

## Attachment A

### To the Mayor and Council of the City of Phoenix Arizona

WHEREAS, Arizona ranks 44<sup>th</sup> among the 50 states in the percentage of students graduating from High School on time, according to the National Center for Educational Statistics report for the 2014-2015 school year, the most recent report available,

WHEREAS, Arizona's High School graduation rate is at 77.4%, compared to 83.2% nationally, according to the National Center for Educational Statistics, report for the 2014-2015 school year, the most recent report available,

WHEREAS, The Arizona Mayor's Education Roundtable 2014 report entitled "*How Arizona's Dropout Crisis Affects Communities*" shows the dropout rate in the City of Phoenix to be 24.1%, with an estimated economic lifetime impact at \$1.422 billion, including a \$193 million in fiscal losses to state and local government.

WHEREAS, transportation availability and expense can be a contributing factor for students and families, who face the choice of dropping out of school,

WHEREAS, students participating in after-school programs and athletics often are forced to find alternative forms of transportation to that transportation provided by schools,

WHEREAS, students participating in open-enrollment, magnet schools, charter schools and educational scholarship programs often are forced to rely on transportation not provided by the school,

WHEREAS, some schools have been forced to significantly curtail or cut completely providing transportation for their students,

WHEREAS, the use of public transportation to travel to and from school is often an economic hardship for struggling families, whose children are often the most at-risk of dropping out of school,

WHEREAS, the City of Phoenix employees already are provided free mass transit passes,

WHEREAS, early adoption of mass transit use is one of the best ways to ensure the use of mass transit later in life,

Pursuant to Chapter IV, Section 22 of the Phoenix City Charter, I Dense Rina  
a citizen and resident of the City of Phoenix, hereby petition the City Council to consider and enact within fifteen (15) days a resolution, ordinance or measure to provide free bus and light rail transportation to pre-school through high school students 19 years of age or younger, traveling to and from school and to the accompanying parents or guardians of said students.

Name Dense Rina  
(Please Print)

Date 5-31-17

CITY CLERK DEPT.  
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