

March 30, 2023

The Honorable Don Beyer 1119 Longworth House Office Building United States House of Representatives Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Beyer,

On behalf of the Alexandria's Environmental Policy Commission, I am writing in strong support for the City of Alexandria's On-route Electric Transit Bus Opportunity Chargers project that supports the transition towards 100% zero emissions buses in the City of Alexandria. The project would fund the implementation of two on-route opportunity chargers that would support full fleet conversion to zero emissions buses.

The City and DASH have adopted a policy goal to shift to a 100% Zero Emissions bus fleet by the year 2037 for all 120+ of its buses. The City and DASH has shown commitment to this goal by already adopting 14 battery electric buses, building charging infrastructure, completing Zero Emissions Bus Feasibility/Implementation Plans, and securing \$9 million for its new bus facility expansion/electric bus-charging yard. The deployment is the largest in Virginia and one of the largest in the DC region.

This project will build and implement up to two on-route opportunity chargers to charge current and future battery electric buses of the DASH fleet. These chargers will provide high output opportunity for buses to top off their charge while in service, without having to travel back and forth to the garage. Alexandria's buses operate 24/7, thus, it is critical to implement these chargers in order for battery electric buses to meet current service levels.

We are committed to continuing our support for the City of Alexandria to implement this project to help electrify the DASH bus fleets, improving air quality and combat climate change, benefiting the region's communities, residents, and stakeholders.

Thank you for your full and fair consideration of the City of Alexandria's Appropriations application. Should you have questions, please contact Kathie Hoekstra at 571-388-9423 or email kathlynhoekstra@icloud.com.

Sincerely,

Kathie Hoekstra

Kathie Hoekstra

**EPC Chair**