



SCOTT COUNTY HEALTH and HUMAN SERVICES DIVISION

GOVERNMENT CENTER WEST • CHILD PROTECTION

200 FOURTH AVENUE WEST • SHAKOPEE, MN 55379-1220

(952) 445-7751 • FAX (952) 279-6109 • WWW.SCOTTCOUNTYMN.GOV

03/09/2026

Dear Minnesota Legislators,

I am writing to express support for Minnesota Valley Transit Authority (MVTA) and the continued operation of suburban transit providers serving communities across the south metro.

Reliable transportation plays an important role in ensuring that families can access the services and supports they need. Many of the families served by Health and Human Services rely on public transit to reach appointments, access community resources, attend school or work, and remain connected to critical support networks.

Transit services provided by agencies like MVTA help reduce transportation barriers that can otherwise prevent families from accessing essential services such as healthcare, counseling, education, and employment opportunities. When transportation is available and reliable, families are better able to maintain stability and engage with the resources that support child and family well-being.

Suburban transit providers were created to meet the unique transportation needs of suburban communities. Their services help connect residents across the region to employment centers, educational institutions, healthcare providers, and other critical services.

Proposals that would eliminate suburban “opt-out” transit providers could create additional barriers for families already facing challenges and may limit access to the services and supports that help children and families succeed.



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We encourage policymakers to preserve suburban transit providers like MVTA and continue supporting transportation systems that strengthen access to services, family stability, and community well-being.

Thank you for your consideration and for your service to our communities.

Sincerely,

Kelsey Washa
Health and Human Services – Children's Services
Scott County