

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

April 4, 2017

The Honorable Mario Diaz-Balart
Chairman
Subcommittee on Transportation,
Housing and Urban Development
House Committee on Appropriations
2358 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable David Price
Ranking Minority Member
Subcommittee on Transportation,
Housing and Urban Development
House Committee on Appropriations
1016 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Diaz-Balart and Ranking Member Price:

As you prepare the Transportation-HUD appropriations bill for Fiscal Year 2018 (FY18), we write to respectfully request funding for the Federal Transit Administration's (FTA) Capital Investment Grant Program (CIG), commonly known as New Starts, Small Starts, and Core Capacity, at a level of \$2.3 billion, the level authorized in the Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act. We also request that you continue to support the 55 projects in the current CIG pipeline.

The CIG program is critical to communities with transit investments that either already constructed or planned—generating regional economic benefits, attracting businesses to the project corridor, connecting workers to their employers, and relieving freight congestion chokepoints. The benefits of a project extend well beyond the project corridor: nearly 73 percent of the funds from the CIG program flow directly to the private sector via manufacturers, suppliers, and service firms located in nearly every congressional district in the United States.

Before a project is recommended to Congress by the FTA for CIG funding, it is subject to an extensive and rigorous review. We urge you to respect that process and give direction to the FTA to continue to rate, evaluate, and recommend projects for funding that are already in the pipeline.

It is critical to fund the CIG program at no less than the FAST Act funding levels. Local taxpayers have stepped up to bear an increasing share and burden of the cost of capital construction, with nearly 55% of the capital monies and all of the operating monies coming from non-federal funding sources. Further, there are many communities across the country that either recently approved, plan on seeking voter approval in the near future, or will soon have dedicated revenues

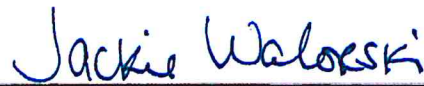
available to fund expansion of transit systems. The voters in each of these regions rely on the assumption that the federal government will be a strong partner by providing matching capital funds.

We therefore urge you to fund the CIG program at \$2.3 billion in FY18 and continue to support projects in the CIG pipeline.

Sincerely,



Earl Blumenauer
Member of Congress



Jackie Walorski
Member of Congress



Mark DeSaulnier
Member of Congress



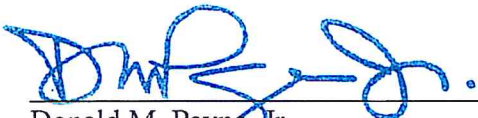
Glenn 'GT' Thompson
Member of Congress



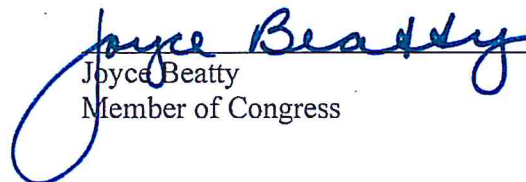
Alan Lowenthal
Member of Congress



Tom O'Halleran
Member of Congress



Donald M. Payne, Jr.
Member of Congress




Joyce Beatty
Member of Congress



Scott R. Tipton
Member of Congress



Alma Adams
Member of Congress



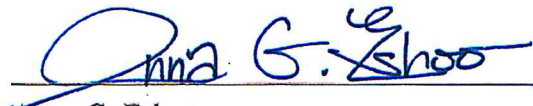
David Scott
Member of Congress



Thomas R. Suozzi
Member of Congress



Mike Thompson
Member of Congress



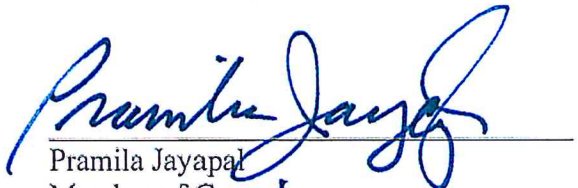
Anna G. Eshoo
Member of Congress



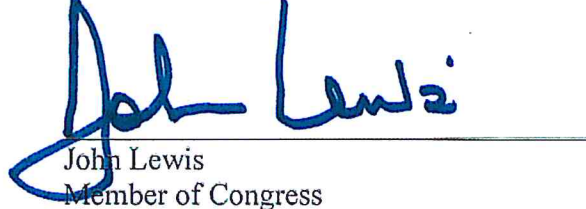
Ruben J. Kihuen
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Suzanne Bonamici
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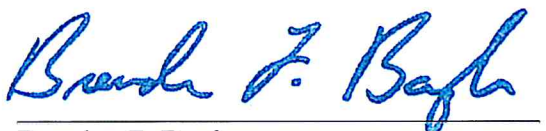
Joe Crowley
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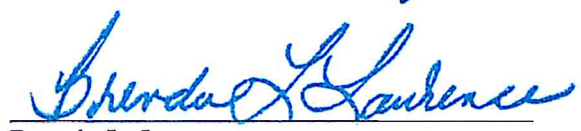
J. Luis Correa
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Donald S. Beyer Jr.
Member of Congress



