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**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
**Washington, DC 20515-0530**

HENRY A. WAXMAN  
30TH DISTRICT, CALIFORNIA

May 1, 2012

Peter M. Rogoff  
Administrator  
Federal Transit Administration  
East Building, 4th Floor  
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Administrator Rogoff,

I am writing in support of an application by Santa Monica's Big Blue Bus (BBB) to the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) for funding through State of Good Repair, Bus Livability, and Clean Fuels grant programs to help replace diesel transit vehicles with alternative fuel vehicles.

The BBB is based in the 30<sup>th</sup> Congressional District of California, which I represent, and serves over 22 million riders annually on 20 routes within 51 square miles. It is the primary local fixed-route transit operator serving the City of Santa Monica, California and adjacent Westside Los Angeles communities. The BBB also provides regional connections to the Los Angeles International Airport (LAX), the Los Angeles County Metro's Blue, Red, Purple, and Green rail lines, as well as stations serving Metrolink and Amtrak inter-city rail services.

The BBB is requesting \$4,822,066 through the State of Good Repair, Bus Livability, and Clean Fuels grant opportunities to replace ten, 15-year old diesel-fueled vehicles with Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) fueled vehicles equipped with the MiniHybrid Thermal System (MH8). The project would reduce direct greenhouse gas emissions by 23% and maintenance and fuel costs by 15% and increase fuel economy. After implementation of this project the BBB will have converted 90% of its fleet to alternative fuels, a critical step toward regional compliance with the clean air mandates of the South Coast Air Quality Management District and California Air Resources Board.

This project, will not only improve reliability and efficiency of service to retain its existing customers, but will also attract new customers, thereby decreasing single occupancy vehicles. Moreover, conversion and replacement will reduce service deficiencies due to mechanical failures and breakdowns and gives the BBB's customers assurance that its vehicles are safe and reliable.

If awarded funding, BBB would be able to immediately implement the solicitation process for alternative fuel replacement for buses. Matching funds have been identified for 30% with California's Proposition 1B funds for the amount of \$2,066,605.

I hope you will give the application of Santa Monica Big Blue Bus every consideration consistent with applicable laws and regulations.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Henry A. Waxman". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

HENRY A. WAXMAN  
Member of Congress