

March 31, 2017

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

Dear Secretary Chao:

We are writing you, as the top transit CEOs in the United States of America, to support the full funding of all the Federal Transit programs and particularly the Federal Capital Investment Grants (CIG) program, which have been authorized under the FAST Act.


You understand that Federal public transportation programs provide economic and critical mobility benefits for Americans and American businesses across the country. Nearly 75% of the funds from the CIG program flow through the private sector via manufacturers, suppliers and service firms located in virtually every Congressional District in the US. The American Public Transportation Association (APTA) states that, "for every \$1 billion invested in public transportation, 50,000 jobs are created."


As you know, transit ridership has been growing faster than both population and vehicle miles travelled for many years. According to APTA, since 1995, the growth in public transit ridership has been almost double the growth in the US population and vehicles miles travelled, and nearly 90% of public transit trips impact the economy through work commuter and consumer spending. Continued funding of the Capital Investment Grants will help our cities grow and expand and become more prosperous. There are over 70 highly-qualified projects in the current pipeline and equally more ready to go. Although our local governments and voters have been stepping up to shoulder a bigger portion of these investments, it is critical that the Federal Transit Administration continue their partnerships and investments with us. All of these current projects have gone through a thorough and rigorous analysis. They have been years in the making and many are ready for construction.

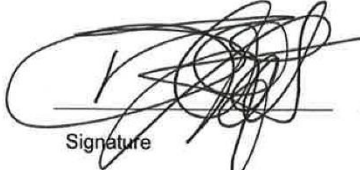
We are seeking your support in the FY18 budget as these projects are nonpartisan, and have almost universal appeal from the public and private sector. We hope you can call on us to assist in your efforts to plan for and support this program.

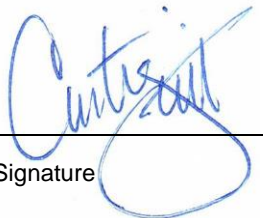
Respectfully,


AMERICAN TRANSIT SYSTEM CEOs


|  |                         |                                     |  |
|--|-------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|
| <br>Signature | <u>Henry Li</u><br>Name | <u>General Manager/CEO</u><br>Title | <u>Regional Transit Sacramento, CA</u><br>Organization |
|--|-------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|


|  |                                       |                     |   |
|--|---------------------------------------|---------------------|---|
| <br>Signature | <u>Nathaniel P. Ford, Sr.</u><br>Name | <u>CEO</u><br>Title | <u>Jacksonville Transit Authority<br/>JTA</u><br>Organization |
|--|---------------------------------------|---------------------|---|

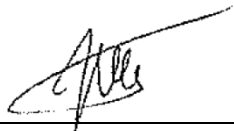
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|--|----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|
| <br>Signature | <u>Thomas C. Lambert</u><br>Name | <u>President &amp; CEO</u><br>Title | <u>Metropolitan Transit Authority<br/>of Harris County</u><br>Organization |
|--|----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|

|  |                                |                                     |   |
|--|--------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---|
| <br>Signature | <u>W. Curtis Stitt</u><br>Name | <u>President &amp; CEO</u><br>Title | <u>Central Ohio Transit Authority</u><br>Organization |
|--|--------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---|

|  |                                |                     |   |
|--|--------------------------------|---------------------|---|
| <br>Signature | <u>John Lewis, Jr.</u><br>Name | <u>CEO</u><br>Title | <u>CATS<br/>Charlotte Area Transit System</u><br>Organization |
|--|--------------------------------|---------------------|---|

|  |                          |                                 |                                    |
|--|--------------------------|---------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| <br>Signature | <u>Jeff Mann</u><br>Name | <u>General Manager</u><br>Title | <u>Go Triangle</u><br>Organization |
|--|--------------------------|---------------------------------|------------------------------------|


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|--|----------------------------|---------------------|---|
| <br>Signature | <u>Peter Varga</u><br>Name | <u>CEO</u><br>Title | <u>Interurban Transit Partnership<br/>The Rapid</u><br>Organization |
|--|----------------------------|---------------------|---|

  
Signature

Jim Hartnett  
Name

Executive Director  
Title


Peninsula Corridor Joint Powers Board (Caltrain)  
Organization

  
Signature

Jerry Benson  
Name

President & CEO  
Title


Utah Transit Authority  
UTA  
Organization

  
Signature

Gary L. Gallegos  
Name

Executive Director  
Title


San Diego Assoc. of Governments  
SANDAG  
Organization

  
Signature

E. Susan Meyer  
Name

CEO  
Title

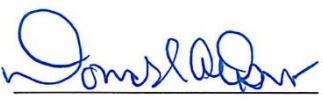
Spokane Transit Authority  
Organization

