

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

August 7, 2017

Mark Bathrick
Public Transportation Administrator
Office of Program Management
Federal Transit Administration
1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E.
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Mr. Bathrick,

I write to express my strong support for the City of Nashua's application for Capital Funds through the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Section 5339 – Bus and Bus Facilities Infrastructure Investment Program. Support from this program will help the City update its Transit Center, a facility that serves a ridership that has grown roughly 65% since the Center opened seventeen years ago.

The City of Nashua is the second largest city in New Hampshire and operates Nashua Transit System, which provides just under 500,000 rides annually. The Transit Center serves as the ticketing office as well as the hub for all transit routes. The current designs and layouts of the facility and the bus platform and surrounding pavement pose significant safety concerns that need to be addressed to improve the overall efficiency of the Center and the well-being of riders, drivers and pedestrians.

Support from FTA will allow the Nashua Transit System to address issues with outgrown space in and around the current Transit Center. The facility now needs a redesign of its platform roof and seating areas, as well as a widening of the sidewalks bordering the building. The grooved pavement surrounding the Center will also be fixed to reduce tripping hazards for pedestrians as well as winter snow removal issues. There is also significant foot traffic between the employee and visitor parking in the garage across the Transit Center Platform to City Hall. The current traffic pattern for our buses and public vehicles poses a number of conflict points with pedestrians that would be addressed as part of this project. These modernizations will enable the Transit System to better and more safely serve its growing number of patrons.

This is a major construction project and key to the continued success of Nashua Transit System. I support the application from the City of Nashua and urge your consideration of this worthy proposal. If you have any questions, please contact Jon Jarvis on my staff at 603-647-7500.

Sincerely,



Jeanne Shaheen
United States Senator