

# Equity of Motion Policy



## I. Introduction

A third of Detroit households don't have a vehicle within that entire household, yet Detroit spends a third of what other cities spend on their transportation. Detroiters put an average of 20 - 25% of their income towards paying for a vehicle. Detroit only spends \$70 per person per year on transportation within the city.

## II. The Problem

The transportation in Detroit is not equitable with cities not only surrounding it, but cities across the country. This transportation and security is affecting Detroit's vulnerable residents which obtain low income, communities and people of color which are affecting their access to essential services, such as employment opportunities, education and institutions and health services. Moreover, the cost of transportation is a significant burden for many Detroit households. This financial strain exacerbates existing socioeconomic disparities limiting mobility and economic opportunities for those already struggling to make ends meet. The lack of efficient and affordable transportation options also hinders Detroit's broader economic recovery and growth by making it unattractive to new potential residents.

## III. Definitions

Transportation	The process of moving people or things from one place to another. This is often done with the use of vehicles but can also be done by walking, jogging, running, etc.
Equity	Fair and just distribution of transportation resources and opportunities, ensuring that all residents, regardless of their socioeconomic status, race, or geographic location, have access to reliable and affordable transportation.
Socioeconomic	Refers to the social and economic factors that influence an individual's or community's position within society: factors include income, education, employment, and access to resources
Low-income neighborhood	Areas where residents are disproportionately affected by inadequate transportation infrastructure, limiting their access to employment, education, and other essential services.

## IV. The History

**Henry Ford and Mass Production:** The development of the assembly line technique introduced in 1913, made automobiles affordable to the average American. Ford's Model T was a significant success, with Detroit becoming the epicenter of automobile production.

**Post-War Expansion and challenges:** Post-World War II, Detroit saw significant infrastructure growth, including the construction of the interstate highway system. As car ownership surged, reliance on public transportation dwindled. The Detroit Street Railway system, which had once been a major part of the city's transit network, faced decline and eventual discontinuation.

**Transportation Modernization:** The later half of the 20th century brought economic challenges to Detroit, including industry restructuring and urban decline. In response to economic decline, efforts were made to modernize transportation infrastructure. This included the development of new highways, the expansion of Detroit Metro Airport, and attempts to revitalize public transit options.

**Economic Shifts:** The QLINE streetcar, which began service in 2017, provides a new transit option along Woodward Avenue. Additionally, there have been ongoing discussions about expanding regional transit networks. Detroit continues to be at the forefront of automotive innovation, with a focus on electric vehicles, autonomous driving technology, and smart transportation systems.

## V. The Effects

- Limited access to employment and education
- Increased financial strain
- Social isolation and reduced mobility
- Hinder economic growth and development
- Health and well being impacts
- Higher traffic due to increased amount of cars on the road
- Expensive parking

## VI. Solutions

Increase spending on public transit. By spending more money on public transit Detroit could add more bus routes and increase the frequency of buses on existing routes. Invest in expanding bus routes, frequency, and reliability, particularly in underserved neighborhoods. A higher budget could also be used to build a subway system. This would allow fast transport across longer distances, and is much safer and more environmentally friendly than cars.

Involve local residents in the planning and decision-making process to ensure transportation solutions meet the actual needs of the community. Conduct regular feedback sessions to adjust and improve services as needed.