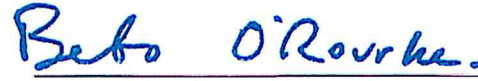
Brendan F. Boyle
Member of Congress



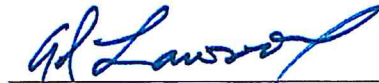
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Beto O'Rourke
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Al Lawson, Jr.
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Anthony Brown
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Kathleen M. Rice
Member of Congress



Marc Veasey
Member of Congress



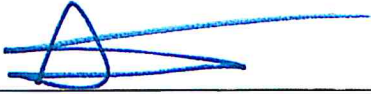
Daniel M. Donovan, Jr.
Member of Congress



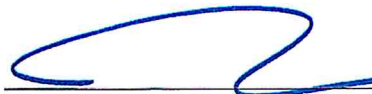
Hakeem Jeffries
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Grace Napolitano
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John K. Delaney
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Kyrsten Sinema
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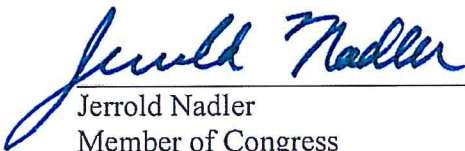
Kathy Castor
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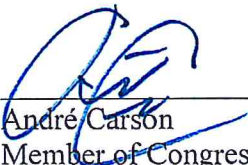
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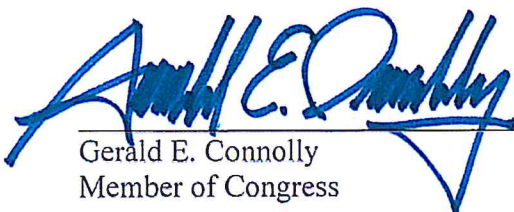
Eleanor Holmes Norton
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Elijah E. Cummings
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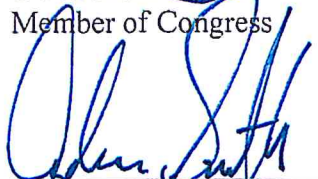


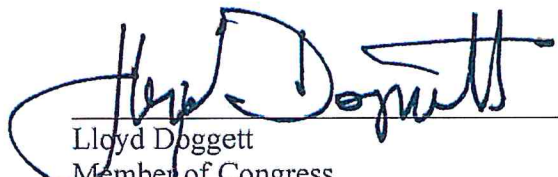
Gerald E. Connolly
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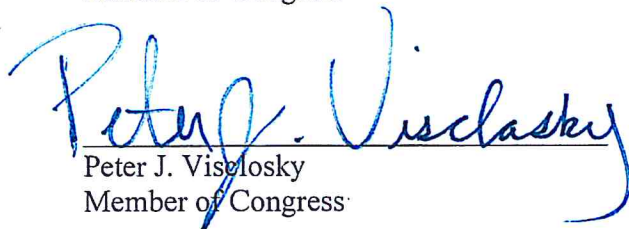
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Doris Matsui
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Albio Sires
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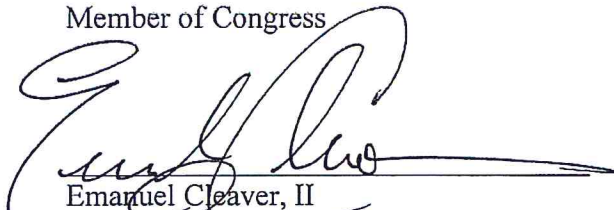

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Wm. Lacy Clay
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John Garamendi
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Suzan DelBene
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Eric Swalwell
Member of Congress

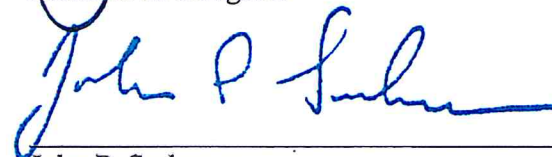

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