

August 26, 2025

The Honorable Marcus J. Molinaro Administrator Federal Transit Administration Department of Transportation 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE Washington, DC 20590

Subject: Notice of Proposed Rulemaking Regarding the Federal Transit Administration's Public Transportation Emergency Relief Program (Docket No. FTA-2025-0012)

Dear Administrator Molinaro,

The American Public Transportation Association (APTA) represents a \$79 billion public transportation industry that directly employs 430,000 people and supports millions of private-sector jobs. We greatly appreciate the opportunity to respond to the Federal Transit Administration's (FTA) Notice of Proposed Rulemaking regarding the Public Transportation Emergency Relief Program (Docket No. FTA-2025-0012), published in the *Federal Register* at 90 FR 28688 on July 1, 2025.

The Public Transportation Emergency Relief program enables FTA to provide critical funding to public transit agencies and other recipients to respond to and recover from a declared emergency or major disaster. APTA strongly supports FTA's proposal to extend the baseline period from 45 days to 90 days to establish a waiver of certain grant requirements related to FTA's Public Transportation Emergency Relief Program. This change aligns with FTA's historical practice, reduces the regulatory burden on grant recipients, and provides greater certainty to recipients in the wake of a disaster.

We appreciate your strong support for the Public Transportation Emergency Relief program. If you or your staff have any questions regarding APTA's comments, please contact Ward McCarragher, Vice President, Government Affairs and Advocacy, at wmccarragher@apta.com, or Taria Barron, General Counsel, at (202) 496-4808, or tbarron@apta.com. Thank you for your consideration and we look forward to continuing to work with FTA to streamline regulations and improve transportation.

Sincerely,

Paul P. Skoutelas President and CEO

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