

Madison Area Bus Advocates



For more info, go to: www.busadvocates.org

TRANSIT RIDERS MANIFESTO

1. Public transportation is a basic public service for everyone, not just for those of low income or for people who cannot drive a car. There is no place for means-testing fares.
2. As long as there are no tolls for public roads, entry fees at public parks, or user fees for myriad other public services, there should be *no* fare for core bus rides. In contrast, parking is expensive as it uses land that could be used for other purposes, and should be priced accordingly—this includes parking at public parks, parking at public schools, parking at community centers, parking at public libraries, and parking at the curbs of public roads.
3. The initial focus of any regional transit planning needs to place primary attention on improving and expanding the current system, the bus, as an efficient, clean, convenient, safe and affordable means of travel throughout the Madison area.
4. Transit riders are not second-class citizens and their input should be sought to better inform decision-making pertaining to transit and land use plans.
5. There should be at least six different types of transit runs including: 1) core service running all the time; 2) extra commuter service at peak times; 3) express service with limited stops; 4) circulators and shuttles; 5) paratransit; and; 6) connectors to intercity transport carriers.
6. Core bus service should run 24 hours a day, every day of the week, at least every 20-30 minutes to accommodate 2nd- and 3rd-shift workers, as well as 1st-shift workers. Commuter service during peak hours should run at least every 10 minutes within Madison's transfer points.
7. There should be express service that makes bus riding time-competitive with the automobile for a significant proportion of the population.
8. The Madison area should have a downtown intermodal terminal for local buses, intercity buses, and intercity rail.
9. Major transfer points should be bustling, vibrant centers of commercial and public activity, rather than dead places located far away from anything else.