



Kenosha Streetcar Society <kenoshastreetcarsociety@gmail.com>

Reconsider the streetcar shutdown

Kenosha Streetcar Society <kenoshastreetcarsociety@gmail.com>

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To: ajeand@kenosha.org, mayor@kenosha.org, ehaugaard@wi.rr.com, district3@kenosha.org, theheims@sbcglobal.net, tlenb@kenosha.org, Lou Rugani <x779@webtv.net>, groundhogsteve@yahoo.com, mdon82432@aol.com

Dear Mayor Bosman, Transit Commissioners, Mr. Brandrup and Alderman Moldenhauer,

Since I'm unable to attend the public hearing tomorrow afternoon, I wanted to issue my statement to you in writing:

As a board member for the [Kenosha Streetcar Society](#), I was disheartened to hear of plans to limit streetcar availability during the winter months of January, February and March. While I realize that budget cuts are necessary in many of your departments, I'm wondering if the additional expense for maintaining streetcars that are not running will not make the \$65,000 savings worth it in the end. With the **additional cost** of repairs, now and in the future, the total savings really isn't \$65,000, now is it?

From the Kenosha News, 11/19/09

Streetcar shutdown

Alderman Don Holland, chairman of the Transit Commission, said completely shutting down the streetcars for an extended period of time could have maintenance consequences.

"To stop completely would cost us money to bring the streetcars back into service," Holland said. "Electrical systems in streetcars like that don't do well when they're idled, and there's some buildup of corrosion."

The city estimates the shutdown would save about \$65,000 in labor and energy costs.

About 4,600 rides on the city's streetcar system were taken January through March this year, 2,577 of those rides in March.

It would be a shame to see the beautiful streetcars, which the city of Kenosha has made a significant investment in, shut down for three months. They bring a great deal of pride to the city, and are known **worldwide**. Perhaps the city should instead look for better ways to promote the cars for the unique feature that they are, to increase revenue. While they are known worldwide, there is even more that the city can do to help bring people in to see the cars

I am also a resident of Harbor Park, and one of the things that I loved about Kenosha before moving here in 2006 was the streetcars. I thought it was something that was unique and made the city special. My husband, Mike, and I have also worked to spread our love of the streetcars using his artistic talent, by creating a streetcar poster in 2008 as well as postcards and many other items that promote the Kenosha streetcars (www.mitegraphics.com). People nationwide have purchased our poster, and now know that Kenosha has a streetcar line.

Lower ridership on the streetcars will NOT be good for the city of Kenosha. Anytime you shut down something like the streetcars, other businesses will suffer. Those who did come to Kenosha to ride the streetcars during those months won't come at all, and downtown businesses, as well as the museums, will suffer. What about the 4,600 people that rode the streetcar during these months? That's potentially that many fewer people coming to downtown to patronize those businesses.

Please seriously reconsider this decision to limit streetcar availability during January, February and March. I challenge all of you to carefully consider another option.

Sincerely,

Teresa G. Pavelich
Kenosha Streetcar Society board member
Harbor Park resident
proud streetcar rider

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Kenosha Streetcar Society - A non-profit organization dedicated to the preservation and promotion Kenosha's streetcar history

kenoshastreetcarsociety@gmail.com

<http://kenoshastreetcarsociety.org>
