

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

December 11, 2017

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Majority Leader
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Charles Schumer
Minority Leader
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Paul D. Ryan
Speaker
United States House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Minority Leader
United States House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Thad Cochran
Chairman
Committee on Appropriations
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Patrick Leahy
Vice Chairman
Committee on Appropriations
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Rodney Frelinghuysen
Chairman
Committee on Appropriations
United States House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Nita Lowey
Ranking Member
Committee on Appropriations
United States House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Leader McConnell, Leader Schumer, Speaker Ryan, Leader Pelosi, Chairman Cochran, Vice Chairman Leahy, Chairman Frelinghuysen, and Ranking Member Lowey:

As you prepare the Fiscal Year 2018 (FY18) omnibus Appropriations bill, we write to 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 the FAST Act authorized level of \$2.3 billion. We also request that you continue to advance the 54 projects in the current CIG pipeline and allow the Secretary of Transportation to advance eligible projects into the project development and engineering phases.

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 for a Full Funding Grant Agreement, it is subject to a multi-year, multi-step extensive and rigorous review. Local taxpayers have stepped up to bear an increasing share and burden of the cost of capital construction, with more than half of the capital monies and all of the operating monies coming from non-federal funding sources. These taxpayers rely on the assumption that the federal government will be a strong partner by providing matching capital funds. 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.