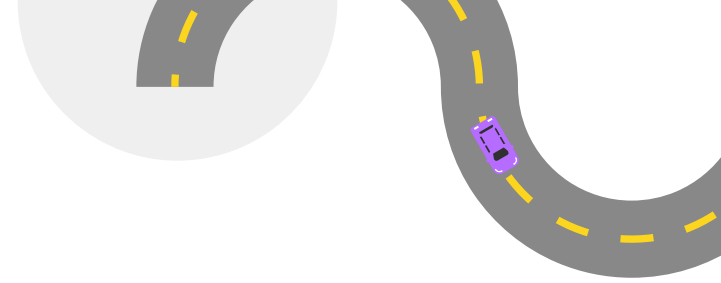


# Expansion of Transportation Policy

By: Destiny Clark, Alexander  
Villagomez, Ariel Duran

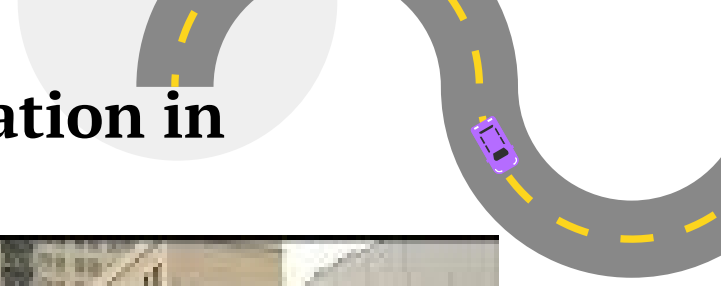


# Definitions



<b>Transportation</b>	The process of carrying people from one place to another by means of a vehicle, or by feet
<b>Equity</b>	Fair and just distribution of transportation resources and opportunities, ensuring that all residents, regardless of their socioeconomic status, race, or geographic location, have access to reliable and affordable transportation.
<b>Socioeconomic</b>	Social and economic factors that influence an individual's or community's position within society: factors include income, education, employment, and access to resources
<b>Low-income neighborhood</b>	Areas where residents are disproportionately affected by inadequate transportation infrastructure, limiting their access to employment, education, and other essential services.

# What can be done to make transportation in Detroit better?





# Introduction



**A third of Detroit households don't have a vehicle within their entire household, yet Detroit spends a third of what other cities spend on their transportation.**

