



COMMITTEE ON
ENERGY AND COMMERCE

COMMITTEE ON
SCIENCE, SPACE, AND TECHNOLOGY

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-0509

April 27, 2021

The Honorable Peter DeFazio
Chair
Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure
U.S. House of Representatives
2165 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Sam Graves
Ranking Member
Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure
U.S. House of Representatives
2165 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chair DeFazio and Ranking Member Graves:

I am requesting funding in the amount of \$7,177,995 for the **Fuel Cell Electric Bus and Hydrogen Station Deployment Project** in surface transportation reauthorization legislation.

The project sponsor for this project is **San Joaquin Regional Transit District (RTD)** and the project is located in Stockton, CA 95202.

The funding is designated to help fulfill RTD's goal to transition to a zero-emission bus (ZEB) fleet in the Stockton Metropolitan area by 2025. As RTD transitions to larger scale ZEB deployments, research has shown that the range of battery electric buses between vehicle charges are not sustainable to maximize current or future service needs. In search of a viable solution, RTD is pursuing Hydrogen Fuel Cell Electric Buses (HFCEBs) with a 300-mile range and centralized fueling to address this challenge.

RTD's project will replace five (5) existing diesel-hybrid buses with 40-foot HFCEBs. The routes the HFCEBs will travel include disadvantaged communities which are disproportionately affected by multiple sources of pollution from automobiles, agricultural and industrial areas. Introducing these cleaner vehicles will help address health disparities and improve air quality.

The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer dollars and is anticipated to have the following benefits:

- Environmental: Reduces energy consumption and harmful emissions. For CO₂, the estimated emission reductions for fuel cell bus deployment are 53.1 MT annually and 637.4 MT over 12 years.
- Economic: Delivers high capacity and improved efficiencies at a fraction of the cost of rail systems within the same transit corridor and provides service that is more affordable to economically distressed communities, thereby ensuring transit equity. In support of the maintenance of these new HFCEB's, RTD will fund a maintenance training and apprenticeship program to ensure the readiness of its mechanics to service this new technology.

- Supports goals of Surface Transportation Reauthorization:
 - 1) Supports Buy America provisions to boost domestic jobs in bus manufacturing
 - 2) Increases investment in zero-emission buses to reduce carbon pollution
 - 3) Provides the investments needed to address the growing backlog of transit maintenance needs making public transit safer and more reliable.

I certify that neither I nor my immediate family has any financial interest in this project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jerry McNerney", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Jerry McNerney
Member of Congress