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June 17, 2020

The Honorable Peter A. DeFazio
Chair
Committee on Transportation and
Infrastructure
U.S. House of Representatives
2165 Rayburn Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Sam Graves
Ranking Member
Committee on Transportation and
Infrastructure
U.S. House of Representatives
2165 Rayburn Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman DeFazio and Ranking Member Graves,

On behalf of the South Central Transit Authority which oversees public transit service in Lancaster and Reading, Pennsylvania and employs nearly 400 workers, I am writing to thank you for your extraordinary leadership and express our strong support for H. R. 2, the "Investing in a New Vision for the Environment and Surface Transportation in America Act" (INVEST in America Act).

The INVEST in America Act makes critical investments for surface transportation infrastructure, including \$105 billion for public transportation and \$60 billion for commuter rail, Amtrak, and other high-performance rail. The bill recognizes the immediate need for public transit agencies to continue to provide essential services during the COVID-19 pandemic and support our nation's economic recovery. It also provides a long-term vision to address the more than \$100 billion state-of-good repair backlog in public transit infrastructure and meet the mobility demands of growing communities like Lancaster and Reading.

This transformative investment in public transportation and passenger rail help our communities meet growing mobility demands, create family-wage jobs, expand U.S. manufacturing and supply chains, and grow the economy. It also puts us on the path to increase access to opportunities for all Americans and build more equitable communities. In addition, the INVEST in America Act addresses the environmental and sustainability challenges facing our communities, nation and world.

These investments are absolutely critical to jumpstart our economic recovery. The time is now to make an important investment in our national infrastructure that will provide staying power to drive our economy for years to come. For small communities like Lancaster and Reading, investing in infrastructure will have long term benefits for creating jobs and improving the quality of life in both communities.

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The Honorable Sam Graves
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Thank you again for your leadership on these issues. If you have any questions or need any additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me at 717-358-1920.

Sincerely,



David W. Kilmer,
Executive Director

cc: Congressman Lloyd Smucker
Congressman Dan Meuser
Congresswoman Chrissy Houlahan
Congresswoman Susan Wild