

March 25, 2020

The Honorable Jane Williams
Acting Administrator
Federal Transit Administration
US Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Administrator Williams:

On behalf of the Bloomington Normal Economic Development Council (BNEDC), I support Connect Transit's application for the U.S. Department of Transportation's Fiscal Year 2020 Buses and Bus Facilities Grant Program. The BNEDC has a strong record of helping businesses in McLean County grow and attract new businesses to our community. We are a leadership organization, investing our community's assets to grow and improve our prosperity and quality of life.

Connect Transit is a critical connection in the community, providing mobility for its residents and visitors who heavily rely on it the most in accessing essential services, education, and employment. Constructing a new Downtown Transfer Center in Bloomington represents a strategic investment to help ensure efficient, safe, and reliable bus and bus infrastructure while maximizing returns on public investments.

We support Connect Transit's goal of improving its bus facilities and infrastructure. A new Downtown Transfer Center would allow Connect Transit to reduce inefficiencies that limit the current Front Street transfer point; maximizing on-time performance and improvement system performance across the entire system.

Thank you for considering Connect Transit's application and ensuring the region has access to safe and reliable transportation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Patrick Hoban', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Patrick Hoban
CEO
Bloomington Normal Economic Development Council