

**What do Minnesotans face today?**

**How can transportation  
finance and policy  
help meet their needs?**

**Will Schroeer**

**House Transportation Finance and Policy Committee**

**February 3, 2021**

Challenge:  
Getting to work

**58%:** “lack of transportation” presents challenges in getting to work each day.

- Survey by DEED’s CareerForce centers and the Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis

EVERYDAY MONEY

# Average Used Car Prices Soar to Nearly \$30,000

By **Adam Hardy**  
January 14, 2022

**Money**

By all accounts, 2022 will be another very challenging year for car buyers.

Challenge:  
Cost of living

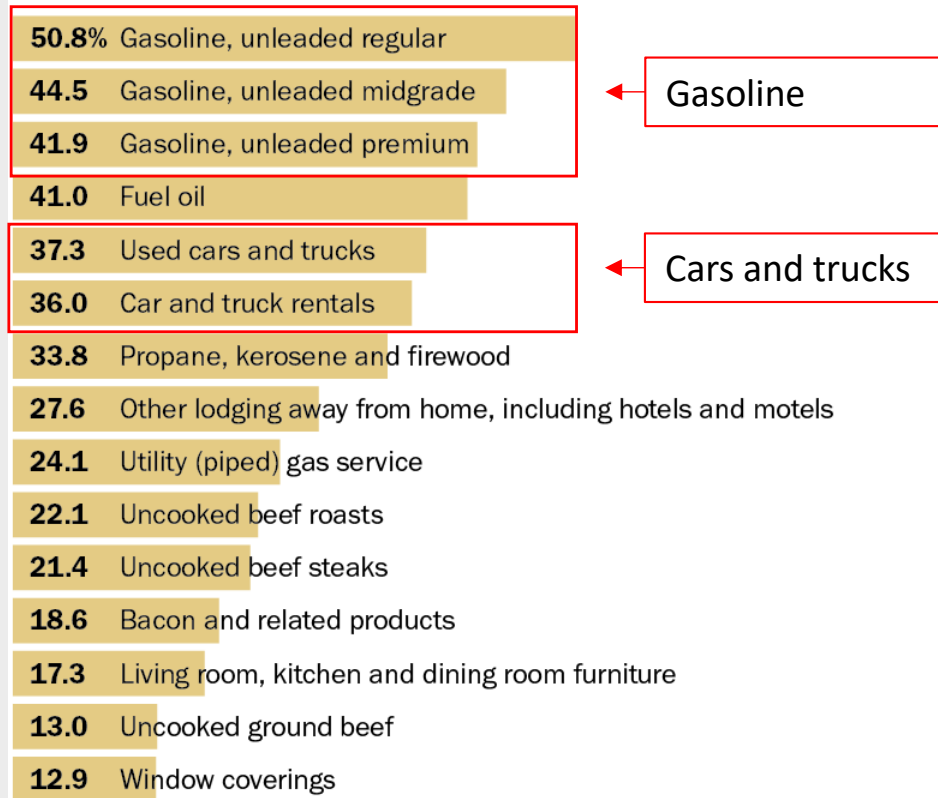
And:

- Gas prices up
- “Inflation hits Minnesota’s smaller cities and rural areas harder than Twin Cities”

# Challenge: Transportation costs

## Amid U.S. inflation surge, which prices are rising the most? Fuels, used cars and lodging lead the way

*Biggest % increases in consumer prices, December 2020-December 2021*



Note: Certain nonspecific "catchall" categories not shown.

