

TO: St. Cloud Area Chamber of Commerce Members

FROM: Teresa Bohnen, President
David Olson, President, Minnesota Chamber of Commerce

DATE: May, 2006

RE: MVST Ballot Question

Minnesota's employers are growing increasingly concerned about the adequacy of our transportation system. Yet every year, proposals to inject new funding to expand the capacity of our highways and transit systems fall victim to political infighting at the Capitol.

That is why the St. Cloud Area Chamber of Commerce has joined the Minnesota Chamber of Commerce and over 45 other local chambers as members of Minnesotans for Better Roads and Transit. This diverse coalition – made up of more than 400 employers and organizations representing business, highway, transit, environment, local government and labor – is committed to passing a constitutional amendment this fall that will dedicate all of the revenue from the motor vehicle sales tax (MVST) to roads and transit projects.

Twenty-five years ago, the Legislature decided that all revenue from the existing motor vehicle sales tax should be used to fund transportation. However, that commitment has never been fulfilled, with more than \$6 billion diverted from transportation to other purposes. Currently, only about half of the MVST revenue goes to transportation.

It's common sense – transportation taxes should fund transportation. Dedicating all of the taxes we pay on new and used vehicles will provide an additional \$300 million per year in revenue to fund roads, bridges and transit projects throughout the state. That's why Minnesota's leading business organizations are working together to pass this amendment.

We invite you to join this coalition and help pass the transportation amendment in November. Passing a constitutional amendment is difficult – Minnesotans for Better Roads and Transit expects to spend several million dollars in support of this amendment – and we need a large coalition of dedicated supporters in order to succeed.

There are three ways that you can sign up as a member of Minnesotans for Better Roads and Transit:

- Visit www.BetterRoadsandTransit.com, where you'll find information about the amendment, coalition members and how you and your employees can sign up as supporters.
- Call Teresa Bohnen at (320) 656-3804 and she will add your name to the growing list of supporters.
- Fill out the enclosed form and fax it back to the chamber at (320) 251-0081.

If you would like a member of Minnesotans for Better Roads and Transit to visit your business to give a presentation on the amendment, contact Jennifer Byers at the Minnesota Chamber of Commerce at 651-292-4673 or 1-800-821-2230.

We look forward to working with you to pass this important amendment to gain significant new investment in Minnesota's roads and transit system.

MVST Sign Up Form

Yes, add our company/organizations name to the list of MVST supporters.

Contact: _____ Title _____

Company/Organization: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____

Email _____

Fax this form back to the St. Cloud Area Chamber of Commerce at (320) 251-0081 by June 1, 2006.

Thank you!