| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | Lydia Odegard |
| **To:** | Mymetrobus; Stuehrenberg, Justin; Martin, Crystal; Lynch, Thomas; Crawley, Katie; All Alders |
| **Subject:** | In protest of providing transportation for riot police |
| **Date:** | Thursday, June 4, 2020 8:20:28 AM |

---

To Justin Stuehrenberg and Metro Transit,

I am contacting you to demand Metro Transit immediately withdraw from providing transportation for violent riot police who have been terrorizing protesters, including children and medics, in Madison with pepper spray, tear gas, force, and brutality. Providing your buses as to bring violent riot officers in and out of our city is in direct opposition to the public service that public transit stands for, and you should be ashamed not only being complicit in but actively supporting police brutality, the murders of black people, and violence against protesters justifiably responding to systemic racism. We know that this decision is not a representation of the bus drivers we know and love in our communities, and using these busses and demanding workers serve as a literal vehicle for state-sanctioned violence is reprehensible. 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 the curfew & 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!
Lydia Odegard