

100%

100% Campaign
705 Raymond Ave. - Suite 100
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March 7, 2022

Chair Hornstein and Members of the Committee,

We're writing to express our support for House File 2997 (Bernardy), House File 3623 (Hansen), and House File 3767 (Jordan).

Our transportation system is how we stay connected as Minnesotans. These bills would improve the lives of Minnesotans by meeting multiple bottom lines. They would provide us with more transportation options that are more clean and more equitable.

House File 2997, House File 3623, and House File 3767 are bills to support the creation of three Metro Transit bus rapid transit lines, F, G, and H, respectively. These lines were recommended by Metro Transit as part of its Network Next planning process, our metro area bus network plan for the next twenty years. **These three rose to the top of the list based on ridership demand and after extensive public engagement.**

House File 2997's F would run north and south along Central Avenue between downtown Minneapolis and the Northtown Transit Center in Blaine. **This route would connect the city to the suburbs,** supporting suburban commuters, serving Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) communities along the route, and connecting families to retail shopping and schools throughout.

House File 3623's G Line would run north and south between Little Canada and West Saint Paul. **This line would serve multiple low-income and BIPOC communities,** cross multiple physical barriers like the Mississippi River and major rail yards, and better connect apartments and retail in high density areas.

House File 3767's H Line would run east and west between downtown Minneapolis and the Sun Ray Transit Center in St. Paul. It would serve a diverse set of people **including Saint Paul's East Siders, University of Minnesota students on three campuses,** and downtown Minneapolis commuters.

Finally, we support the conversion of Metro Transit's bus fleet to **100% electric** and to prioritize the placement of **cleaner buses in areas with lower air quality.** The Met Council's December 2018 announcement that they planned to shift to the purchase of 100% electric buses in 2022 was an important commitment. Their February 2022 Zero-Emission Bus Transition was an important next step.

We encourage the committee to act to ensure the Metropolitan Council and Metro Transit make this transition quickly and effectively. A fully electric fleet is a tangible solution that will make a real difference for riders, for drivers, and for residents along these routes. It's an important investment in an equitable and clean energy future for Minnesota.

Thank you for your work creating a more connected state,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Chris Conry', with a stylized, sweeping flourish at the end.

Chris Conry
Campaign Director
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