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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

April 16, 2020

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

Dear Secretary Chao:

I am writing to express my support of Connect Transit's application to the Federal Transit Administration's Fiscal Year 2020 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 applying for \$8 million towards its Downtown Transfer Center to continue its commitment of providing excellent service to a region with increasing ridership. A new Downtown Transfer Center would reduce inefficiencies that limit the current transfer point, and allow for increased routing efficiencies for maximized on-time performance. The transfer center will also improve access for existing transit users and transit dependent customers by providing a safe and convenient place to access transit, out of the elements, with increased customer service.

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 within all relevant rules and regulations, I urge support for this application. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact myself or my office.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Darin LaHood".

Darin LaHood
Member of Congress

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