

## St. Louis County appropriations for Metro

- ❖ St. Louis County voters approved a ½ cent sales tax referendum in April 2010 to support Metro transit by a significant majority at 63 percent of the vote in a down economy. Voters taxed themselves for public transit services in St. Louis County. This was on top of a quarter-cent sales tax that passed in St. Louis County in 1994. Not appropriating the full funding amount undermines the hard work and desires of County constituents. St. Louis County needs transit. It provides access to jobs and is a catalyst for economic growth and development. Transit funding is not an option, it is a necessity.
- ❖ Stable funding for Metro is imperative as it provides an integral service to residents in St. Louis County, allows for long-term strategic planning for future services and lines, and allows Metro to balance its budget which is required by law.
- ❖ More than 60% of Missouri Metro’s Service mileage falls within the boundaries of St. Louis County. Of that service, 58% of Metro’s Missouri MetroBus service mileage falls within St. Louis County which equates to 9,825,576 miles; 50% of Metro’s Missouri MetroLink service mileage falls within St. Louis County; and 74% of Call-A-Ride service mileage falls within St. Louis County. Overall, 61% of Metro’s Missouri service mileage is in St. Louis County. Additionally, 56% of the annualized service hours for all modes of Metro fall within St. Louis County.
- ❖ 40.1% of Metro’s FY12 Budget came from St. Louis County sales tax receipts. Metro budgeted \$34.78 million from the County’s half cent sales tax, \$36.28 million from the ¼ cent sales tax, and \$44.0 million from Prop. A in sales tax receipts in their FY12 budget. All are funds that St. Louis County voters supported in referendums.
- ❖ St. Louis led the country in increases in bus ridership (15.6% - the highest increase in U.S.) and light rail ridership (8.2% - top 10 in U.S.) for the first quarter of 2012.
- ❖ Benefits of public transit to St. Louis County
  - Attracts economic development
  - Attracts business and industry investment
  - Provides mobility to regional citizens
  - Supports regional “green” initiative
  - Makes the community a better place to live and work
- ❖ People use public transit in Missouri to get to jobs. Since the complete restoration of the service on November 29, 2010 in St. Louis since passage of Proposition A, 97 percent of all jobs in St. Louis City and St. Louis County are accessible by riding Metro transit.
- ❖ According to the American Public Transit Association, for every \$1 invested in transit there is a \$4 return for the region.