

Greater Access to Safe, Reliable and Affordable Transit Service is the Shortest Route to an Equitable Society

As We Honor Rosa Parks on Her Birthday–Transit Equity Day–Let's Commit to Prioritizing Transit Funding

The [Transit Equity Network](#) joins together transit riders, community organizations, civil rights groups, environmental and climate justice groups and transit worker unions who for the past four years have organized around Transit Equity Day. We observe Transit Equity Day on Rosa Parks' birthday, as she was a civil rights' beacon of hope and solidarity for people of color and public riders everywhere. [Share a sentence or two here on why it's meaningful for you, your community or organization.]

Public transit is foundational to our economy and local communities' sustenance. Reliable transportation creates opportunities for working people to live more fulfilling lives. Frequent transportation would reduce crowding, subsequently addressing the pandemic's public health concern regarding safe and social distancing while also providing additional service times offering greater flexibility to all riders. Frequency in buses, subways, and trains may make the difference in ensuring students get to school on time and for workers and riders to get to their jobs and or appointments on time. Seniors and community members with disabilities are transit dependent—without the reliability of transit service, these cohorts are limited from living full lives.

For the health and safety of essential workers and their family members, we ought to fund transit so that services continue to be safe, reliable, and affordable. For example, in our community, more frequent bus service on the ____ route can help workers from the ____ neighborhood get to work on time. ALTERNATELY: For example, in our community, it's essential that our transit agency continue operating fare-free, since families are still struggling because of the effects of the pandemic and the associated economic crisis.

We need to budget and assign funding that promotes a better public transit system, at the local, state and federal level. As we move forward and continue to build and advocate for transit justice, we must keep pressing and pushing our local state and federal legislatures. We must treat public transit like a human right and reclaim the wealth corporations and the [billionaires](#) have pocketed and invest in public

transportation services. In addition, transit agencies must make pay and benefits of a qualified workforce more competitive to support expansion or maintenance of service.

When the next crisis, pandemic, or ecological disaster occurs, we should have institutionalized and allocated financial support ensuring that our public transportation systems won't collapse, and we can maintain them functioning. Supporting transportation agencies to provide continuous, fast, and affordable transit is a viable way to utilize transportation policy to address the rising temperatures of climate change, public health, and racial equity.

Everyone is affected by the inequities in our present transportation system. So we need to do more.

[Possible concluding paragraphs]

1. Encourage people in your area to join in TED 2023 activities in their area.

Prior Transit Equity Day:

We'd like to heartily invite you to join us in celebrating Transit Equity Day as we state live planned action or online events. If for any reason you're unable to attend a planned transit action near you this year, join The Transit Equity Network live stream! This upcoming Saturday February 4th, from 12p.m. to 2 p.m.

2. Mention the local activities that have happened in the past.

After Transit Equity Day:

Riders showed up to speak on behalf and in support of public transit as a civil right, demanding access for every rider across the nation. As we noted, share a sentence or two describing your event/ live stream. Suggestions –Local wins/highlights, reflections and follow up action steps that can be taken on a local or national level.

[Additional Supporting Messages/Contenting]

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