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Congress of the United States House of Representatives

Washington, DC 20515-1313

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HIGHWAYS AND TRANSIT

SUBCOMMITTEE ON WATER RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENT

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

Dear Secretary Chao,

I am proud to support Connect Transit's application for the Federal Transit Administration's (FTA) 2020 Buses and Bus Facilities Program.

Connect Transit is the primary public transit system servicing the Bloomington-Normal community in Illinois, and has continuously provided safe, affordable, reliable, and accessible service to a population of over 130,000 residents. In addition, Connect Transit has established strong local public/private partnerships that work to create a community that fosters economic growth and increased quality of life.

To continue its commitment of providing excellent service to a region with increasing ridership, Connect Transit is applying for \$8 million towards its Downtown Transfer Center. A new Downtown Transfer Center would reduce inefficiencies that limit the current transfer point and allow for increased routing efficiencies for maximized on-time performance. The transfer center will also improve access for existing transit users and transit dependent customers by providing a safe and convenient place to access transit, out of the elements, with increased customer service.

Through this essential federal investment, Connect Transit's service and amenities will maintain its high standard of operating in the most cost-effective and efficient manner possible, while maintaining safety, accessibility, and reliability of service. For these reasons, this Connect Transit application has my full support. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Rodney Davis

Member of Congress