From: Engel Van Roekel
To: Public Testimony
Subject: Workers NEED buses fully-funded! Support Ordinance #251053
Date: Monday, December 15, 2025 9:55:40 PM

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KCMO Public Testimony,

My name is Engel Van Roekel and I live in Council District 3. I am imploring you to pass Ordinance #251053 and to fully fund the bus system in Kansas City. Kansas Citians rely on reliable bus service. Please keep your promise and fully fund bus service in Kansas City.

I take the 47, 11, and 24 bus lines. I have been able to travel to the past three jobs I've had thanks to the bus system. Right now, I work in Union Station with a team of 7 people. We all take public transit: the buses, IRIS, and now the streetcar. I know that without these options, my coworkers and myself, would not have access to many opportunities.

Before I knew taking the bus was a much needed affordable option, I would spend $200 - $250 on car rides monthly. I have saved hundreds, if not thousands, of dollars on transportation, specifically for getting to work or to run necessary errands. Now I use that hard earned money to buy groceries and pay my bills.

The bus system does have its issues. I've been late multiple times to work and have waited for a late bus in 10 degree weather. I've had times where a bus (the 11) never showed up in an hour of waiting. This is why it's important that we continue to fund the buses. It's a system that needs constant improvement but it's a system I'm thankful for. Help my coworkers and I, along with so many other residents of Kansas City continue to work, get groceries, and thrive.

Thank you for your consideration,
Engel Van Roekel

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