United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-4705

August 14, 2019

COMMITTEES:

COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION

ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

FINANCE

INDIAN AFFAIRS

SMALL BUSINESS

K. Jane Williams Acting Administrator Federal Transit Administration 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE Washington, DC 20590

Dear Administrator Williams,

I am writing to express my support for Community Transit's application to the Federal Transit Administration's Capital Investment Small Starts grant program for the *Swift* Bus Rapid Transit Orange Line. The *Swift* Orange Line, scheduled to open by 2024, will be Community Transit's third Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) line and will be the first BRT to light rail connection in Snohomish County.

According to Community Transit, the *Swift* Orange Line will provide a direct connection between the two existing *Swift* lines and the Lynnwood Link light rail station scheduled to open in 2024. The Orange Line will serve as a key route connecting Edmonds Community College, Lynnwood City Center, Alderwood Mall, and Mill Creek Town Center.

With a bus leaving every 10 minutes during peak hours, Community Transit projects the Orange Line will be 25% faster than local buses and will transport 5,300 riders every day. It will connect to Community Transit's existing *Swift* Blue Line at SR 99/196th ST SW and *Swift* Green Line in Mill Creek. According to Community Transit, in June 2019 alone, *Swift* carried over 200,000 riders, making the Blue Line and Green Line the two highest ridership routes in their system. The addition of the Orange Line will expand travel options for transit users and reduce commute times in Snohomish County.

The *Swift* Bus Rapid Transit Orange Line will be an integral part of Snohomish County's high capacity transit network, simplifying commutes for thousands of Snohomish County residents. Thank you for your full and fair consideration of their application.

Sincerely,

Maria Cantwell

United States Senator

Fax: (206) 220-6404

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