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ENTITLEMENTS

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-1501

April 17, 2014

Mr. Anthony Foxx
Office of the Secretary
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Foxx,

I am writing to express strong support for the District of Columbia Department of Transportation's request for federal funding for the Anacostia Gateway Project: Streetcar Extension and Transportation Access Improvements. The funds would be used to build an extension of our city's new Anacostia Streetcar line, from the Anacostia Metro Station to downtown Anacostia, connecting to the Anacostia Historic District. Associated with the construction of the extension are streetscape and traffic safety improvement components to enhance the vehicular, pedestrian, bicycle, and transit safety operations adjacent to the streetcar extension termini and the Anacostia Metro Station.

The District of Columbia plans to invest \$38.7 million to construct the first phase of the line immediately to the southwest, from the US Naval Support Facility (Joint Base Anacostia-Bolling) to the Anacostia Metro Station. The project will connect residential areas and federal facilities with downtown Anacostia and the waterfront parkland system along the Anacostia River. Its implementation will catalyze commercial and residential development through neighborhoods that have experienced under-investment for several decades.

This project's goals are congruent with the current federal policy focus to fund transit projects that encourage economic development, help protect the environment, and enhance livability in our communities. With Metrorail and existing bus lines running at capacity, premium surface transit solutions represent the only feasible way to continue smart growth development patterns while taking cars off the road.

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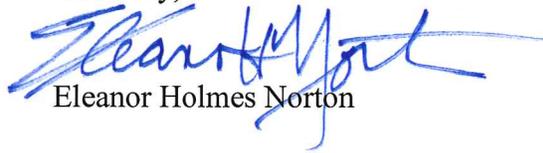
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Experience has shown that transit systems are most powerful when they are well connected to other transit and activity centers. The Anacostia Streetcar Extension line under consideration will improve connectivity between several neighborhoods and the Anacostia Metro Station, which is a major regional transfer point, serving 24 bus routes. The line will also provide a foundation for future extensions of the streetcar line to serve the St. Elizabeths Campus, the new headquarters of the Department of Homeland Security (a new employment center with 14,000 employees and 2000 daily visitors), and connect to areas of the District of Columbia across the Anacostia River.

I look forward to ensuring the success of this project, and we request the Federal government's assistance in achieving that goal.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Eleanor Holmes Norton", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Eleanor Holmes Norton