more. As our communities grow and change, we must consider all modes of mobility for people to safely get around.

Statewide Transit Rides By Purpose

Wisconsin Department of Transportation Study



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