

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

November 24, 2021

Administrator Nuria Fernandez
Federal Transit Administration
1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E.
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Administrator Fernandez:

We write to ask for your full and fair consideration for the City of Phoenix and Valley Metro's request for a Bus and Bus Facilities Program grant. This grant will be utilized to purchase battery-electric buses and construct charging infrastructure to meet the demands associated with this innovative technology. In line with the Administration's work to promote equity and environmental sustainability across the nation, this grant would ensure the City of Phoenix meets its regional climate action plans for carbon emission and air quality improvement.

As the most populous city in Arizona, Phoenix has the majority of the region's busiest bus routes. These transit routes serve as a vital public resource to our constituents, providing transportation to low-income passengers, supporting the regional economy, and connecting residents to employment opportunities. Although these routes increase access to equitable services for constituents, aging buses within the system have limited their ability to serve regional transit riders in a capacity that will improve quality of life and meet climate goals.

The City of Phoenix would use this grant to enhance transit services by replacing up to 16 buses that have reached the end of their useful life and providing more reliable public transit service to region riders. In addition to a demonstrated commitment to modernizing commuter transit experiences, the City of Phoenix has also joined the C40 Climate Agreement to advance climate action goals. Along with the City of Phoenix, the adjoining cities of Mesa and Tempe, are also developing climate action plans that support transportation electrification.

If received, a Bus and Bus Facilities grant for fleet electrification will catalyze existing efforts undertaken by the cities of Phoenix, Mesa, and Tempe and benefit the State of Arizona. We again ask for your full and fair consideration of this application from the City of Phoenix and Valley Metro to further the region's efforts toward an improved quality of life for our constituents. Thank you.

Sincerely,



Ruben Gallego
Member of Congress



Greg Stanton
Member of Congress