

# Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

May 3, 2024

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg  
Secretary  
U.S. Department of Transportation  
Office of Program Management  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, D.C. 20590

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

We are writing to express our support of Howard County's pending funding request to the Buses and Bus Facilities Program for two heavy duty transit buses.

Howard County and other regional partners, including Prince George's County, the City of Laurel, and Anne Arundel County, fund and operate the Regional Transportation Agency (RTA) of Central Maryland. The partners, in coordination with the Maryland Transit Administration, have invested in the RTA fleet to ensure they are able to deliver reliable and dependable public transit service in the central Maryland region. Howard County has committed to matching this \$960,000 request with \$240,000 in county funds to support the \$1,200,000 purchase cost.

This request will support the partners' goals to expand and improve service and bridge gaps in the transit network into Baltimore County. The addition of these two new buses to the RTA's fleet will allow the extension of an existing route from Elkrige, Maryland in Howard County five miles north to Lansdowne Station, in Baltimore County. This extension will provide additional local transit as well as completing an important connection to regional service extending into Baltimore City.

We respectfully request that you give careful consideration to this application.

Sincerely,



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Benjamin L. Cardin  
United States Senator



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Chris Van Hollen  
United States Senator



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John P. Sarbanes  
Member of Congress