

From: Fields, Debbie
Sent: Friday, January 09, 2009 9:09 AM
To: Phillips, Gail
Cc: Compton, Judy
Subject: Message re: bus fares

Gail,

Below please find a message from Ald. Judy Compton. Would you please forward it to the members of the Transit and Parking Commission?

Thank you,
Debbie
Council Office
266-4297

Friends and Colleagues,

This email message is to let you know that I fully support the increase in bus fares as proposed by the Mayor, Chuck Kamp and staff; which was approved by the Common Council. I know that none of us want to create hardships for those who use Metro as their means of transportation. It would be wonderful if the City of Madison could afford to have a transportation system that cost nothing to ride. That is not a reality, however. I have read the plethora of email messages, listened to the public hearings, and feel that those who are fighting against the increase in fare make excellent points. There is a reality however. We cannot afford to continue to operate the system without a fare increase. The increase will not cover the deficit, but it will help as costs to operate continue to escalate.

As we continue our quest to increase the economic development in the City, we can hope that we are able to increase the tax base which will enable us to provide more programs to help defray costs to the ridership of Metro. Until that time, we must take a hard line, and make the hard decision to increase this fee. Please cast your vote for the increase.

Thank you.

Judy
Alder Judy Compton
City of Madison
District 16
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