

Transportation equity is a civil and human rights priority. Access to affordable and reliable transportation widens opportunity and is essential to addressing poverty, unemployment, and other equal opportunity goals such as access to good schools and health care services. And the negative effects of some transportation decisions— such as the disruption of low-income neighborhoods — are broadly felt and have long-lasting effects. Providing equal access to transportation means providing all individuals living in the United States with an equal opportunity to succeed.

Through the years taxicab regulations have evolved in cities across the country to address the problem of transportation equity. If apps such as Lyft and Uber are to become the norm and the brick and mortar companies fade away, these same types of regulations will need to be put in place years from now. 24/7/365 service and no refusal of service. The apps that are coming into our community make it possible for riders and drivers alike to discriminate against each other by using “rating” systems. That is the exact type of discrimination Madison has fought so hard to avoid.