



February 3, 2021

The Honorable Charles E. Schumer
 Majority Leader
 U.S. Senate
 S-221, The Capitol
 Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
 Republican Leader
 U.S. Senate
 S-230, The Capitol
 Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
 Speaker of the House
 U.S. House of Representatives
 HR-232, The Capitol
 Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy
 Republican Leader
 U.S. House of Representatives
 H-204, The Capitol
 Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Leader Schumer, Leader McConnell, Speaker Pelosi and Leader McCarthy:

As the COVID-19 pandemic continues to batter the nation, we greatly appreciate your leadership and hard work in passing the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act (CRRSA Act) in December. This emergency funding, along with that provided in the Coronavirus, Aid, Relief and Economic Security Act (CARES Act), has kept our agencies afloat, protecting critical service for essential workers while ensuring our agencies are positioned to support the nation’s economic recovery amid the vaccine rollout.

However, given the unprecedented ridership declines, revenue losses and additional costs caused by the pandemic, a new independent economic analysis shows that \$39.3 billion in additional investment is needed to maintain operations today and to get through the years ahead. As such, we request \$39.3 billion in emergency aid for public transit agencies nationwide in the next coronavirus relief bill. Without additional federal resources, our agencies could be forced to implement drastic cuts to service, make unthinkable layoffs and/or delay or cancel critical capital projects.

Such draconian actions would decimate transit service and impact all those who rely on it. Our industry directly employs more than 400,000 workers and supports millions of private-sector jobs across the country. Pre-pandemic, our agencies moved millions of Americans every day, and now our services are an indispensable lifeline for health professionals, first responders,

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food service and other essential workers on the front lines of this public health crisis. Without us, they'll be left stranded.

A strong public transportation network is the shot in the arm this country needs to fully rebound now that the vaccine is here. Federal investment will do more than just keep the trains and buses running; it will help fortify our systems for decades to come. By devoting resources to transit, we can create jobs and strengthen the infrastructure that moves not only people, but our economy.

We look forward to working with you on this vitally important matter.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey A. Parker
General Manager & Chief Executive Officer
Metropolitan Atlanta Rapid Transit
Authority (MARTA)
Atlanta, GA

Randy Clarke
President & Chief Executive Officer
Capital Metro
Austin, TX

Kevin B. Quinn Jr.
Administrator
Maryland Department of Transportation
Maryland Transit Administration
Baltimore, MD

Steve Poftak
General Manager, Chief Executive Officer
Massachusetts Bay Transportation
Authority
Boston, MA

John Lewis
Chief Executive Officer
Charlotte Area Transit System (CATS)
Charlotte, NC

Dorval R. Carter
President
Chicago Transit Authority
Chicago, IL

Darryl Haley
Chief Executive Officer & General Manager
Southwest Ohio Regional Transit Authority
Cincinnati, OH

India Birdsong
General Manager & Chief Executive Officer
Greater Cleveland Regional Transit
Authority
Cleveland, OH

Debra A. Johnson
General Manager & Chief Executive Officer
Regional Transportation District
Denver, CO

Nathaniel P. Ford
Chief Executive Officer
Jacksonville Transportation Authority
Jacksonville, FL

Phillip A. Washington
Chief Executive Officer
Los Angeles County Metropolitan
Transportation Authority (Metro)
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Transportation and Public Works
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New Orleans, LA

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Metropolitan Transportation Authority
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