

March 31, 2023

The Honorable Greg Casar U.S. Congressman 1339 Longworth House Office Building Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Casar,

I am writing to express my strong support for the recent FY24 Community Project Funding request submission by CapMetro for the MetroRail Green Line Planning and Environmental Linkages Study (PEL). This project has the potential to greatly benefit our region, and could provide future benefits to the City of Manor and the eastern portion of Travis County.

Commuter rail service would not only provide a convenient transportation option for residents, but it would also create job opportunities and promote economic growth. As more people begin to call the Central Texas region home, it is essential that we identify projects that are built around employment centers that will ease traffic congestion and reduce carbon emissions by encouraging more people to use public transportation.

The proposed Green line improvements are part of Project Connect and part of the November 2020 ballot approved by the voters. The first phase of the Green Line project will be eight miles long and include seven new transit stations, terminating at Colony Park. This FY24 Community Project Funding request will study the extension contemplated by Project Connect to City of Manor and City of Elgin. A future commuter rail would offer a reliable and efficient transportation option that would make our daily commutes much more effortless. This project would also attract new businesses and investments in our eastern Travis County communities, which will ultimately lead to a stronger and more prosperous communities in the region.

We seek your support for this CapMetro initiative and our region through a MetroRail Green Line Planning and Environmental Linkages Study. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Always working to make the world a better place,

Dr. Chris Harvey, Mayor