To Whom it May Concern,

I am writing to add my voice to the many that are calling for restoration of the bus stop on the corner of Rutledge and Thornton. I am an older adult who works on the UW campus and goes to UW hospital for much of my medical care.

Since moving to 1511 Rutledge St. in August of 2003 we have seen a downward trend in bus service to our neighborhood. When we moved in, the stop in question was used by both the 38 on weekdays and the 3, once an hour and on weekdays and weekends. Then the eastbound early morning 3 service via Rutledge was eliminated and the 3 became weekdays only; the 7, which replaced it, never ran on Rutledge St. We did have the 10 for a while that replaced the peak hour only 38, but that too no longer runs on Rutledge St.

That bus stop was a draw. I met neighbors from Morrison St., Yahara Place, Thornton Ave., and Riverside Place in addition to people who like on my block. Rarely was I the only person waiting.

As bus service has been reduced, it has become increasingly necessary to use a car for trips at odd times or transporting heavy loads. This is going in the wrong direction for Madison, which is increasingly clogged with traffic. I realize that resources are finite and that it is important to deploy busses to neighborhoods that are currently underserved – I would like to see more of that. However, I am not asking for a full restoration of the excellent service we had in the past – only that busses that already go west on Rutledge St. continue to stop for us.

Thanks for your consideration.

Ellen Zweibel