

W. Sheppard Miller III Secretary of Transportation

May 26, 2022

Amy Voltz Federal Transit Administration Office of Program Management 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE Washington, DC 20590

Dear Ms. Voltz:

On behalf of the Commonwealth of Virginia, I am writing to express support for the Hampton Roads Transit (HRT) combined application for the FTA Low or No Emission Grant Program and Buses and Bus Facilities Program for the Southside Bus Operating Division Facility project.

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 more energy efficient future. This operating facility will replace aging, inefficient infrastructure, reduce operating costs, and provide opportunities for good paying jobs in the region. The new facility will also be built to support up to 100 battery electric buses and will have the ability to use renewable energy sources.

The project will provide substantial operational benefits to one of the largest transit operators in the Commonwealth of Virginia, and provide infrastructure for an eventual transition to zero-emissions vehicles. Construction of this facility will allow HRT to continue to meet its goal of providing reliable, safe, efficient, and sustainable transportation solutions to connect Hampton Roads.

On behalf of the Commonwealth of Virginia, I respectfully ask that you give this proposal every consideration.

Sincerely,

W. Sheppard Miller III

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