

United States Senate
WASHINGTON, DC 20510

June 9, 2022

Ms. Nuria Fernandez
Office of the Administrator
Federal Transit Administration
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Administrator Fernandez,

I am pleased to write this letter encouraging the full and fair consideration of the application from Chatham Area Transit (CAT) for Federal Transit Administration (FTA) FY 2022 Low or No Emission Grant Program discretionary funding.

If awarded, CAT will use these funds to purchase four new zero-emission electric buses to replace four diesel buses that are miles beyond their expected useful life, significantly improving CAT's reliability of service and reducing noise and air pollution in communities most in need of reliable and safe service. Funds will also be used for complementary electric charging equipment.

Covering 438 square miles with a population of 295,000, CAT offers fixed-route service, county-wide paratransit service, and a ferry service. This project will allow CAT to continue to provide access to education and healthcare, as well as link new employment opportunities with low-income communities

CAT has committed to emphasizing reduction of the system's environmental impact on the local community, specifically reducing negative impacts on disadvantaged communities in Chatham County. Adding these four zero-emission buses to regular service is a critical step in this system-wide overhaul of Chatham Area Transit. Further, expanding the use of zero emission buses across Savannah, where more than 20 percent of the population lives in poverty, will help to reduce the adverse health effects caused by diesel buses and promote equity in access to transportation services.

I encourage your full and fair consideration of this application, consistent with all agency rules and regulations. If you have any questions, please contact Titus Cornell at (202) 224-3643 or titus_cornell@warnock.senate.gov.

Sincerely,



Reverend Raphael Warnock
United States Senator