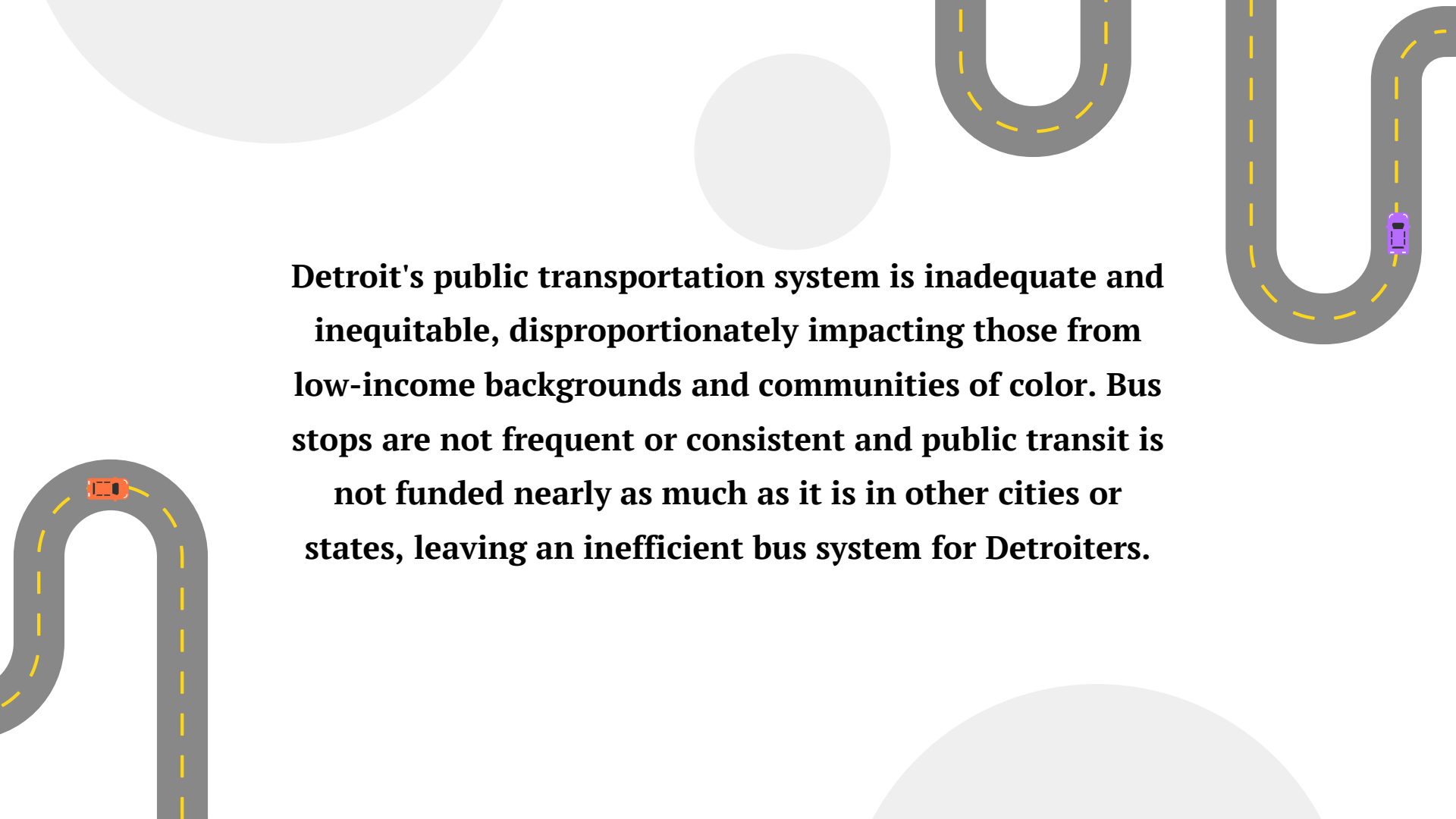






# The Problem



The background features several stylized road graphics. On the left, a grey road with a dashed yellow center line curves upwards and then downwards, with a small orange car icon on it. On the right, a similar road curves downwards and then upwards, with a small purple car icon on it. In the top right, there is a U-shaped road graphic. The background also includes several light grey circles of varying sizes.

**Detroit's public transportation system is inadequate and inequitable, disproportionately impacting those from low-income backgrounds and communities of color. Bus stops are not frequent or consistent and public transit is not funded nearly as much as it is in other cities or states, leaving an inefficient bus system for Detroiters.**

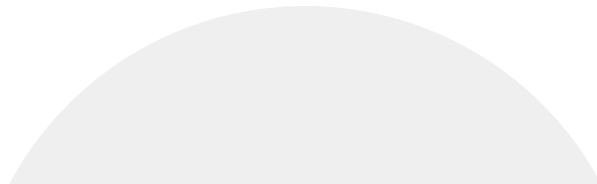
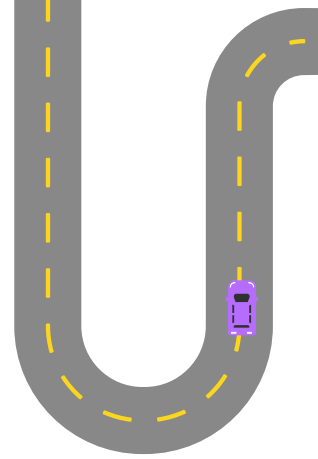
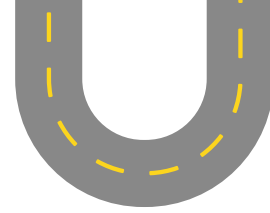
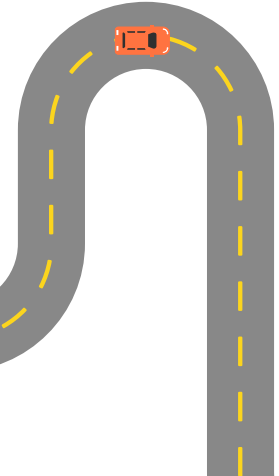
# Detroit's Bus System

Detroit has two bus systems:

- SMART, a private company
- DDOT, Detroit's bus system

Both suffer from the same issues:

