## United States Senate

April 24, 2024

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The Honorable Veronica Vanterpool Acting Administrator Federal Transit Administration 1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E. Washington, D.C. 20590

## Dear Acting Administrator Vanterpool:

I write to you today in support of NJ TRANSIT's (NJT) application to the Federal Transit Administration's (FTA) Low- or No-Emission Grant Program for the purchase of 67 New Flyer XE40 Battery Electric Buses (BEBs). I also write in support of NJT's application to FTA's Buses and Bus Facilities Competitive Program for the *Meadowlands Outdoor Charging Facility*. These projects will support the purchase of BEBs and the design and construction of charging infrastructure adjacent to the Meadowlands Bus Garage located in Secaucus, New Jersey.

Funding 67 BEBs through the Low- or No-Emission Grant Program will add to NJT's 220-bus fleet at the Meadowlands Bus Garage, one of the agency's largest bus garages. The buses housed at this facility operate 32 routes in some of the most populated municipalities in northern New Jersey. A completed project will benefit bus drivers, passengers, and the public by reducing noise pollution, carbon emissions, and energy consumption.

The Meadowlands Outdoor Charging Facility will utilize a canopy style with pantographs that supply electricity to buses. The first phase of this project will consist of installing charging equipment for the 67 buses, with future phases seeking to build out capacity to 175. The charging canopy infrastructure will allow the new outdoor facility to operate BEBs while the Meadowlands Bus Garage serves as a maintenance facility for the bus fleet.

These projects are critical parts of NJT's Garage Modernization Program and are consistent with its goal of achieving a zero-emissions fleet by 2040. FTA funding will support the expansion of NJT's BEB fleet and the necessary charging infrastructure, a transition that will alleviate noise pollution, fossil fuel emissions, and fuel reliance.

I ask that that you give all due consideration to these meritorious grant proposals. 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