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JOINT ECONOMIC COMMITTEE



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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

April 27, 2021

Dear Chair DeFazio and Ranking Member Graves:

I am requesting funding for the Connect Transit Bus and Bus Facilities Project in surface transportation reauthorization legislation.

The project sponsor for this project is Connect Transit and the project is located at 351 Wylie Drive Normal, Illinois 61761.

The funding is designated for the purchase of 4 battery-electric buses and associated charging infrastructure; safety and security equipment including camera systems, network infrastructure, and software; and, maintenance facility upgrades including the installation of new ground lifts and exit gates.

The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer dollars and is anticipated to have the following benefits: Public transit is key to Illinois State University student mobility and addressing air quality, safety, and economic development in Bloomington-Normal. 2.2 million riders rely on Connect Transit for connections to local businesses, employment, healthcare, and education. Funding for Connect Transit's Buses and Bus Facilities project will go far in improving the system's safety, efficiency, and reliability. Without these critical investments, Connect Transit will not have the necessary resources to futureproof the new Downtown Bloomington Transfer Center and support its new electrified buses.

I certify that neither I nor my immediate family has any financial interest in this project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Darin LaHood". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above a horizontal line.

Darin LaHood
Member of Congress
April 27, 2021

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