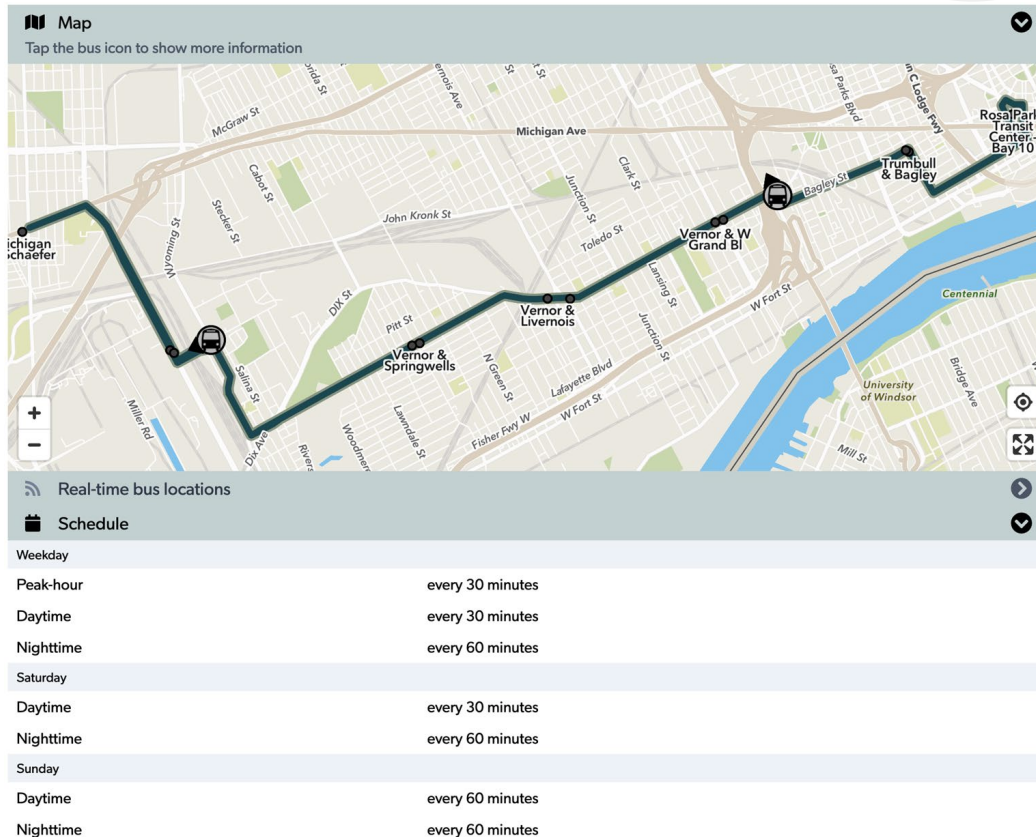
- Frequency
- Reliability
- Reach



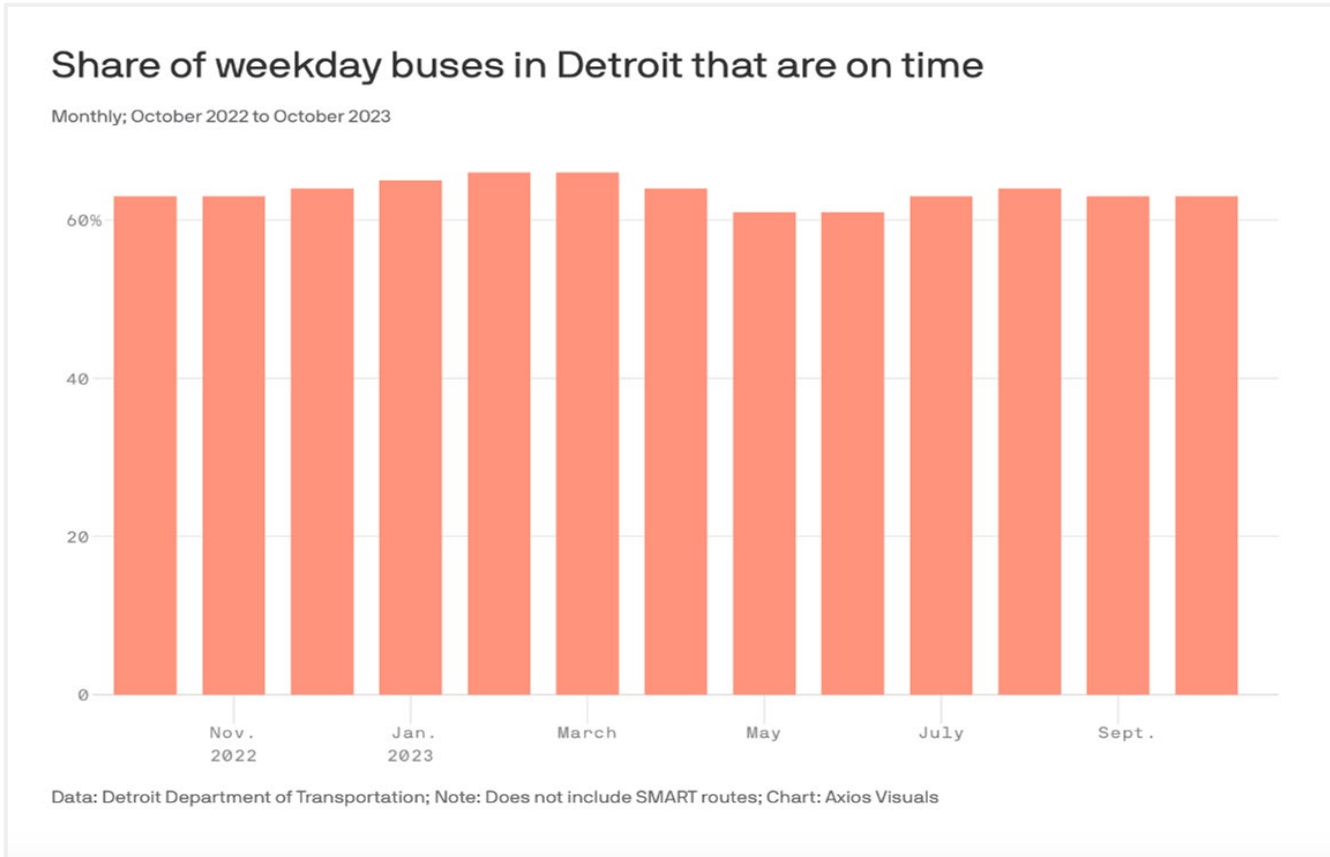
# Other forms of transportation

- QLine
- Electric Scooters (Bird, Lime, Spin)
- People Mover
- MoGo Bikes
- Uber/Lyft

