Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

Washington, **DC** 20515-0904

April 29, 2022

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro Chairwoman House Appropriations Committee Washington, DC 20515 The Honorable Kay Granger Ranking Member House Appropriations Committee Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chair DeLauro and Ranking Member Granger:

On behalf of the Jacksonville Transportation Authority (JTA) and my constituents in Florida's 4th Congressional District, I am requesting \$3,000,000 for the JTA Bus Stop & Shelter Improvements Project in the Fiscal Year 2023 Transportation, Housing and Urban Development Appropriations bill. JTA, located at 100 LaVilla Venter Dr., Jacksonville, FL 32204, would receive the funding for this project.

If granted, this funding would update the bus stop lighting and solar compactors at 300 stops in JTA's transit network, improving the experience for existing transit passengers and hopefully drawing new passengers to the system. Increasing transit ridership will reduce congestion, crashes, emissions, and associated economic impacts, while improving the safety and quality of life for all members of our community.

One key area to increasing ridership is to improve safety and cleanliness at bus stops and surrounding areas. This project would improve lighting and safety at bus shelters throughout the JTA transit network, improving security for the most vulnerable populations that rely on transit and making it more attractive to new customers. Additionally, the project would improve JTA's operational efficiencies for maintaining trash receptacles, allowing for more volume and less overflow and resulting in less litter. Indirect benefits include reduction in traffic congestion, lower emissions and pollutants from personal automobiles, increased safety, and reduced economic impacts caused by an increase in use of non-single occupancy vehicles.

I certify that neither I nor my immediate family has any financial interest in this project. Thank you for your consideration of this important project.

Sincerely,

John H. Rutherford

Member of Congress