

Resolution Calling for Increased Investment in our Bus System

WHEREAS, Metro, operator of our region's bus service, faces a budget gap of \$30 million dollars in 2019 and 2020;

WHEREAS, Metro may cut up to 1/3rd of all bus service and raise fares significantly without a new funding source;

WHEREAS, the state of Ohio spends less on public transit than 44 other states, and state funding for Metro makes up less than 1% of Metro's total budget;

WHEREAS, Metro has an aging bus fleet with 101 buses over 12 years of age, which are considered past their useful life, prone to breakdown, and cost 133% more to maintain and operate;

WHEREAS, Metro bus frequencies and service levels have declined since service was cut starting in 2009;

WHEREAS, Metro bus stop infrastructure is generally lacking, with few benches and shelters in place to protect riders from the elements;

WHEREAS, Metro bus stops often lack safe pedestrian crossings and infrastructure;

WHEREAS, Over-the-Rhine residents rely on Metro bus service to access jobs, run errands, recreate, and visit places, friends, and family in other parts of the city and county;

WHEREAS, many city and county residents rely on Metro bus service to access jobs, run errands, recreate, and visit places, friends, and family in Over-the-Rhine;

WHEREAS, as Over the Rhine is a dense, walkable, and historic urban core neighborhood, where space available for parking will always be naturally scarce, a strong transit system is required for the day to day functionality of the neighborhood;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the Over-the-Rhine Community Council takes a position in support of increased financial investment by the City of Cincinnati and Hamilton County into the Metro bus system.

/s/

Maurice Waggoner, president
Over-the-Rhine Community Council