# Low frequency of bus stops



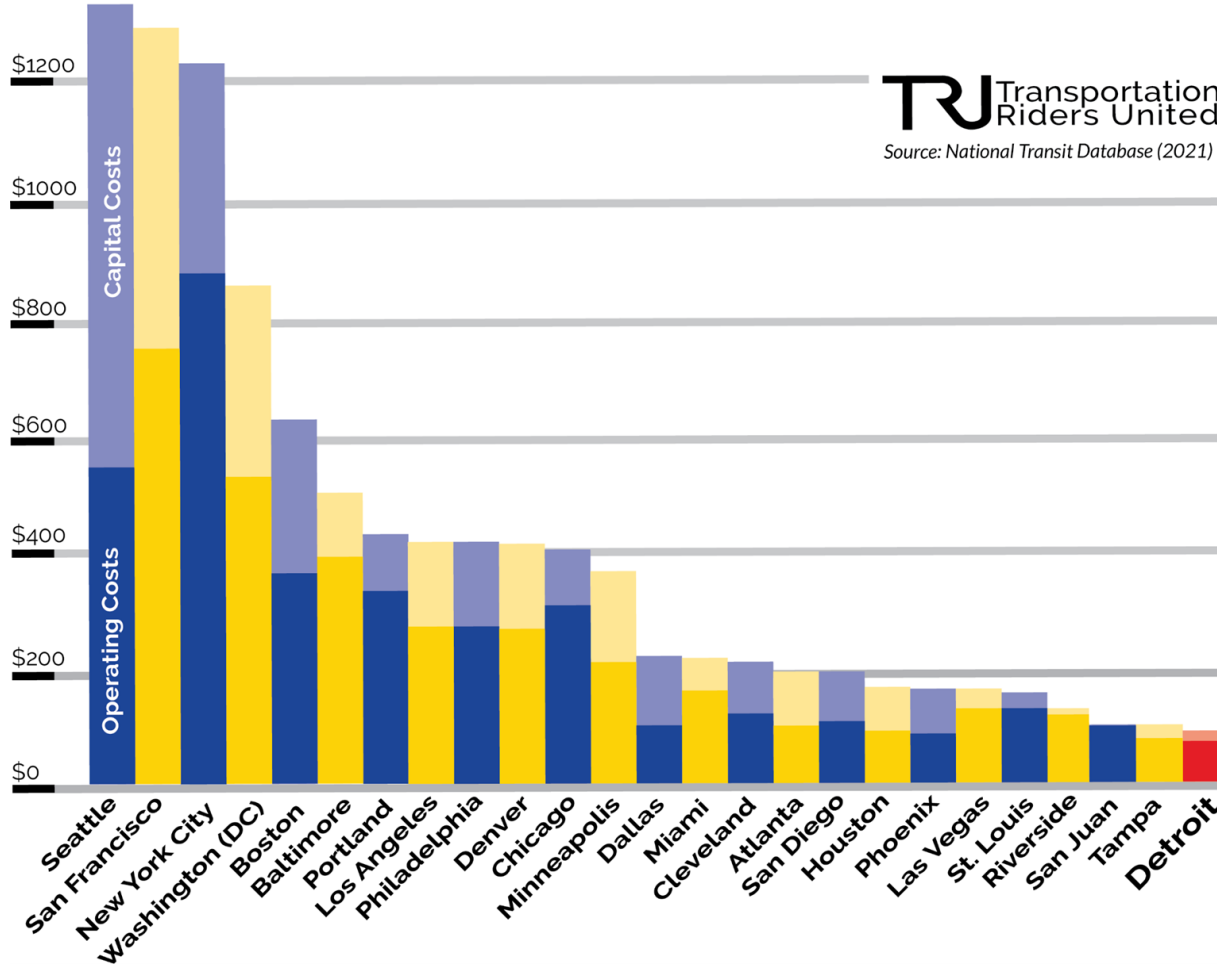
# DDOT Bus