  
Signature

Neil McFarlane  
Name

General Manager  
Title


Tri-County Metropolitan Transportation District of Oregon (TriMet)  
Organization

  
Signature

Donald Orseno  
Name

Executive Director/CEO  
Title

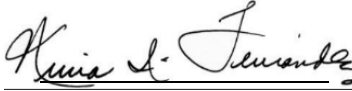
METRA  
Organization

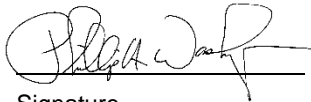
  
Signature


Paul Ballard  
Name


President & CEO  
Title


Fort Worth Transportation Authority  
Organization


|   |                           |                   |  |
|---|---------------------------|-------------------|--|
|  | <u>Nuria I. Fernandez</u> | <u>VTA GM/CEO</u> | <u>Santa Clara Valley<br/>Transportation Authority - VTA</u> |
| Signature   | Name                      | Title             | Organization   |

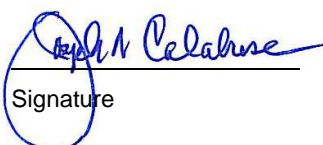
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|  | <u>Phillip A. Washington</u> | <u>CEO</u> | <u>LA Metro</u> |
| Signature   | Name                         | Title      | Organization    |

|   |                    |            |                     |
|---|--------------------|------------|---------------------|
|  | <u>Scott Smith</u> | <u>CEO</u> | <u>Valley Metro</u> |
| Signature   | Name               | Title      | Organization        |

|   |                   |                           |  |
|---|-------------------|---------------------------|--|
|  | <u>Lee Gibson</u> | <u>Executive Director</u> | <u>Regional Transportation Commission<br/>of Washoe County</u> |
| Signature   | Name              | Title                     | Organization   |

|   |                        |            |   |
|---|------------------------|------------|---|
|  | <u>Darrell Johnson</u> | <u>CEO</u> | <u>Orange County<br/>Transportation Authority</u> |
| Signature   | Name                   | Title      | Organization                                      |

|   |                        |                              |  |
|---|------------------------|------------------------------|--|
|  | <u>Daniel A. Boehm</u> | <u>Managing Director/CEO</u> | <u>Milwaukee County Transit System</u> |
| Signature   | Name                   | Title                        | Organization                           |

|   |                            |                             |   |
|---|----------------------------|-----------------------------|---|
|  | <u>Joseph A. Calabrese</u> | <u>CEO, General Manager</u> | <u>Greater Cleveland Regional<br/>Transit Authority</u> |
| Signature   | Name                       | Title                       | Organization  |



Signature

Brian J. Lamb

Name

General Manager

Title

Metro Transit

Organization



Signature

Emmett Heath

Name

CEO

Title

(Snohomish County, WA)

Community Transit

Organization



Signature

Edward D. Reiskin

Name

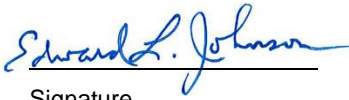
Director of Transportation

Title

San Francisco

Municipal Transportation Agency

Organization



Signature

Edward L. Johnson

Name

CEO

Title

LYNX - Central Florida Regional  
Transportation Authority

Organization



Signature

Gary C. Thomas

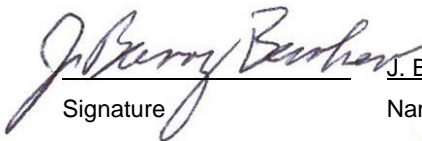
Name

President

Title

DART - Dallas Area  
Rapid Transport

Organization



Signature

J. Barry Barker

Name

Executive Director

Title

Transit Authority of River City

Organization



Signature

Linda Watson

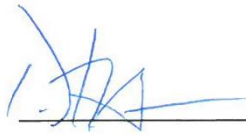
Name

President/CEO

Title

Capital Metropolitan  
Transportation Authority

Organization



Signature

David A. Genova

Name

GM & CEO

Title

RTD - Denver

Organization



Signature

Krishniah N. Murthy

Name

Interim Executive  
Director and CEO

Title

Honolulu Authority for Rapid  
Transportation (HART)

Organization



Signature

Carm Basile

Name

CEO

Title

Capital District Transportation  
Authority - CDTA

Organization