

**Honorable Mayor Bosman
Honorable Council Members, and Distinguished Guests**

My name is John F. Doyle. I am the Special Events Chairman for the Kenosha Streetcar Society. I am a resident of Western Springs, Illinois.

A streetcar is a lot like a human being—its blood is electricity, the motor generator is its heart, and like a human being, those parts need to move in order to stay healthy. I am not a mechanic, but I admire the “mechanical genius” that created the many things in our lives that we depend on. Those things, however, need to move and be used, otherwise they will become brittle and break.

To stay relatively healthy I need to exercise both my body and my mind. Sit me in an easy chair for several months and my health will start to deteriorate. Take a streetcar out of service for several months, and the same thing will happen.

Idling a streetcar in a car barn for the winter months could end up costing more than it could save. Parts can break down and those parts are very costly to replace. For example, a motor generator, the heart of a streetcar, can cost upwards of \$10,000. Without usage, like our hearts, it will start to deteriorate.

Some ask: Why not just “exercise” those cars during the winter months? Well, with all the ramifications of exercising the streetcar it would be just as easy to keep them running a regular winter schedule, and try to attract more riders during that time period, especially on weekends.

Living in the Western Suburbs of Chicago, I have yet to meet anyone, other than a railfan, that is aware of Kenosha's streetcar line. When I tell friends of the spectacular lakefront (*accessible too*), museums, and streetcar rides, most of them end up going to Kenosha, no matter what time of the year. Kenosha is a great place for school children to come and ride the streetcars and visit the museums. I understand there is already a program in place doing just that. What is needed, is an Outreach Program to attract this tremendous audience from the rest of the state, Illinois, and Northwest Indiana. That's a lot of school districts.

Winter months are not the long, dreaded blizzard and cold months that we all tend to think of, once the blood warms, life goes on, and think about it....how many days of those months are really snowbound—not very many, if any at all.

Downtown Kenosha doesn't close down for the winter, and the streetcars a part of that downtown shouldn't either.

I was in the bread business for 40 years and when things got tough, we flooded the market with bread, kept our machinery running, and came up with different ways to promote and advertise our product. On the contrary, our competitors that did cut back, are long gone.

Thank you for your time.