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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

DEMOCRATIC POLICY AND
COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE
CO-CHAIR

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS
RANKING MEMBER OF THE SUBCOMMITTEE ON
MIDDLE EAST, NORTH AFRICA, AND CENTRAL ASIA

COMMITTEE ON SMALL BUSINESS
VICE RANKING MEMBER

PROBLEM SOLVERS CAUCUS

March 31, 2023

The Honorable Kay Granger   The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Chairwoman   Ranking Member
Committee on Appropriations   Committee on Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives   U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515   Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairwoman Granger and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting funding for the Metro Mobility Small Bus Replacement project in fiscal year 2024.

The entity to receive funding for this project is the Metropolitan Council, located at 390 Roberts Street N, St. Paul, MN 55101.

The funding would be used by the Metropolitan Council to replace approximately 40-50 buses in its Metro Mobility fleet. Metro Mobility provides transit service for people with disabilities who are unable to use the regular Metro Transit bus and light rail systems. Metro Mobility provides an important service for people with disabilities to travel to work, shopping, and appointments. The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because, as passenger usage returns to pre-pandemic levels, the Council's aging bus fleet is presenting challenges to meet service needs. By the end of 2023, 88% of the Council's cutaway bus fleet will be due for replacement on a mileage basis. This funding would support the Council's efforts to begin replacing its fleet to ensure continued service.

The project has a Federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes authorized by chapter 53 of title 49 of the U.S. Code.

I certify that I have no financial interest in this project, and neither does anyone in my immediate family.

Sincerely,

Dean Phillips
Member of Congress