



January 27, 2026

The Honorable Sean Duffy
United States Secretary of Transportation
US Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E.
Washington, DC 20590

Re: Letter of Support for Metropolitan Transit Authority of Harris County's (METRO) BUILD Application for Universal Accessibility Program

Dear Secretary Duffy:

I support the Universal Accessibility (UA) Program funding application to the United States Department of Transportation (USDOT) Better Utilizing Investment to Leverage Development (BUILD) 2026 competitive grant program. Under this grant, METRO is committed to ensuring all bus stops meet or exceed the standards of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), so all people – regardless of their age, size or ability can access and safely use all METRO facilities. Proposed improvements include new sidewalks where there are none, reconstruction of sidewalks in disrepair, ADA accessible bus pads, bus shelter-ready pads, and ramps to provide a safe path to connect METRO's patrons to transit stops.

The UA improvements will occur within the METRO service area and encompass approximately 1,300 bus stops. The improvements will directly support transit riders by creating safer, more accessible connections to employment centers, educational institutions, medical facilities, social services, and other essential destinations. For many riders who depend on transit as their primary means of transportation, including seniors, individuals with disabilities, and households without a car—these improvements will reduce travel barriers and enhance access to economic and health related opportunities.

Thank you for your consideration,

COUNCIL MEMBER SALLIE ALCORN, AT-LARGE 5