



Willie L. Hines, Jr.
City of Milwaukee Common Council

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Council President Hines: Now is the Time for RTA

City of Milwaukee Common Council President Willie L. Hines, Jr. will be joined by leaders from business, community organizing and labor tomorrow morning, to explain why Assembly Bill 723 is necessary. AB 723 would create a Regional Transit Authority (RTA), providing a dedicated revenue stream for public transportation, while also decreasing the property tax burden.

“For years, Milwaukee residents have suffered a series of fare increases and route cuts to the Milwaukee County Transit System,” said President Hines. “To make matters worse, budget constraints have simultaneously led to increased property taxes, which fund MCTS. The need of the hour is a dedicated revenue stream that will take public transportation off the property tax, and AB 723 offers us that solution.”

This week, leading up to Thursday’s public hearing in Madison, business executives, community leaders and heads of labor will join ranks to support passage of RTA legislation. “To say that there is broad support for an RTA would be a drastic understatement,” said Hines. “I have never seen representatives from so many differing segments of society come together in this way to advocate for transit reform. It’s my honor to stand with them in support of severely needed RTA legislation.”

Media, transportation advocates and concerned citizens are all encouraged to attend tomorrow’s news conference:

WHEN: 10 a.m., TOMORROW, Tuesday, March 9, 2010

WHERE: City of Milwaukee City Hall Rotunda, 200 E. Wells St.

WHAT: Common Council President Hines and community leaders advocating for AB 723