

Stop the Transit and Highway Robbery!

Let's put the **TRUST** back in the Highway Trust Fund

Did you know that almost half of the funds collected from the motor vehicle sales tax are being diverted to non-transportation uses?

With the serious congestion and safety problems Minnesota is currently facing, we need to ensure that **all** of the existing sales tax money is working to help relieve congestion and improve safety on our roads.



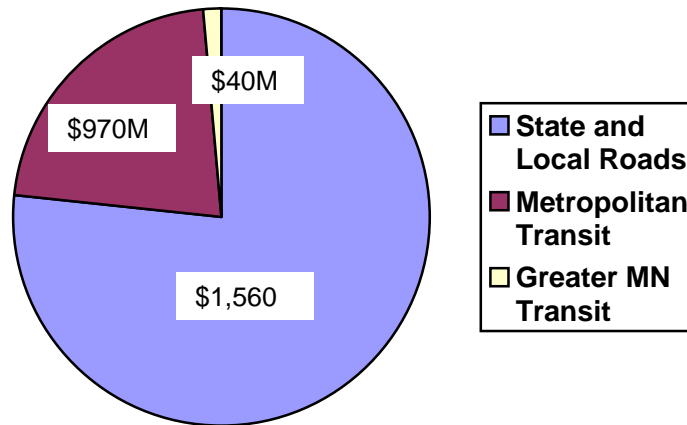
Vote "YES" on the constitutional amendment to dedicate ALL of the motor vehicle sales tax to transportation in Minnesota

On November 7, 2006, Minnesotans will be given the opportunity to vote for an amendment to the state's Constitution to increase funding for highways and transit, **without raising taxes**. The amendment will ensure that all of the current motor vehicle sales tax revenue goes to our highway and transit systems. Here's why you should vote "YES":

- ✓ **Congestion:** More than two-thirds of our metropolitan area freeways are congested. Commuters waste over \$700 per year stuck in congestion.
- ✓ **Safety:** Over 600 Minnesotans have been killed in traffic accidents each year over the last decade with most fatalities occurring on rural two-lane highways.
- ✓ **Accessibility:** Transit systems continue to face ongoing budget crises and the limited service makes it difficult for people to choose an alternative to driving.
- ✓ **Dependability:** Highway and transit projects that take years to develop and build need dependable, dedicated funding. Funding sources that come and go lead to costly delays.
- ✓ **Accountability:** The motor vehicle sales tax is a user fee. Those who use the transportation system pay the fee when they purchase vehicles. The money should be used to improve the transportation for all users rather than being diverted to unrelated spending programs.
- ✓ **Efficiency:** Highway and transit projects can be built sooner without raising taxes.

For more information visit: www.transportationalliance.com

Increase in Funding from 2007-2016 **\$2.57 Billion**



Currently, the legislature dedicates about 54% of the motor vehicles sales tax to highways and transit. Highways receive 30% of the motor vehicle sales tax and transit systems statewide receive almost 23% of the motor vehicle sales tax. The rest goes into the general fund.

In 1981, the Legislature passed a law to phase-in the dedication of motor vehicles sales tax to transportation by 1990. However, state budget deficits prevented the implementation of this plan.

Since 1981, our transportation infrastructure has lost over \$6 billion due to the diversion of revenue from the motor vehicle sales tax to non-transportation purposes.

The Proposed constitutional amendment that will appear on the ballot in November, 2006, will redirect existing transportation user fees to highway and transit projects over a five-year period. With this phased-in approach, the impact to the general fund will be manageable.

With passage of the amendment, all of the motor vehicle sales tax revenue will be used for highways and transit by June 30, 2011.

Dedicating 100% of the motor vehicle sales tax to transportation ensures that:

- The revenue can't be taken away in the future when the state is experiencing budget deficits
- The transportation system will receive a badly needed increase in revenue.

“State gas taxes and auto license fees have been constitutionally dedicated to roads for decades. It just makes sense that sales taxes on motor vehicles should also be dedicated to transportation. After years of talk, this plan finally puts those revenues where they belong – and permanently.”

- Lt. Governor/Transportation Commissioner Carol Molnau