

## United States Senate

July 7, 2022

The Honorable Nuria Fernandez  
Administrator  
Federal Transit Administration  
1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E.  
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Administrator Fernandez:

I write in support of NJ TRANSIT's application to the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Buses and Bus Facilities Competitive Program for the *Union City Garage Reconstruction–Electric Ready Project*. This project will reconstruct the 75-year-old garage to make the facility suitable for bus storage, and it will add a bus terminal to improve connectivity for Union City's nearly 70,000 residents.

Repurposing the currently underutilized space as a garage and terminal capable of supporting battery-electric buses is a critical part of NJ TRANSIT's Garage Modernization Program. The deferred maintenance of the parking structure in question has left the existing facility unusable for bus maintenance and storage purposes. The proposed new garage and terminal will include battery-electric bus (BEB) infrastructure and equipment, including pantographs for electric charging stations and the electrical infrastructure required for bus charging. The new facility will also include space to house and charge up to 40 articulated or sixty 45-foot BEBs. This project will allow NJ TRANSIT to alleviate fossil fuel reliance and carbon emission output while increasing its use of solar technology and BEBs. It is consistent with NJ Transit's goal of achieving a zero-emissions fleet by 2040.

The addition of a bus terminal to the reconstructed Union City Garage will put underutilized land to better use and increase connectivity for a densely-populated community that relies heavily on public transportation. The new facility would provide a safer location for boarding and deboarding buses, as area residents currently board buses along a heavily-trafficked city intersection.

I ask that that you give all due consideration to this meritorious grant proposal. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me or my staff at (973) 639-8700.

Sincerely,



Cory A. Booker  
United States Senator