June 12, 2020

The Honorable Chairman Peter DeFazio  
The Honorable Ranking Member Sam Graves  
House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee  
U.S. Congress

Dear Chairman DeFazio and Ranking Member Graves:

I write on behalf of Virginia’s transit providers to support H.R. 7095, the INVEST in America Act. We are especially encouraged to see that this legislation is a measure that embraces new policies that focus on “fixing it first” and improving access to jobs that illustrates the importance of making critical investments in infrastructure. The $105 billion for public transit and $60 billion for commuter rail, Amtrak, and other high-performance rail is a major recognition that public transportation continues to provide an essential service in our country.

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. The significant increases for programs that address state of good repair and new capacity and the increases for Buses and Bus Facilities are greatly needed for our aging fleets. Finally, an investment in mobility on demand services will advance our agencies to meet the diverse needs of our riding public.

We thank you for your thorough consideration of this New Vision in your committee deliberations.

Sincerely,

Lisa Guthrie  
VTA Executive Director  
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