

Congress of the United States  
Washington, DC 20515

April 13, 2023

The Honorable Nuria Fernandez  
Office of the Administrator  
Federal Transit Administration  
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Administrator Fernandez:

I am writing in support of the City of Tucson's application for Federal Transit Administration grant funds under the Fiscal Year 2023 combined Competitive Funding Opportunity: Low or No Emission (Low-No) Grant Program and the Grants for Buses and Bus Facilities Competitive Program to purchase 39 Compressed Natural Gas buses, 40-ft in length, with a total project cost of \$27 million.

In response, this project will allow the City of Tucson to replace ageing diesel-powered buses with cleaner running Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) buses. Replacement of aging diesel buses will help control maintenance costs that grow as buses age. Improved operating efficiency allows local funds to be more directly allocated to service improvements.

As part of its commitment to climate action and resiliency, the City of Tucson is working diligently to improve air quality and reduce greenhouse gas emissions from transportation by transitioning to a zero and low emissions transit fleet. By replacing 39 diesel-fueled buses, Sun Tran would decrease emissions by approximately 2,840 metric tons of carbon dioxide in one year. This is equivalent to removing nearly 617 vehicles off the road in one year.

The City of Tucson has long committed to using alternative fuels, and the proposed CNG buses would be a significant milestone in the city's efforts to improve air quality, reduce the carbon footprint of transit operations, and improve quality of life of residents in areas that have experienced social and economic inequities and under-investment by providing better access to clean energy public transit for all routes.

I appreciate your full and fair consideration of this request in support of a worthwhile project for Tucson and its residents.

Sincerely,



Raúl M. Grijalva  
Member of Congress