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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

June 20, 2019

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao
Secretary
United States Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E.
Washington, D.C. 20590

Dear Madam Secretary:

I am writing to express my support of Connect Transit's application to the Federal Transit Administration's Fiscal Year 2019 Buses and Bus Facilities Infrastructure Investment Program. Connect Transit is the primary public transit system servicing the Bloomington-Normal metropolitan region in Illinois. Connect Transit has continuously provided safe, affordable, reliable, and accessible service to a population of over 130,000 residents.

Connect Transit is requesting \$500,000 in federal investment to leverage \$928,571 in non-federal funding. The award of this funding supports the core objectives of the Buses and Bus Facilities Infrastructure Investment Program by assisting Connect Transit in improving the infrastructure of 120 bus stops. An expanded bus stop structure network will greatly enhance access and mobility for all Bloomington-Normal citizens, students, and visitors.

Through this essential federal investment, Connect Transit's service and amenities will maintain its high standard of operating in the most cost-effective and efficient manner possible, while maintaining safety, accessibility, and reliability of service. I appreciate your consideration and urge support for this application. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact myself or my office.

Sincerely,

Darin LaHood
Member of Congress