Arrival



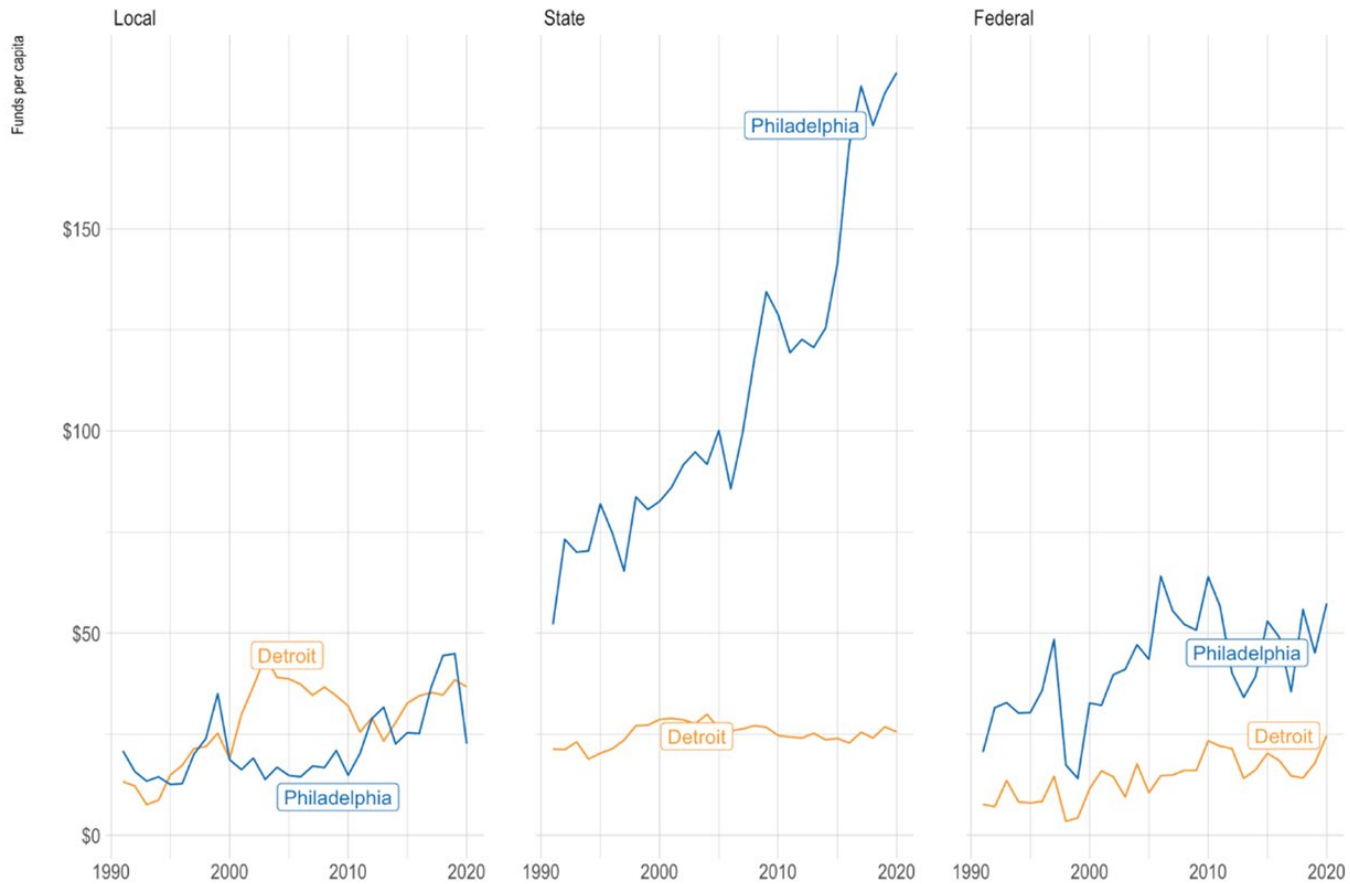
# Transit Investment by Metropolitan Area

