



Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-0906

April 22nd, 2024

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg
Secretary of Transportation
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, D.C. 20590

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

We write in support of an application submitted by Pierce Transit to the Federal Transit Administration's (FTA) Low or No Emission Grant Program and the Grants for Buses and Bus Facilities Program. Pierce Transit is seeking FTA funding to support the purchase of battery-electric buses (BEBs) with inductive charging receivers as well as the deployment of charging infrastructure necessary to advance fleet transition goals. Funding would help facilitate a pivotal progression in modernizing the fleet toward zero-emission operations, enhancing riders' experience, and improving environmental and public health outcomes in the Puget Sound region.

The proposed deployment of BEBs with inductive charging technology is critical to the transition to a comprehensive fleet of zero-emission vehicles. Additionally, this project would include the installation of plug-in depot chargers to ensure capacity for future expansion. A covered gantry system with overhead charging dispensers would extend the lifespan of new BEBs and charging equipment by providing protection from weather-related wear and tear. Transformer and switchgear upgrades will improve the capacity of the grid to keep up with increased demand for electricity. Finally, funding would support workforce development efforts in alignment with Pierce Transit's Zero-Emission Fleet Transition Plan.

The proposed project enjoys broad support from local government partners and community-based organizations, each of whom recognize the importance of reducing emissions in the region. Additionally, Pierce Transit has a demonstrated history of its commitment to accelerating the deployment of more efficient buses, and this proposal addresses a multitude of immediate needs to further advance the electrification of Pierce Transit's fleet. It is for these reasons that we support Pierce Transit's application to the FTA for funding through the Low or No Emission Grant Program and Grants for Buses and Bus Facilities Program, and we urge your fair and full consideration of their proposal.



Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-0906

Sincerely,

Patty Murray
United States Senator

Maria Cantwell
United States Senator

Derek Kilmer
Member of Congress

Adam Smith
Member of Congress

Marilyn Strickland
Member of Congress

Kim Schrier, M.D.
Member of Congress