



For Immediate Release

Tuesday, Oct. 29, 2019

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Coalition endorses transit improvements, vehicle registration fee
City budget proposal would help speed transition to all-electric transportation system

MADISON - A coalition of environmental and public interest groups endorsed a proposal before the City's Common Council to expand bus service, prepare the city for bus rapid transit, and make possible other components of the City's [Metro Forward](#) plan. The proposal creates a \$40 municipal vehicle registration fee to fund these improvements that will reduce traffic congestion and transition Madison Metro's fleet to all-electric buses in the coming years. The Council will vote on the proposal in a special session later today.

WISPIRG, RENEW Wisconsin, 1000 Friends of Wisconsin, Clean Wisconsin and Wisconsin Environment sent a [letter](#) to the Common Council and released the following statements in support of the proposal:

Statement by Peter Skopec, director, Wisconsin Public Interest Research Group (WISPIRG):

"To enhance the quality of life in our communities and do our part to reduce harmful emissions that are filling our air and accelerating global warming, it's time to make a change. Madisonians want a transportation system that's clean and safe. By working toward an all-electric transit fleet and making it easier to bus, walk and bike, this proposal is an important part of the puzzle. Not only will it make Madison a better place to live, but it also accomplishes those goals in a fair and effective way."

Statement by Jane McCurry, Clean Transportation program manager, RENEW Wisconsin:

"*Metro Forward* is an important step on the road to a modern transportation system that's powered by clean energy. The proposal before the Common Council this week will help us achieve an all-electric transportation future. It's really exciting to see the *Metro Forward* proposal for full transit fleet conversion starting in 2020."

The Wisconsin Public Interest Research Group (WISPIRG) is a non-profit, non-partisan public interest advocacy organization that stands up to powerful interests whenever they threaten our health and safety, our financial security, or our right to fully participate in democratic society.

www.wispirg.org

RENEW Wisconsin is a nonprofit organization that promotes renewable energy in Wisconsin. We work on policies and programs that expand solar power, wind power, biogas, local hydropower, geothermal energy, and electric vehicles. Since 1991 we have been a champion for clean energy solutions in the Badger State.

www.renewwisconsin.org