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

PEW RESEARCH CENTER

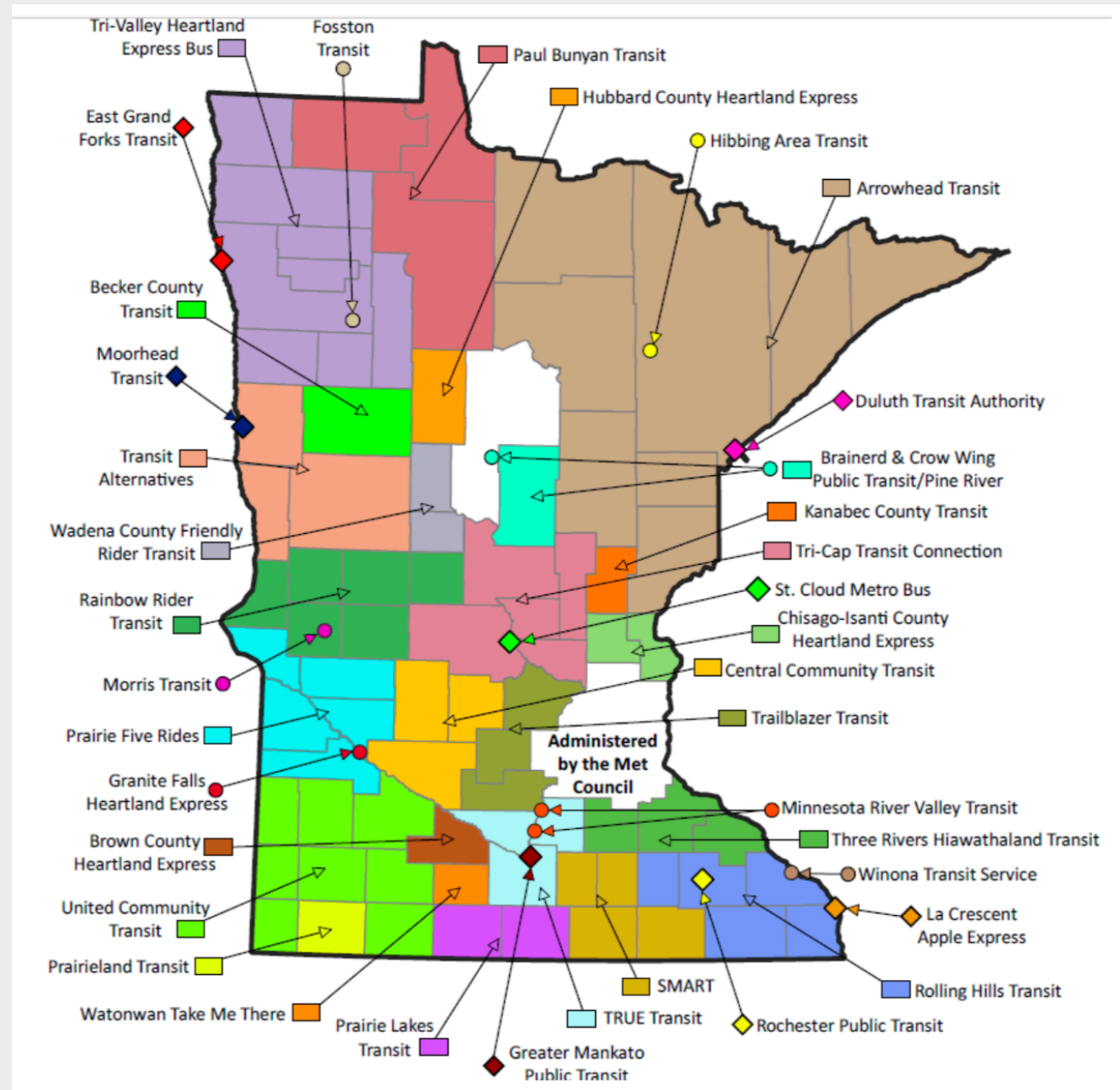
*Cost of living*

What can the  
Legislature do?

- Change car or gas prices?
- Support options open to all

*What can the Legislature do?*

Support options open to all, across Minnesota



## Measuring the Economic Benefits of Rural and Small Urban Transit Services in Greater Minnesota

MnDOT:

- Transit provides access to jobs and health care, supports independent living, allows seniors to age in place, and keeps people living in the community.
- Positive impacts for local employers, local businesses, and the community at large were also widely acknowledged.
- Total benefits and benefit-cost ratios were estimated for the six transit agencies;

All showed benefits that exceeded costs

Transit  
investments =  
Good jobs for  
Minnesotans

## Minnesota Transit Investments Support Minnesota Jobs



- Minnesota is home to 60 transit equipment manufacturers
- 56 outside Hennepin and Ramsey Counties



Every part of Minnesota  
would benefit from  
better transit

- Limit the impact of inflation
- Connect people to work
- Create jobs

The Legislature has  
latitude and ability to  
help

- State surplus funds
- Bonding funds
- Federal Infrastructure Bill funds

Thank you

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