



January 14, 2026

The Honorable Katie Britt
Chair
Subcommittee on Homeland Security
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. Senate
S-125, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Chris Murphy
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Homeland Security
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. Senate
S-131, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Mark Amodei
Chair
Subcommittee on Homeland Security
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives
2006 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Lauren Underwood
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Homeland Security
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives
1036 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chair Britt, Ranking Member Murphy, Chair Amodei, and Ranking Member Underwood,

On behalf of the American Public Transportation Association (APTA), which represents the \$93 billion public transportation industry that directly employs more than 430,000 people and supports millions of private-sector jobs, **I write to urge you to provide at least \$93 million to the Transit Security Grant Program (TSGP), as proposed in S.____, the Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act, 2026, an \$8.5 million increase from FY 2025's appropriated funding.**

Safety and security are core values for the public transportation industry—non-negotiable operating principles and key commitments to riders and workers. Public transportation agencies have adopted a layered approach to address security concerns, such as increasing the number of law enforcement personnel on transit vehicles. As a result, traveling by public transportation is 10 times safer for passengers than traveling by car.

This success is in no small part due to the support of Federal partners, including funding from the Department of Homeland Security's TSGP, and this continued partnership will be crucial going forward, given heightened threats in the United States caused by ongoing global conflicts. We are greatly appreciative of the House Committee on Appropriations' efforts to provide level funding in its companion bill (H.R. 4213), but the safety and security needs of public transit agencies continue to grow. In addition,

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The Honorable Katie Britt, Chris Murphy, Mark Amodei, and Lauren Underwood

January 14, 2026

Page 2

public transit ridership continues to rise, with riders taking more than 8 billion trips in the past year. To continue improving safety for the millions of Americans who rely on public transportation each day, Congress must increase funding for TS GP.

TS GP provides competitive grants to eligible public transportation agencies to protect critical surface transportation infrastructure and the traveling public. Pursuant to section 1406 of the Implementing Recommendations of the 9/11 Commission Act of 2007 (P.L. 110-53), public transit agencies use TS GP funds for law enforcement, surveillance training, public awareness campaigns, detection equipment, security cameras, cybersecurity technologies, and hardening infrastructure.

We look forward to working with you to ensure the millions of Americans who use public transportation can travel safely and securely to their jobs, to see loved ones, and to engage in their communities.

Sincerely,



Paul P. Skoutelas
President and CEO

cc: The Honorable Susan Collins, Chair, Committee on Appropriations, U.S. Senate

The Honorable Patty Murray, Vice Chair, Committee on Appropriations, U.S. Senate

The Honorable Tom Cole, Chairman, Committee on Appropriations, U.S. House of Representatives

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro, Ranking Member, Committee on Appropriations,
U.S. House of Representatives

Members, Subcommittee on Homeland Security, Committee on Appropriations, U.S. Senate

Members, Subcommittee on Homeland Security, Committee on Appropriations,
U.S. House of Representatives