

## **Interurban Transit Partnership**

June 16, 2020

The Honorable Peter A. DeFazio Chair, Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure U.S. House of Representatives Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman DeFazio,

On behalf of the Interurban Transit Partnership (The Rapid), which provides service for the Grand Rapid, MI metro area, I write to commend you and your staff for the creation of H.R. 2, the "Investing in a New Vision for the Environment and Surface Transportation in America Act" (INVEST in America Act). This bill will improve mobility in the Grand Rapids metro area and across the nation.

The INVEST in America Act decidedly supports our mission to cultivate communities, improve public health, and enhance quality of life through increased connectivity. The House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee understands that bus trips account for more than one-half of all mass transit trips. The bill provides historic funding in the face of an unprecedented crisis, as our passengers continue to ride our buses to access essential jobs, healthcare, education, and other opportunities.

Thank you again for your leadership on mass transit policy and funding priorities. I look forward to working in partnership with you and the entire House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee and staff as H.R. 2 advances through the legislative process.

Sincerely,

Andrew Johnson

Chief Executive Officer