From: C-E Boyles
To: Public Testimony
Subject: What If We Made Things Better, Instead of Worse?
Date: Thursday, March 27, 2025 7:26:46 PM

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KCMO Public Testimony,

I am reaching out to urge you to amend the current proposal for bus funding, Ordinance #250247, so that critical improvements can be made to preserve service and universal Zero Fare. As a moderately frequent bus rider, especially of the 39 and Troost MAX lines, this is an issue that impacts me personally; as a Kansas Citian, I would like to take pride in our public transit, just as I do in our vibrant arts scene.

KCATA announced that this proposed ordinance will NOT provide sufficient funding to maintain current levels of bus service. Instead, weekend service will be limited to just 7 routes, frequency will be reduced, and union drivers will be laid off. After your constituents expressed an overwhelming demand for you to save the bus system, you and your colleagues promised the public that this ordinance would prevent service cuts, even if just for six months. You must amend this ordinance to ensure that our buses receive adequate funding. To cut funding to buses with one hand while the other is outstretched, asking for more money for a new jail, is at best in poor taste and at worst, looks like blind acceptance of more violence and death on Kansas City's streets.

Working people should not pay the price for the City and KCATA's sloppy negotiations. This is unfair, unjust, and unethical. Do your jobs and fund our buses.

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