



COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA

HOUSE OF DELEGATES  
RICHMOND

C. E. CLIFF HAYES, JR.

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SEVENTY-SEVENTH DISTRICT

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS:  
APPROPRIATIONS  
HEALTH, WELFARE AND INSTITUTIONS

May 26, 2022

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg  
U.S. Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E.  
Washington, D.C. 20590

Secretary Buttigieg,

The purpose of this correspondence is to express my support for Hampton Roads Transit's (HRT) combined application for the Federal Transit Administration's Low or No Emission Grant Program and Grants for Buses and Bus Facilities Competitive Program application for the construction of the new, state-of-the-art, Southside Bus Operating Division Facility.

This grant will support a critical component of HRT's expanding service and will meet both HRT's and USDOT's goals of moving towards a green-energy future. The new Southside Bus Operating Division Facility will replace aging, inefficient infrastructure, reduce operating costs and provide opportunities for good paying jobs in the region. The new facility will be built to support up to 100 battery electric buses and will have the ability to use renewable energy sources such as electricity generated from solar panels and the Coastal Virginia Offshore Wind Project.

HRT is vital to the economy of Hampton Roads. They provide transit service to six of Virginia's ten most populous cities. In addition to 72 bus routes, the agency provides ferry, paratransit, seasonal trolleys and transportation demand management services. HRT is also home to Virginia's only light rail system. Prior to the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020, HRT carried nearly 1,000,000 trips per month across the region on all of its services.

I strongly support Hampton Roads Transit's initiative to continue providing transportation solutions that are reliable, safe, efficient and sustainable. This Southside Bus Operating Division Facility will positively impact our region, and it is my hope that you will favorably consider HRT's combined application for the Federal Transit Administration's Low or No Emission Grant Program and Grants for Buses and Bus Facilities Competitive Program.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Cliff Hayes".

C. E. Cliff Hayes, Jr.