

Comments On the Regional Transit Authority resolution

by Jay Ferm

Top 10 Reasons to support RTA resolution:

0. An RTA will cure cancer and tastes great!
1. The cost of road building is out of control.
2. We cannot build our way out of traffic congestion. If you build it, cars will come.
3. An RTA is about balanced transportation. It is not anti-car.
4. This resolution does not create an RTA, it merely continues the public conversation. We have several opportunities down the road to alter or kill it.
5. An RTA is the first step toward an environmentally and economically sustainable local transportation system.
6. Shifting funding for transit from the property tax to a sales tax will help ease the property tax squeeze being felt by Madison and Dane County home-owners. (How often do we get a chance to clean up the environment and lower property taxes at the same time?)
7. The 1/2 cent sales tax is a great investment in our post-oil future.
8. Bikes, trains, buses and cars. With an RTA, all modes of transportation will get their fair share.
9. Anybody who drives around Madison knows we have deep transportation and growth challenges. Big problems require smart solutions.
10. The RTA is a solution that will help us keep growing, but smarter and less expensively.

Thank you for your attention

Jay Ferm works for Planet Bike, co-owns Community Car, co-chairs the Platinum Bicycle Planning Committee, and is a member of the Urban Design Commission. He owns a car, motorcycle, two bikes, a bus pass and numerous pairs of shoes. And he has two cats.

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