

February 15, 2010

Dear Member of the Wisconsin State Legislature:

On behalf of the 100,000+ employees we represent we wish to express the important role regional transportation plays in our economic future. We are committed to ensuring dedicated funding for a balanced regional transit system and encouraging our business colleagues to do the same.

We represent southeastern Wisconsin's largest companies and institutions and appreciate the opportunity to share with you our support of regional transit, and express how a fully-funded transit infrastructure would impact our business, and the economic climate in southeastern Wisconsin. Specifically, many of us have hundreds of employees that use buses to get to work every day, however that number continues to decrease as the bus system disintegrates. Some of us not only have employees that rely on transit, but customers who cannot get to our place of business because of a lack of adequate transit offerings. As business leaders we understand the need to be attractive in order to secure top-talent, and retain the talent we have. We fear that if we don't take steps to adequately fund out transit infrastructure, we will not be able to successfully compete with peer metropolitan areas.

We hope it is clear that we understand firsthand how transit affects our community and businesses and we are committed to working with the Legislature to see that a politically and economically sound funding source for transit is implemented in our region during this session.

Therefore we urge your support of:

- A truly regional, multi-county, multi-modal regional transit authority including Kenosha, Racine and Milwaukee Counties to be immediately focused on improving bus transit throughout the region and advancing the KRM commuter rail project;
- A dedicated funding mechanism for transit, which must provide property tax relief, restore routes and rescind fare increases to allow for efficient and effective bus operations throughout the region; and
- A strong regional transportation infrastructure consisting of bus transit and the Kenosha-Racine-Milwaukee (KRM) commuter rail to allow for economic development and regional growth.

We encourage you to support of this legislative initiative and are willing to call, write or visit with you to reiterate the urgency of this issue to our region and our vision for regional transit, and are urging our fellow employers and employees to do the same. We will be holding a press conference on January 19th to publically voice our support for the initiative outlined above and

encourage the residents of southeastern Wisconsin to let their legislators know that regional transit is absolutely vital to the success and growth of our region.

In summary, our feeling regarding adequately funded regional transportation is simple- get it done. It is our goal in the next several months to work actively with you and the members of the state Legislature to see that it does.

Respectfully,



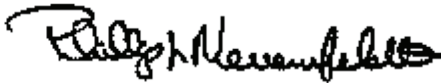
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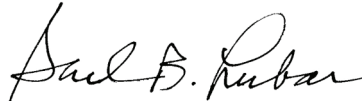
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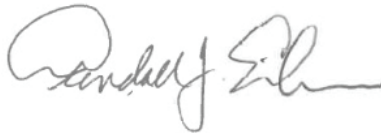
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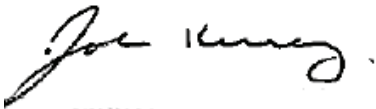
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