

Office of the Mayor

Paul R. Soglin, Mayor

City-County Building, Room 403
210 Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard
Madison, Wisconsin 53703
Phone: (608) 266-4611
Fax: (608) 267-8671
mayor@cityofmadison.com
www.cityofmadison.com

April 19, 2016

Chuck Kamp, General Manager Metro Transit 1245 E. Washington Avenue, Suite 201 Madison, WI 53703

Chuck,

The City of Madison has a vision and commitment to creating an ecologically, socially and economically sustainable city. Madison has been a leader in becoming sustainable, from moving toward green purchasing to involving our citizens in changing their energy habits with Cool Choices. Madison is now a semifinalist in the national competition to earn the \$5 million Georgetown University Energy Prize to use toward future sustainability efforts.

A robust public transit system is a major part of being a sustainable city. We are in the top 20 systems nationally based on bus rides per capita, but I'd like us to go further. An important part of any sustainability plan is reducing transportation emissions, and public transit can make a major impact. Madison's goal is to make 50% of its fleet zero emission buses by 2035. In order to do this, we need to focus on introducing all electric buses into our fleet replacement schedule with eight 40' electric buses per year starting in 2020 and eleven 40' electric buses per year starting in 2031. We would add six articulated electric buses to the fleet in 2020 and increase that by 3 electric articulated buses per year until we have 36, enough to meet our need for 60' buses, in 2030. That would bring us to a fleet of over 50% zero emission buses by 2035. Please factor this into your current TIGER grant application and plans for the Nakoosa Trail bus facility.

As a city, we value the health of our community and want to improve it by reducing particulate matter, nitrous oxides and other pollutants in diesel fuel such as benzene, arsenic and formaldehyde which all contribute to a range of health problems. We have an amazing opportunity to improve the health of our city and our citizens with long-term planning of our public transit service and especially moving toward a zero emission fleet.

Sincerely,

Pául R. Soglin

Mayor