

Office of the Mayor

March 26, 2020

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

Dear Secretary,

On behalf of the Town of Normal, Illinois and its 55,000 residents, I write in support of Connect Transit's application for the Downtown Transfer Center from the Federal Transit Administration's Buses and Bus Facilities grant program. Through the construction of a Downtown Transfer Center in our sister city, Bloomington, Connect Transit will enhance the safety and efficiency of its system, providing a more reliable and connected transportation system to all residents, local businesses, visitors, and the region at-large.

Connect Transit provides a critical connection in the community, providing mobility for residents and visitors who heavily rely on our public transit system to access essential services, education, and employment. The Town of Normal is confident that support through the Buses and Bus Facilities grant program will allow Connect Transit to not only maintain its high standard of operating in the most cost-effective and efficient manner possible, but also enhance safety, accessibility, and reliability of public transit service.

The Town of Normal is proud to work with the City of Bloomington in collaboration with Connect Transit, the Department of Transportation, and Federal Transit Administration in maintaining and funding safe and efficient transit services. Thank you for considering Connect Transit's application and ensuring the region has access to safe, reliable, and efficient transportation and bus infrastructure.

Sincerely,

Chris Koos Mayor