

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20510

March 12, 2020

Secretary Elaine L. Chao
Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Chao:

We are writing to express our full support for the Maryland Department of Transportation Maryland Transit Administration's (MDOT MTA) application to Prepare for a Zero-Emission Bus Fleet. The purpose of the project is to begin transitioning MDOT MTA's current bus fleet into one that is zero emission.

Maryland's 2019 Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reduction Act draft plan requires MDOT MTA to upgrade 50 percent of its fleet (375 buses) to zero-emission technology by 2030. To accomplish this ambitious goal, MDOT MTA needs to begin purchasing zero-emission buses and developing charging infrastructure to ensure a successful and seamless fleet conversion. This project will help MDOT MTA gain valuable experience operating and maintaining zero-emission vehicles.

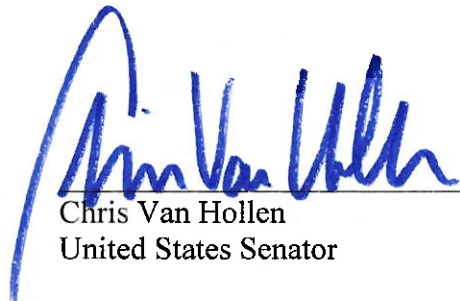
This project will purchase three 60-foot zero-emission vehicles and charging equipment to support the buses. This equipment will allow MDOT MTA to test zero-emission buses in Baltimore's challenging conditions, determine specifications and system requirements needed, evaluate service changes required to maximize reliability, and identify staff training needs associated with zero-emission technology.

We urge you to favorably consider the project as it supports our goals to improve air quality in the Baltimore Region and meet Maryland's bold goal of converting the bus fleet to zero-emission vehicles.

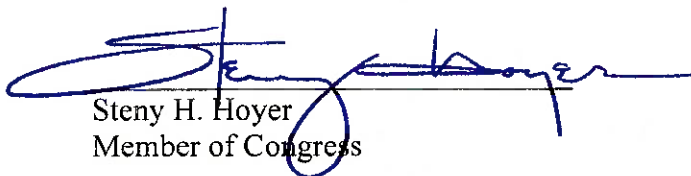
Sincerely,



Benjamin L. Cardin
United States Senator



Chris Van Hollen
United States Senator



Steny H. Hoyer
Member of Congress



C.A. Dutch Ruppertsberger
Member of Congress



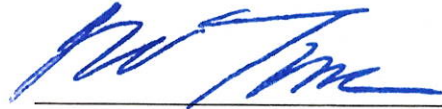
John P. Sarbanes
Member of Congress



Anthony G. Brown
Member of Congress



Jamie Raskin
Member of Congress



David Trone
Member of Congress