

April 26, 2021

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro Chairwoman Committee on Appropriations U.S. House of Representatives H-307 The Capitol Washington, DC 20515

**Re: Metro Transit Support for Appropriation Request** 

Dear Chair DeLauro and Members of the Committee,

I am writing this letter to express support for the METRO F Line project, a planned Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) line that will provide faster and more reliable transit in the Route 10 corridor. BRT service is a package of transit enhancements that adds up to a faster trip and an improved experience on Metro Transit's busiest bus routes.

Buses in the corridor carry approximately 7,200 people daily (fall 2019). In March 2021 following an extensive planning process of 19 corridors, the Metropolitan Council selected the F Line corridor for implementation along Central and University Avenues, through downtown Minneapolis, northeast Minneapolis, Columbia Heights, Fridley, and Blaine. Route 10 will be simplified to travel along Central Avenue every 30 minutes, while the F Line is expected to run every 10 minutes.

Metro Transit has secured \$25 million for the project in future federal formula funds. In addition to this appropriation request, we anticipate future Minnesota state bonding awards will provide the necessary remaining balance of funds for the F Line. Securing additional federal funds through this request will be instrumental in leveraging state bonding consideration, completing project funding, and delivering these improvements to transit riders and communities along the F Line corridor.

Thank you for your consideration,

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Charles Carlson

Director, BRT Projects

Metro Transit