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| **From:** | Gisela Wilson |
| **To:** | Mymetrobus; Stuehrenberg, Justin; Martin, Crystal; Lynch, Thomas; Crawley, Katie; All Alders; Rhodes-Conway, Satya V. |
| **Subject:** | Metro Transit"s Role in Providing Transport to Violent Riot Police |
| **Date:** | Wednesday, June 3, 2020 12:43:14 PM |

June 3, 2020

To Justin Stuehrenberg, Metro Transit, Madison Alders and Mayor Rhodes Conway,

I am appalled that Metro Transit provided transport for riot police whose confrontational stance and violence have escalated justifiable protests of police brutality and structural racism in our country and in Madison, specifically. I do not agree to my tax dollars being used for this purpose and strongly object to being complicit in this travesty.

I demand Metro Transit immediately withdraw from providing transportation for violent riot police. MPD has been terrorizing protesters — including children, medics and reporters — with pepper spray, tear gas, force, and brutality. This is in direct opposition to the public service that public transit stands for. Just as I personally object and am outraged, bus drivers who oppose Metro Transit's part in uplifting state-sanctioned violence should make their outrage known and join the community in demanding accountability.

I demand that Metro Transit: (1) Immediately denies transportation and any support for the police presence; (2) Apologizes publicly to the black community in a clear way that acknowledges responsibility for supporting violence by police without offsetting blame to protesters; (3) Do all it can to end police presence in Madison; (4) Demonstrates a commitment to center black voices, by providing and advocating for material aid and supporting local efforts calling to defund the police, release black people from jail, and give black people decision making power over safety. I personally recommend that Madison Metro Transit provides direct solidarity and support to: Urban Triage, Freedom Inc., & Free the 350 Bail Fund.

Black Lives Matter!

Sincerely,

Gisela F Wilson, PhD
Madison, WI 53703