

CITIZENS FOR 2018 MODERN TRANSIT LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

CMT leads advocacy efforts for an integrated, affordable, and convenient public transportation system with light rail expansion as the critical component that will drive economic growth to improve quality of life in the St. Louis region

OVERVIEW

Citizens for Modern Transit represents more than 22,000 older adults, commuters, individuals, organizations, and corporations interested in moving transit forward in Missouri and Illinois.

Public transit serves customers in every county in Missouri – rural and urban – and is critical to meeting the transportation needs of our citizens while serving as a catalyst for economic development opportunities and job access.

Good public transit infrastructure improves access to jobs, healthcare and educational opportunities; greater economic development; and reinvestment in underserved parts of our community while binding our communities together.

FEDERAL CMT supported the passage of the Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act which was passed into law in December 2015. This was the first long-term federal transportation bill since 2005.

There were no cuts to overall funding levels from the prior bill, MAP-21. The current bill authorizes \$230 billion for highways, \$61 billion for public transportation, \$10 billion for passenger rail and \$5 billion for highway safety programs. However, the Highway Trust Fund, which supports federal grant programs for transit, is near insolvency. In addition, the future of federal funding is uncertain under the new Administration. CMT supports raising the federal gas tax which has not been raised since 1993 and/or other funding mechanisms to ensure the Fund remains solvent and the federal program continues to play a part in funding transportation infrastructure at the national level.

While there is now a long-term transportation bill in place, this makes CMT's state agenda even more critical for possible matching funds for transit operations and capital investment.

CMT-STL.ORG



TRANSIT INVESTMENT

PRIORITY #1 Support the restoration of MO Transit Operating Assistance to the baseline FY 2002 transit funding levels of \$8,367,997 and expand from there. Currently, State Transit Funding Assistance does not cover the impact of rising maintenance/operating costs of keeping the current systems in Missouri in good repair. Restoration and expansion of this funding would go towards maintaining the services in the state to date. For SFY17, the total core budget was slashed by \$500,000 in General Revenue to \$1,710,875 in State Transportation funds. This funding is distributed based on a formula among 34 transit providers in MO. In IL, support continued funding of public transit to St. Clair County and Madison County Transit Districts.

PRIORITY #2 Support innovative financing options for transit in MO and IL. For example, advocacy for use of the VW Settlement funds for transit investment in Missouri. Missouri was awarded \$41 million as a part of the settlement to be used for a mitigation plan. Transit vehicles are eligible to be funded.

PRIORITY #3 Support project specific funding for capital transit and operating projects. The Missouri Public Transit Association has developed a Transit "Investment" List that will provide significant return on investment for the state for investment in these projects. These are economic development projects that impact the bottom line for Missouri including economic returns, job creation and access.

- Projects include:**
- Investment in St. Louis transit system including possible MetroLink expansion and MetroBus redesign.
 - Invest in OATS, a 10% increase in state funds, \$31,431, would enable OATS to provide an additional 35,838 trips and 1,890 in additional operating hours, 90% FTE. Right now, MO funding comprises little more than 2 percent of OATS budget.
 - An investment of \$500,000 in GoCOMO services in Columbia would allow for restoration of cuts on Oct. 20, 2017, restoration of 1.5 million rides annually.

PRIORITY #4 Support a statewide funding plan for total transportation which includes funding for capital and operating expenses. Rural providers need an option for capital with the reduction in 5339 funding. Adoption of such a plan would reflect the importance of public transit to expanding opportunities for all. This would include improving access to jobs, education and healthcare; opportunities for economic development; and investment in disadvantaged areas of the state.

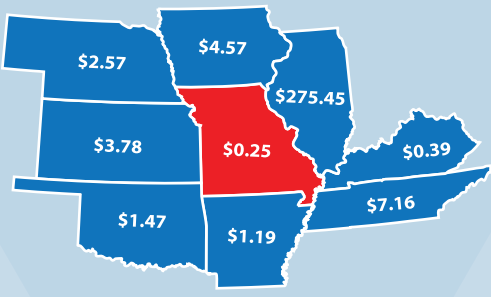
PRIORITY #5 Explore new avenues for support for Transit/Transit Oriented Development (TOD), creating incentives supporting Public Private Partnerships.

LOCAL •Partner with other organizations like regional chambers, community Patners labor, healthcare, AARP and transit organizations to spread the message to broader audience about transit

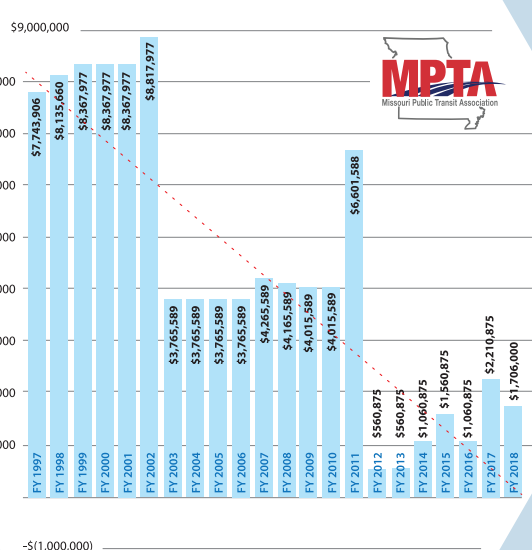
- Impact of transit on the state's economy
- Localize economic impact by linking legislators with local transit member stories in their areas
- Support actions to ensure safety of St. Louis systems



2015 MO per capita spending on Transit compared to surrounding states, 2017 AASHTO Report



Missouri Transit Operating Investment Trends



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CITIZENS FOR MODERN TRANSIT
 MAKING TRANSIT A PRIORITY