**TR** Transportation Riders United

Source: National Transit Database (2021)



### Greater Detroit Received Far Less Public Transit Funding compared to Greater Philadelphia from all levels of government between 1991 and 2020





The background features stylized road graphics in shades of gray and yellow. At the top, there are curved road segments with dashed yellow lines. In the center, a vertical road segment with a dashed yellow line is positioned. At the bottom, there are more curved road segments with dashed yellow lines, and a vertical road segment with a dashed yellow line is also present. Large, light gray circles are partially visible on the left and right sides of the page.

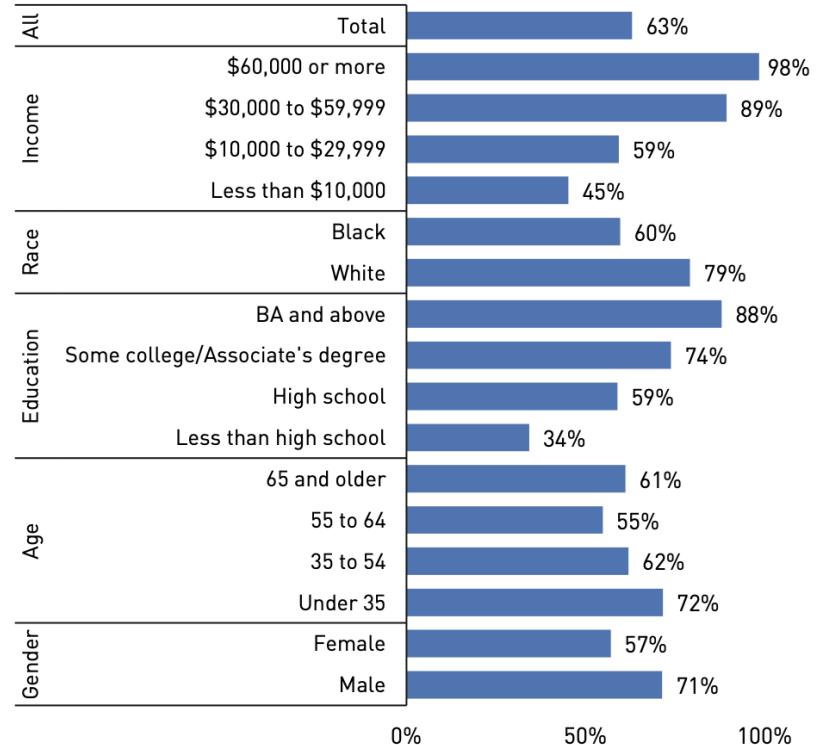
# 52%

of core services in Detroit are within walking distance of frequent bus routes.



# Effects on low income communities of color

A study conducted by the University of Michigan in 2017 found that in Detroit, lower income households, people of color, and women are less likely to have access to a car.



The slide features decorative elements of stylized roads with dashed yellow lines on a grey background, appearing at the top and bottom edges. In the top right, there is a teal car icon on a road segment next to a teal location pin. In the bottom center, there is a blue car icon on a road segment next to a blue location pin. Large, light grey circular shapes are also present in the background.

