



# MINNESOTA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT 2014 YOUTH CONFERENCE ON STATE ISSUES

## COMMITTEE: Planning and Development

### ***RESOLUTION***

The General Assembly,

Recognizing that the public use of light rail transit will be a positive influence in reducing carbon emissions,

Encouraged by the fact that increased public usage of light rail transit will decrease the usage of private transportation, including cars,

Acknowledging that an increase in light rail transit ridership will increase transportation revenue and is vital to offset operating costs,

Keeping in mind that previous light rail transit projects, including the Blue Line, have exceeded ridership estimates,

Confident that light rail transit has many benefits, including fulfilling the transportation needs of those with limited ability to drive,

1. Encourages private businesses to invest in current and future light rail transit systems,
2. Supports the usage of light rail transit as a replacement for private vehicles for people under the influence of drugs and alcohol,
3. Calls upon the Minnesota Department of Transportation to increase public awareness of light rail transit and its benefits to the community,
  - a. Designates that a sum not exceeding \$10,000 per fiscal year, drawn from the state general fund, be used to fund projects in this awareness campaign,
4. Reaffirms the notion that light rail transit will substantially increase commerce for businesses in the communities that it passes through.