

TPC 05.13.08
HAND-OUT

May 13, 2008

TO: Mr. Chuck Kamp
Members, Transit and Parking Commission
FROM: Lauren Cnare, Alder, District 3
RE: Route 14 – proposed changes

Dear Commission Members:

Please accept this testimony on behalf of residents of the Sprecher East and McClellan Park Neighborhoods regarding the recently proposed expansion of a bus route to these neighborhoods that, it appears, is no longer in the recommendations for implementation this summer, but rather until sometime in 2009. I am unable to attend tonight's meeting because I am in Oshkosh tonight.

I continue to strongly support extending service to the residents all over the city – including the above neighborhoods. And, I understand the Route 14 extension is no longer a recommended option due to the demands on existing routes, as well as the cost of fuel. Interested residents and I are saddened that we will continue *without commuter service at all* in these two large and growing neighborhoods for longer than anticipated, and assume this is a temporary setback and plans for the extension in 2009 will be implemented.

In the interim, please support the option of at least partial bus transportation by vigorously pursuing the establishment of a park n' ride at the East Transfer Point on Milwaukee St. (I am sure Woodman's grocery would appreciate it, too.) I understand there have been plans for several months for this to be established, and with the recommendation to not extend commuter service to neighborhoods east of I39/I90 this year, I urge you to pursue this option vigorously.

People make choices to live all over our city because we have so many wonderful options in one municipality. Those who establish their homes in new areas on the edges of our city are not disinterested in mass transit – most expect it sooner or later and will use the option. I applaud your efforts to carefully respond to the needs of everyone in Madison, and look forward to your consideration of options for the Sprecher East and McClellan Park Neighborhoods in the next round – the 2009 budget. In the meantime, please devote resources to finalizing the East Transfer Point park n' ride.

Thank you!