

April 28, 2020

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

Dear Acting Administrator Williams:

The City of Bloomington, Illinois writes in support of Connect Transit's application for the Downtown Transfer Center for the Federal Transit Administration's Fiscal Year 2020 Buses and Bus Facilities grant program. Connect Transit provides a critical connection throughout the Bloomington community, providing mobility for residents and visitors who heavily rely on it the most in accessing essential services, education, and employment.

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

Connect Transit is requesting \$8 million in federal investment for a Downtown Bloomington Transfer Center that 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. Customers would also be able to access increased real-time bus tracking data, providing information on bus arrivals and departures.

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

Sincerely,

Tari Renner Mayor

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