# Living without a car

- **3 times as likely to miss work, appointment or skip out of something due to transportation issue**
- **39% more likely to be dissatisfied with transportation options**

The image features a white background with several decorative icons. At the top, there are three road segments with dashed yellow lines. In the center, there is a teal car icon on a road segment next to a teal location pin. At the bottom, there is a blue car icon on a road segment next to a blue location pin. Large, light gray circles are also visible in the corners.

# The History

# History

**Post-War Expansion  
and Challenges**

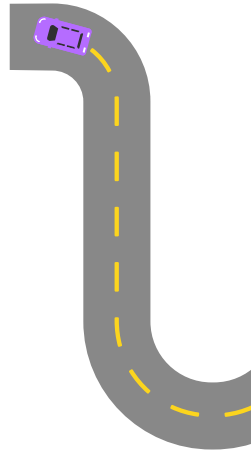
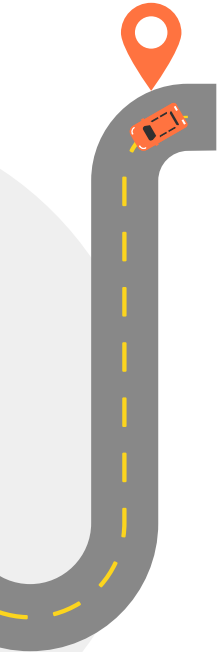
**Economic  
Shifts**



**Henry Ford and  
Mass Production**


**Transportation  
Modernization**

# The Solution

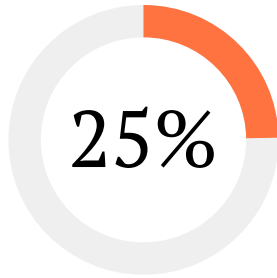


# Solution Plan



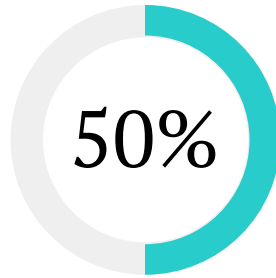
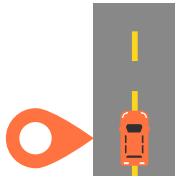
- Increase the number of buses to 400 buses from 323
  - Hire more bus drivers to support expanded service
  - Raise starting wage to \$23 for bus drivers to attract and retain quality staff
  - Increase service frequency, aiming for 15-minute intervals on key routes
  - Introduce real-time bus tracking and arrival information accessible via mobile apps and at bus stops
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# Funding



## Private Entities

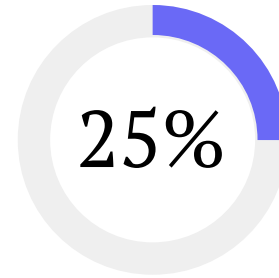
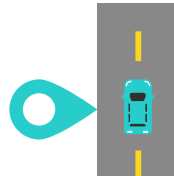
Partnerships with private companies but are kept under close surveillance for a on-time completed project.



## Biden

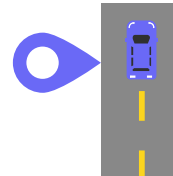
### Infrastructure Act

Using the Act to fund half of this project that meets the objective of this act, which is better transportation.



## State/Grants

Having Michigan help fund Detroit's transportation development and applying for grants that can help alleviate some of the costs.






# Conclusion

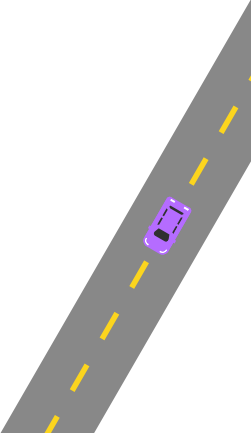


To create a more equitable transportation system in Detroit, we must invest in diverse, sustainable transit options that prioritize underserved communities. These changes will improve mobility and quality of life for all residents.





# References

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  - [https:// ddot.info/ route/ 1](https://ddot.info/route/1)
  - [https:// outliermedia.org/ ddot-bus-driver-shortage-worse-smart-detroit-transit/](https://outliermedia.org/ddot-bus-driver-shortage-worse-smart-detroit-transit/)
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  - [https:// www.thepeoplemover.com/](https://www.thepeoplemover.com/)
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The background features stylized, winding roads in shades of gray with dashed yellow lines. A small orange car is on a road in the top left, and a purple car is on a road in the bottom right. Large, light gray circular shapes are scattered in the background.

# Questions