



July 20, 2026

Federal Transit Administration
Office of Program Management
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

RE: Municipal Endorsement of the Petersburg Indian Association Tribal Transit Project
(FY26 Section 5311(c))

Dear FTA Grant Selection Committee,

On behalf of the Petersburg Borough Assembly, I am writing to formally endorse the Petersburg Indian Association's (PIA) application for the FY26 Section 5311(c)(1)(A) Tribal Transit Competitive Program. As the local municipal governing body, we recognize that a robust public transit system is vital to the infrastructure, economic health, and civic continuity of our community.

Petersburg operates within a highly unique and challenging geographic footprint on Mitkof Island, completely disconnected from the continental road system. Our population of 3,043 residents is aging rapidly, with a median age of 46 years. Given these municipal demographics, maintaining independent mobility for our senior citizens and physically disabled residents is a top priority. PIA's transit service fills a critical public infrastructure need that the Borough could not otherwise replicate, allowing our vulnerable residents to safely access local businesses, groceries, public services, and banking.

The transit program's 2025 operations—delivering 10,612 unlinked passenger trips across only 12,146 vehicle revenue miles—demonstrate an exceptional level of localized service efficiency. This compact routing means our residents are utilizing transit intensely for short, essential neighborhood trips. However, the harsh Southeast Alaska marine environment causes accelerated frame rust and mechanical fatigue, making the immediate procurement of an ADA-compliant bus an absolute necessity to prevent a total shutdown of service.

PIA's transit program is a cornerstone of the Petersburg community. The Petersburg Borough Assembly strongly urges the Federal Transit Administration to fully fund this 100% federal share request of \$117,847.

Sincerely,

Mayor Bob Lynn
Petersburg Borough