

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

April 23, 2012

Honorable Ray LaHood
Secretary
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC20590

Dear Secretary LaHood:

We are writing to express our support for the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (LA Metro) proposal for the procurement of 66 Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) buses to replace their current diesel bus fleet. Metro is seeking a grant of \$10 million from the Clean Fuels Program within the Federal Transit Authority to complete the \$36.2 million project.

Specifically, LA Metro is requesting \$10 million dollars to procure 66 CNG buses that would replace 66 Orion diesel buses that have exceeded or will soon exceed their useful service life. Metro is already funding \$26.2 million of the proposal and is looking for the Federal Government to help complete the necessary financing.

As you may know, the Los Angeles South Coast Air Basin (SCAB) has serious air quality and traffic congestion issues. The EPA has found that SCAB reaches "extreme" nonattainment for the 8-hour ozone standard and "serious" nonattainment for particulate matter (PM-10). These pollution levels present a significant danger to the long-term health and quality of life of our constituents.

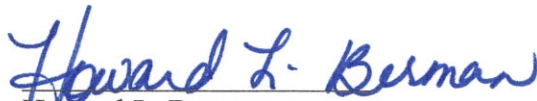
The proposal LA Metro has put forth would help greatly reduce their bus fleet's air pollution contribution, while also addressing service quality concerns of an aging bus fleet. Department of Energy research demonstrates that CNG buses release 53% lower nitrogen oxide (NO_x), 85% lower total particulate matter, and 89% lower carbon monoxide. All of these reductions would directly impact SCAB's ability to meet the National Ambient Air Quality Standards and have a positive impact on the health of Los Angeles residents who will be able to breathe cleaner air.

We strongly support LA Metro's proposal for \$10 million to procure 66 CNG buses be granted under the Clean Fuels Program in order to ensure the health and transit needs of our districts are met.

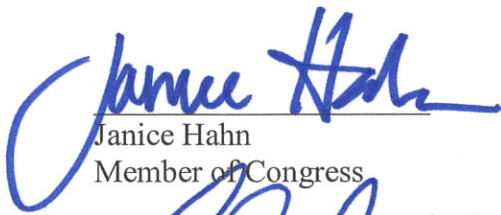
Sincerely,

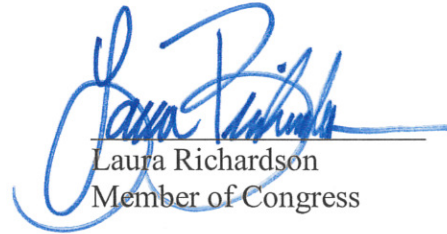


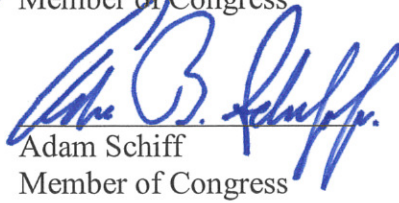
Linda T. Sánchez
Member of Congress



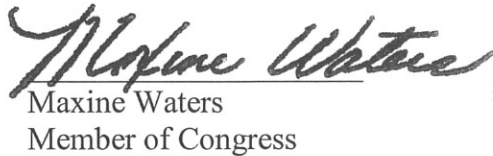
Howard L. Berman
Member of Congress

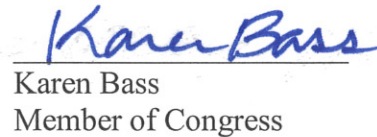

Janice Hahn
Member of Congress

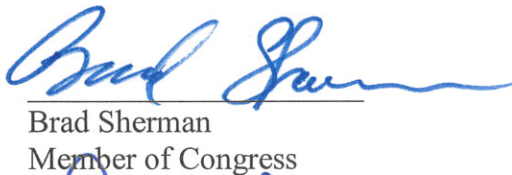

Laura Richardson
Member of Congress

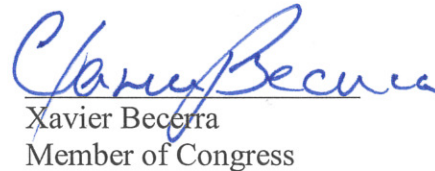

Adam Schiff
Member of Congress

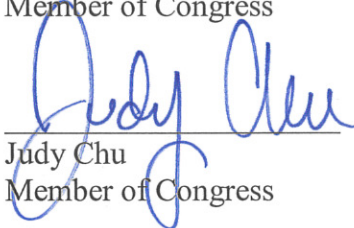

Grace F. Napolitano
Member of Congress


Maxine Waters
Member of Congress

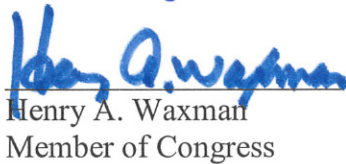

Karen Bass
Member of Congress


Brad Sherman
Member of Congress


Xavier Becerra
Member of Congress


Judy Chu
Member of Congress


Lucille Roybal-Allard
Member of Congress


Henry A. Waxman
Member of Congress

CC: Peter M. Rogoff, Administrator, Federal Transit Administration, U.S. Department of Transportation