PUBLIC COMMENT: JIM CASHA, 540-717-9240, jim.casha@gmail.com

SENATE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE FEB 11th, 2016
CHAIR ~~WAYNE SCHMIDT~~ TOM CASPERSON

RE: SB739 - A BILL TO AMEND THE REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY ACT TO PROHIBIT A TAX ASSESSMENT LEVIED UNDER THE ACT FOR THE RTA FROM EXCEEDING TWO MILLS....

SPONSORS: WAYNE SCHMIDT (PRIMARY) - MIKE KOWAL, JIM STAMAS

WHY? I AM OPPOSED TO ~~THIS~~ SB739

WHO IS TRYING TO SABOTAGE THE REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY?

WAS THE RTA, JUST AS I SUSPECTED ALL ALONG, JUST A 'SHAM'... PERPETRATED AGAINST THE FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION (FTA) (AND THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN) TO CONVINCE THEM TO AWARD $31 MILLION OF 'OUR' FEDERAL TRANSIT DOLLARS TO THE LOCAL PRIVATE DEVELOPMENT PROJECT KNOWN AS THE M1 STREETCAR?

ARE THE FEDS GOING TO BE MAD WHEN THEY FIND OUT? WILL 'THE PEOPLE' BE MAD?

WHAT IS THE POINT OF LIMITING A MILLAGE TO TWO MILLS?

THE LEGISLATURE, AND GOVERNOR, HAVE MADE IT QUITE CLEAR THEY ARE NOT INTERESTED IN FUNDING REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION FOR SE MICHIGAN, EVEN THOUGH IT IS THE SINGLE MOST IMPORTANT THING THEY COULD DO TO ENSURE THE ECONOMIC VIABILITY OF DETROIT AND S.E. MICHIGAN, AS WE ARE SO OFTEN TOLD, IF THE PEOPLE 'WANT IT' THEY WILL NEED TO 'FUND IT'.

SO, WHY, AND WHAT GIVES YOU THE RIGHT, TO LIMIT THEIR ABILITY TO DO SO?

SENATOR KOWALL IS THE ONLY SPONSOR OF SB739 WHOSE DISTRICT WILL BE IMPACTED BY A RTA MILLAGE. WHY WILL HE NOT LET THE WILL OF THE PEOPLE PREVAIL? DOES IT HAVE ANYTHING TO DO WITH HIS REFUSAL TO STOP THE TRANSFER OF THE MI STATE FAIRGROUNDS AND TRANSFER IT TO THE RTA, AS THE PERFECT LOCATION FOR A REGIONAL ~~TRANSIT~~ MULTI-MODAL TRANSIT HUB AND REVENUE GENERATOR FOR THE RTA, EVEN THOUGH HE PERSONALLY TOLD ME IT WAS? SEN KOWALL GREW-UP ON THE FAIRGROUNDS. HE KNOWS IT'S TRANSIT POTENTIAL. HE KNOWS THIS IS WRONG. HAVEN'T YOU LEARNED FROM FLINT THAT YOU NEED TO 'DO THE RIGHT THING'!??? DOES SEN KOWALL WANT THE RTA TO FAIL?