

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-0904

April 30, 2021

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Chair
House Appropriations Committee

The Honorable Kay Granger
Ranking Member
House Appropriations Committee

Dear Chair DeLauro and Ranking Member Granger:

On behalf of the Jacksonville Transportation Authority (JTA) and my constituents in Northeast Florida, I am requesting \$1,200,000 for the JTA Renewable Energy Generation for Electric Vehicles in the Fiscal Year 2022 Transportation and Housing and Urban Development Appropriations bill. The project is located at 3191 Armsdale Rd., Jacksonville, FL 32218.

If granted, this funding would create a solar-powered fast-charging station for electric transit buses on JTA's First Coast Flyer Green Line, which serves the Armsdale Hub. The project includes a 200kWDC ground-mounted carport solar photovoltaic generation system, a fast-charging station capable of recharging a bus in 5-8 minutes, and the associated power electronics. While each technological component is individually proven and commercially available, this project is unique and innovative on the system level. This first of its kind charging system would make it possible to deploy an all-electric vehicle fleet that is predominantly powered by sunlight – something that currently does not exist anywhere in the U.S.

This project would enable JTA to incorporate renewable energy generation as part of their electric vehicle charging, in support of fleet electrification and autonomous vehicle integration. With an average of 221 sunny days per year in Jacksonville, it is an economical decision to make the investment in solar power for transit service. Additionally, it currently takes JTA approximately 3 hours to recharge an electric bus. This project will bring that time down to less than 10 minutes, all while charging buses with truly emissions-free solar energy.

I certify that neither I nor my immediate family has any financial interest in this project.

Thank you for your consideration of this project that is of significant importance to my district.

Sincerely,



John Rutherford
Member of Congress