United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-4705

COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION **FINANCE INDIAN AFFAIRS**

SMALL BUSINESS

COMMITTEES:

ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

July 10, 2019

K. Jane Williams Acting Administrator Federal Transit Administration U.S. Department of Transportation 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE Washington, D.C. 20590

RE: Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Section 5339(b) Grants for Bus and Bus Facilities – Washington State Department of Transportation

Dear Administrator Williams,

I am writing in support of the Washington State Department of Transportation's (WSDOT) application to the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Section 5339(b) Grant for Bus and Bus Facilities.

WSDOT would assist five rural transit providers across Washington state including Clallam Transit, Grant Transit, Hopesource, and Island Transit. These transit providers need funding to replace capital assets such as vehicles and maintenance equipment, and upgrading and expanding bus facilities.

Many rural transit agencies in Washington State have limited financial resources to maintain their capital assets in a state of good repair. Aging transit buses require more frequent and expensive repairs and equipment and facility upgrades are necessary to support healthy transit operations. Maintaining capital assets in a state of good repair enables transit agencies to contribute to the economy of the local community while providing a safe, cost effective, and environmentally conscious transportation option for the public.

Thank you for your full and fair consideration of WSDOT's request.

Sincerely,

Maria Cantwell

United States Senator

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