

***Sample Letter to Legislators***

DATE

Rep.\_\_\_\_/Senator \_\_\_\_

Room \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd/95 University Avenue

St. Paul, MN 55155

Dear Rep. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_/Senator \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_:

As a resident in your district, I am writing to urge you to support passage of a transportation funding package that includes additional funding for bus and transit service to keep people working and living independently.

While the governor’s budget recommendations would increase funding for transit service in the Twin Cities Metropolitan Area, it would **decrease funding to Greater Minnesota transit** by $3.7 million resulting from the proposed change in the sales tax on leased vehicles. This deficit not only needs to be corrected but an increase to meet service needs should be included in Greater Minnesota as well.

Thousands of people in your area depend on local bus service to get to work, school, medical appointments and other important destinations. Businesses and families seek quality bus service when considering where to locate. In our community, the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ transit system plays a critical role in making this a great place to live and work. **(Add specific information about your system)**

Bus service is affordable, flexible and cost-effective. When people have access to transit, they are able to stay employed and remain independent members of their communities, saving the state millions in health and human services expenses. People in our part of the state are requesting more service. With employment growth in regional centers and aging populations, Minnesotans are asking for longer hours of service so they can use transit in the evenings and on weekends as well as expanded service areas.

A lack of service can lead to isolation and increased social costs and even to relocation for some families. As the state grows and ages, we know that bus service needs to grow as well.

Please work with your colleagues and the governor during the 2019 Legislative Session to pass on-going, dedicated funding to improve bus service throughout Minnesota. No one should be left behind.

Thank you for your consideration. I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

NAME

HOME ADDRESS