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



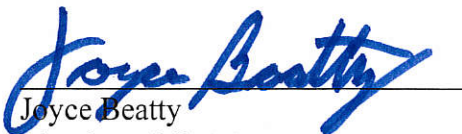
Tom O'Halleran
Member of Congress



Eric Swalwell
Member of Congress



John Yarmuth
Member of Congress



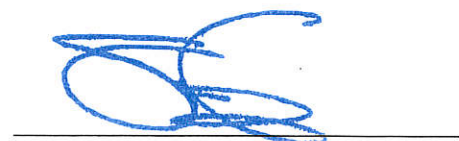
Joyce Beatty
Member of Congress



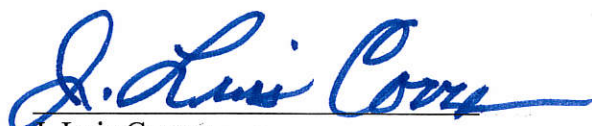
Salud O. Carbajal
Member of Congress




Ro Khanna
Member of Congress




Sean Patrick Maloney
Member of Congress



J. Luis Correa
Member of Congress




Chris Collins
Member of Congress



Brendan F. Boyle
Member of Congress



Bill Foster
Member of Congress




Beto O'Rourke
Member of Congress



Jared Huffman
Member of Congress



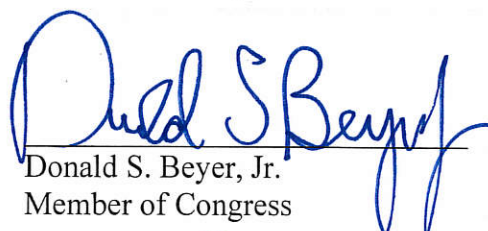
Cheri Bustos
Member of Congress



Susan W. Brooks
Member of Congress



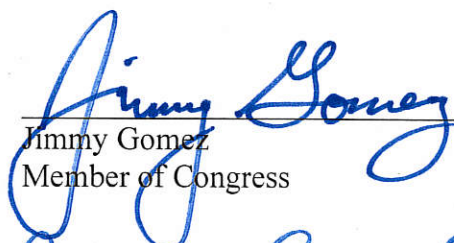
Dwight Evans
Member of Congress




Donald S. Beyer, Jr.
Member of Congress




Ruben Gallego
Member of Congress



Jimmy Gomez
Member of Congress



Al Lawson, Jr.
Member of Congress



Michael E. Capuano
Member of Congress

Michelle Lujan Grisham

Michelle Lujan Grisham
Member of Congress

Alma Adams

Alma S. Adams
Member of Congress

Thomas R. Suozzi

Thomas R. Suozzi
Member of Congress

Ted W. Lieu

Ted W. Lieu
Member of Congress

Mike Doyle

Mike Doyle
Member of Congress

Pramila Jayapal

Pramila Jayapal
Member of Congress

Colleen Hanabusa

Colleen Hanabusa
Member of Congress

Jamie Raskin

Jamie Raskin
Member of Congress

Elizabeth H. Esty

Elizabeth H. Esty
Member of Congress

David Scott

David Scott
Member of Congress

Jimmy Panetta

Jimmy Panetta
Member of Congress

Val B. Demings

Val B. Demings
Member of Congress

Anna G. Eshoo

Anna G. Eshoo
Member of Congress

John Lewis

John Lewis
Member of Congress

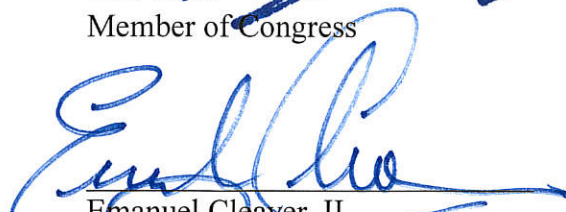
Denny Heck


Denny Heck
Member of Congress

Suzanne Bonamici


Suzanne Bonamici
Member of Congress


Tim Walle
Member of Congress

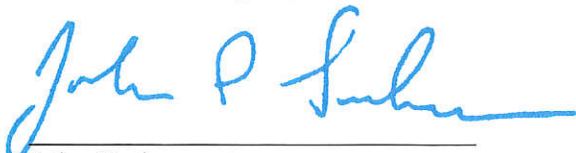

Emanuel Cleaver, II
Member of Congress


Dan Lipinski
Member of Congress


Alcee Hastings
Member of Congress


Jan Schakowsky
Member of Congress


Wm. Lacy Clay
Member of Congress



John Sarbanes
Member of Congress



Dina Titus
Member of Congress


Pete Visclosky
