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Congress of the United States  
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GENERAL FARM COMMODITIES AND  
RISK MANAGEMENT  
DEPARTMENT OPERATIONS,  
OVERSIGHT, AND NUTRITION

March 5, 2014

Peter M. Rogoff  
Administrator, Federal Transit Administration  
East Building  
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE  
Washington, DC 20590

**RE: FY13 Low or No Emission Vehicle Deployment Program**

Dear Mr. Rogoff,

The Stark Area Regional Transit Authority (SARTA) has been a leader in developing and implementing innovative ways to move people safely and efficiently. SARTA provides important transit services to thousands of people in my district, making it possible for them to get to work and to see their doctor.

Because of SARTA's impressive track record and support from the community, I respectfully request your support for SARTA's application to the Federal Transit Administration's Low or No Emission Vehicle Deployment Program seeking funding for the SARTA Zero-Emission Bus and Infrastructure Project. In this high-profile project, the Stark Area Regional Transit Authority (SARTA) will procure a zero-emission 40-foot, low-floor hydrogen fuel cell buses in the SunLine Transit American Fuel Cell Bus (AFCB) configuration and deploy them in and around Stark County, Ohio—a designated ozone non-attainment area. In addition, SARTA intends to expand the capacity of the hydrogen refueling station adjacent to SARTA's Gateway garage and maintenance facility.

We believe that the efforts of CALSTART—a Key Partner on the project—on this submission have the potential to help drive the cost of hydrogen fuel cell transit buses down significantly. Following the notice of award, CALSTART will work with all successful NoLo Applicants proposing to purchase the SunLine Transit AFCB configuration in support of a single, joint procurement—potentially as large as 20 buses. CALSTART believes that this approach could drive the cost of the AFCB down by as much as 20 percent when compared to the cost when procured separately by each Applicant.

This is an important project for the communities of Stark County and my district. With so many families living paycheck to paycheck and a national debt exceeding \$17 trillion, it is important that we invest in innovative strategies to cut costs and increase efficiencies. SARTA's proposed project shares those goals and I strongly urge you to provide full consideration of its merit.

Sincerely,



Bob Gibbs  
Member of Congress