

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-4704

October 5, 2015

The Honorable Therese McMillan
Acting Administrator
Federal Transit Administration
East Building
1200 New Jersey Ave. S.E.
Washington, D.C. 20590

Dear Acting Administrator McMillan:

I am writing in support of an application submitted by Community Transit to the New Starts, Small Starts, and Core Capacity Improvements program for the Swift II Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) project.

Community Transit is working to establish a second bus rapid transit line in Snohomish County, Washington. This new east-west line would provide fast, frequent transit services between the Paine Field/Boeing Everett Manufacturing and Industrial Center and the Regional Growth Center at Canyon Park/Bothell, which together employ approximately 100,000 individuals. Swift II BRT would include 15 stations in each direction, a new transit center directly across from the Boeing Company's main entrance, and street improvements while taking advantage of existing infrastructure investments that allow transit access. It would feature departures every 12 minutes on weekdays, off-board fare payment, and three doors for boarding. In its first year, Swift II BRT is forecasted to have approximately 860,000 boardings.

This project would build upon the success of Community Transit's first bus rapid transit corridor, Swift BRT Highway 99. Today, one in seven Community Transit riders take Swift BRT Highway 99, which carried over 1.5 million riders in 2014. Swift II BRT would further help mitigate traffic congestion and improve connectivity in Snohomish County and the broader Puget Sound region, resulting in reduced commuter travel times. Specifically, the Swift II BRT would connect with Swift BRT Highway 99 and existing transit systems on Interstate 5 and Interstate 405, as well as integrating with Sound Transit's Lynnwood Link light rail extension, which is to begin operations in 2023.

Community Transit has secured approximately \$20 million to date in local and state matching funds for Swift II BRT. Swift II BRT is supported by the Cities of Everett, Mill Creek, and Bothell, as well as Snohomish County, Snohomish County Public Utility District, the Boeing Company, and the Washington State Department of Transportation.

Thank you for your consideration of and attention to this application. Please contact Rachel Peterson in my Washington, D.C. office at 202-224-2621 should you have questions.

Sincerely,



Patty Murray
United States Senator