Member of Congress



Albio Sires
Member of Congress


William R. Keating
Member of Congress


Richard M. Nolan
Member of Congress


Steve Cohen
Member of Congress


John Garamendi
Member of Congress


Brian Higgins
Member of Congress


Jackie Speier
Member of Congress



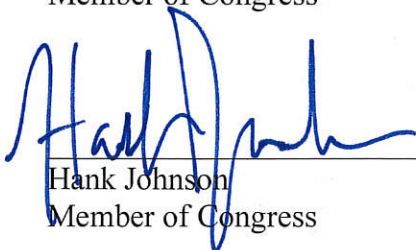
André Carson
Member of Congress



Chellie Pingree
Member of Congress



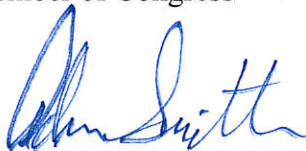
Brad Sherman
Member of Congress



Hank Johnson
Member of Congress



Gwen Moore
Member of Congress



Adam Smith
Member of Congress



Nydia Velazquez
Member of Congress



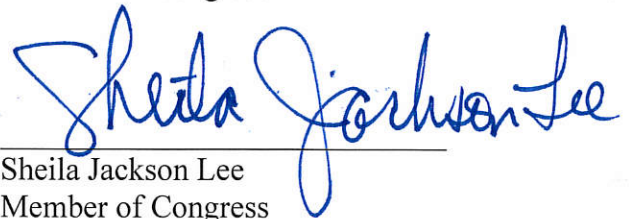
Carolyn B. Maloney
Member of Congress



Eleanor Holmes Norton
Member of Congress



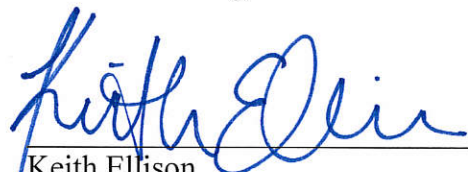
Elijah E. Cummings
Member of Congress



Sheila Jackson Lee
Member of Congress



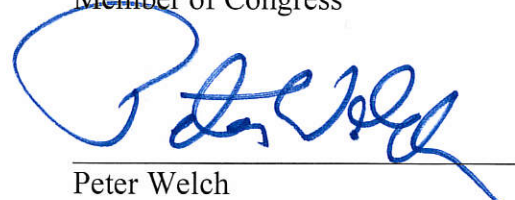
David N. Cicilline
Member of Congress



Keith Ellison
Member of Congress



Barbara Lee
Member of Congress



Peter Welch
Member of Congress



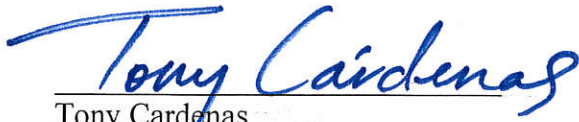
Doris O. Matsui
Member of Congress



Anthony Brown
Member of Congress



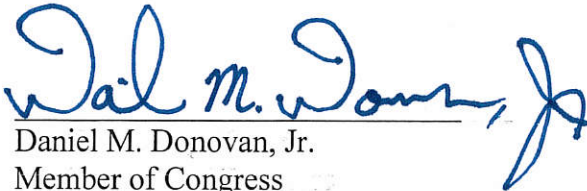
Kathleen M. Rice
Member of Congress



Tony Cardenas
Member of Congress



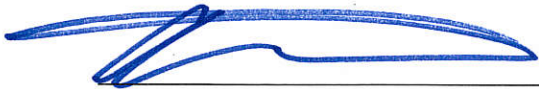
Raúl M. Grijalva
Member of Congress



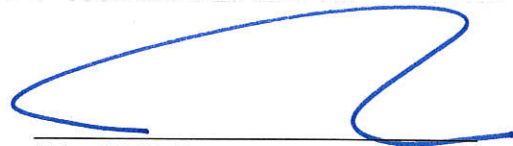
Daniel M. Donovan, Jr.
Member of Congress



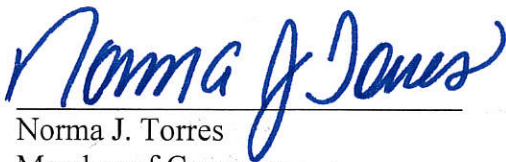
Grace Napolitano
Member of Congress



Adriano Espaillat
Member of Congress



John K. Delaney
Member of Congress



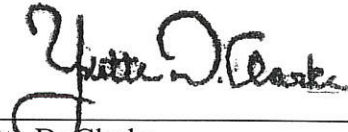
Norma J. Torres
Member of Congress



Kyrsten Sinema
Member of Congress



Robert A. Brady
Member of Congress



Yvette D. Clarke
Member of Congress



G.K. Butterfield
Member of Congress



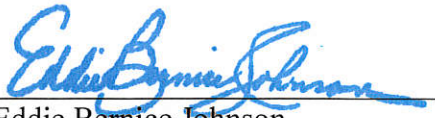
Lucille Roybal-Allard
Member of Congress



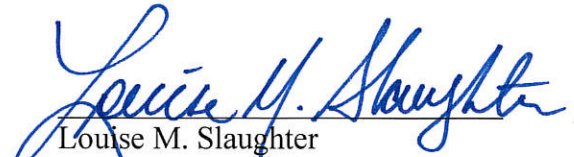
Jerrold Nadler
Member of Congress



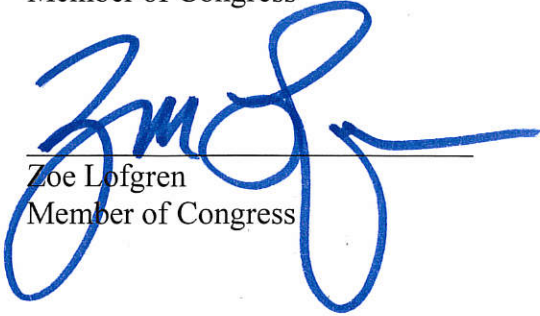
Rick Larsen
Member of Congress



Eddie Bernice Johnson
Member of Congress



Louise M. Slaughter
Member of Congress



Zoe Lofgren
Member of Congress



Rosa L. DeLauro
Member of Congress