

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

March 29, 2024

Hon. Michael S. Regan
Administrator
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, DC 20460

Dear Administrator Regan:

As Members of the New York Congressional Delegation, we write in strong support of the application submitted by New York Metropolitan Transportation Authority (MTA) for a Climate Pollution Reduction Grant. The MTA would use this implementation grant to purchase 100 zero-emission electric buses and associated charging infrastructure to replace conventional diesel-powered buses that are approaching the end of their useful life.

In 2018, MTA set a goal of transitioning its entire 5,800 bus fleet to zero-emissions vehicles by 2040. The MTA runs the largest public bus system in North America, carrying 20% of all bus passengers and operating nearly 10% of the public bus fleet nationwide.

The new buses will be deployed to three bus depots in the New York City boroughs of Queens, Brooklyn, and Staten Island. The selection of depots to receive zero emissions buses is driven by five criteria: environmental justice and air quality, borough distribution, available power supply, construction feasibility, and schedule feasibility.

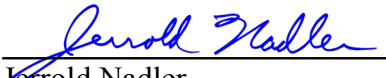
These three depots serve multiple bus routes critical to environmental justice communities in each of our respective districts. Electrifying MTA's bus fleet will help meet state and federal carbon reduction targets, improving air quality in low-income and minority communities that have inequitably suffered for decades from the negative health consequences of dirty fossil fuel infrastructure. Buses are especially critical to New Yorkers in traditionally under-served communities where buses are the only transportation option.

Federal support for a zero-emission bus procurement of this unprecedented size also represents a significant opportunity to demonstrate to the domestic bus manufacturing industry the need for new participants and create clear incentives for the bus manufacturing supply chain network to expand its domestic presence.


An investment in the New York bus system is an investment in equity. No transit agency will act more quickly or decisively to place orders and get zero-emissions buses from the assembly lines to the front lines of dense urban communities that have been choking on diesel exhaust for far too long.

Again, we strongly support the MTA's application and appreciate it receiving your full consideration.


Sincerely,




Jerrold Nadler
Member of Congress




Adriano Espaillat
Member of Congress



Dan Goldman
Member of Congress



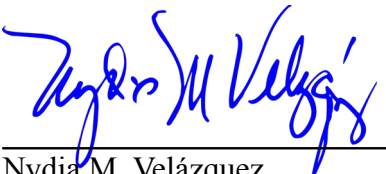
Kirsten Gillibrand
United States Senator



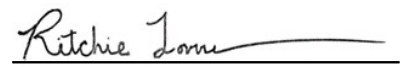
Hakeem Jeffries
Member of Congress



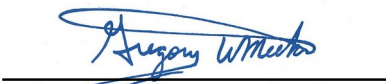
Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez
Member of Congress



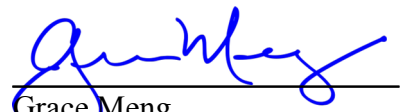
Nydia M. Velázquez
Member of Congress



Ritchie Torres
Member of Congress



Gregory W. Meeks
Member of Congress



Grace Meng
Member of Congress