National Campaign for Transit Justice

A project of Just Strategy

Speaker of the House Mike Johnson 521 Cannon House Office Building Washington, DC 20515

House Minority Leader Hakeem Jeffries 2267 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, DC 20515 Senate Majority Leader John Thune United States Senate SD-511 Washington, DC 20510

Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer 322 Hart Senate Office Building Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Members of Congress,

We are writing to demand that you stop the Trump Administration's illegal and unilateral pocket rescissions, protect the integrity of past and future federal funding agreements, and restore funds that have been stripped away from communities.

Anything less is a betrayal of Congressional authority and will cause further harm to people, communities, and local economies throughout the country.

Across the country, American families are struggling. Household finances are being squeezed by rising costs in housing, transportation, energy, food, and health care. The funds that have been rescinded without Congressional authority hit the very programs meant to ease those burdens. These rescissions strike at the heart of our daily lives — particularly the cost of transportation and housing, the two highest expenses for most households.

The cuts are not abstract. They are having real and devastating impacts across the country. From rural communities to urban neighborhoods, from Georgia and Alabama to Pennsylvania, New York, and Oregon, the administration has targeted and cancelled funding for projects providing essential infrastructure and economic relief. These projects make it easier for people to utilize more affordable modes of transportation to access jobs, healthcare, and other essential services, for farmers to provide food banks and the food-insecure families that visit them with their produce. These include grants from the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA), many of which have already been awarded and are ready to deliver real, tangible improvements.

The decision to cancel or defund these grants is not only unpopular and ineffective — it is illegal.

Let's be clear: These rescissions are not backed by the majority of Members of Congress or Senators, nor would they ever survive the legislative process. That is precisely why the administration has resorted to circumventing Congress, breaking both precedent and the law in the process. This is not only a breach of public trust, but a constitutional crisis in real time. Arbitrary and capricious acts like these rip up the rule of law and undermine the very foundation of congressional power over the purse. In addition, it impedes the ability for state and local governments to seek discretionary federal funding.

Because of that, we call on Congress to take the following actions immediately:

- 1. Include explicit language in the Continuing Resolution (CR) and upcoming funding bills blocking any attempt to cancel or undermine legally awarded federal grants.
- 2. Require that all previously awarded grants especially under the IIJA —be honored at their full project scope as authorized and appropriated by Congress.
- 3. Prevent similar unilateral rescissions from occurring in the future by enforceably reasserting Congressional authority and oversight.
- 4. Extend the availability of the funding for IIJA programs whose funding is expiring on Sept 30, 2025.

Considering the lack of safeguards to hold the administration to account for their disregard of existing appropriations, the bill that recently passed the House was anything but a clean CR. A significant amount of damage has already been done. Rescissions have impeded implementation, yanked away funding from shovel-ready projects, and left communities in limbo.

If Congress cannot agree to uphold its own funding agreements through its next federal funding bill, then why should the American people — or their local governments — put their trust in any future negotiations, including the upcoming surface transportation reauthorization?

That is why the next Continuing Resolution must not only protect congressional intent and power, but also must restore the funding promised to communities in red and blue states.

This moment demands more than words. It demands action. Protect the American people. Protect Congress's power. And protect the communities counting on your leadership.

Sincerely,

National Campaign for Transit Justice, LeeAnn Hall
Transportation for America, Beth Osborne
America Walks, Mike McGinn
Green New Deal Network, Giancarlo Valdetaro
Sierra Club, Katherine Garcia
Union of Concerned Scientists, Kevin Shen
1000 Friends of Iowa, Kari Carney
1000 Friends of Wisconsin, Trevor Roark
A Just Harvest, David Zoltan
Accessible Resources for Independence, Betsy Hein

Acterra EC Charging for All, Dennis Murphy

Activate St Pete, Max McCann

Active Prince William, Allen Muchnick & Mark Scheufler

Active San Gabriel Valley, David Diaz

Active Transportation Alliance, Amy Rynell

Alabama Arise, Robyn Hyden

Allendale Strong, Dorothy Wiley

ArchPlan Inc, Klaus Philipsen

Arkansas Community Organizations, Neil Sealy

Better Eugene-Springfield Transportation, Rob Zako

BetterTransitNOW, Paul Sturm

Bicycle Coalition of Greater Philadelphia, Chris Gale

Bike Cleveland, Jacob VanSickle

Bike Durham, John Tallmadge

Bike East Bay, Justin Hu-Nguyen

Bike HoCo - Bicycling Advocates of Howard County, Jack Guarneri

Bike JC, Beatriz Bofill

Bike&Walk Montclair, Paul Mickiewicz

BikeHouston, Joe Cutrufo

Bikemore, Jed Weeks

Bridge Forward Cincinnati, Brian Boland

Brooklyn Center for Independence of the Disabled, Joseph G. Rappaport

BWRNC, James Jones

California Bicycle Coalition (CalBike), Jared Sanchez

Cambridge Bicycle Safety, Christopher Cassa

Capital Streets, James Rath

Car-Lite Long Beach, Kurt Canfield

Carl Maxey Center, Luc Jasmin III

Catskill Mountainkeeper. Taylor Jaffe

Cedae Lane Unitarian Universalist Environmental Justice Ministry, Lee McNair

Central Maryland Transportation Alliance, Brian O'Malley

Chesapeake Climate Action Network Action Fund, Quentin Scott

Circulate San Diego, Colin Parent

Citizens for Regional Transit, Douglas Funke

City Of East Orange, NJ, Solomon Steplight

City of Wheat Ridge District 2, Rachel Hultin

Claiborne Avenue Alliance Design Studio, Amy Stelly

Clean Air Council, Titania Markland

Clean Power Lake County, Mayra Mendez

Clevelanders for Public Transit, Chris Martin

ClimatePlan, Lesley Beatty

Coalition Against the Mid-States Corridor, Mark Nowotarski

Coalition for Economic Justice, Jamal Davis

Coalition for Responsible Transportation Priorities, Colin Fiske

Coalition for Smarter Growth. Stewart Schwartz

Community Climate Collaborative, Carolyn Pugh

Community Design Rochester, Dawn Noto

Congress for the New Urbanism, Lauren Mayer

Conservation Law Foundation, Paulina Muratore

CultureHouse, Aaron Greiner

D.C. Transportation Equity Network, Kai Hall

Democracy for America Advocacy Fund, Charles Chamberlain

Denver Streets Partnership, Jill Locantore

Disability Rights Education & Defense Fund, Carol Tyson

Downshift Outdoors, Kimberly Huntress-Inskeep

Downtown Residents Advocacy Network (Baltimore), Paul Sturm

Drive Electric RVA, Charles Gerena

East Coast Greenway Alliance, Niles Barnes

East Metro Strong, William Schroeer

Elmont Cultural Center, Mimi Pierre Johnson

Families for Safe Streets, Thomas DeVito

Families for Safe Streets New Jersey, Sangeeta Badlani

Fix Maryland Rail, Diane Wittner

ForeverGreen Trails, Larry Leveen

Forth, Cat Plein

Friends of Irving Square Park, James Quinlan

GCRTA, Steve Canaly

GObike Buffalo, Justin Booth

Greater Greater Washington, Chelsea Allinger

Greenbelt Climate Action Network, Kathy Bartolomeo

GreenLatinos, Andrea Marpillero-Colomina

Hinge Neighbors, Suzanne Mayer

HollywoodDemocrats, Charles Chamberlain

Hudson Catskill Housing Coalition, Quintin Cross

Hudson County Complete Streets, Johan Andrade

I-475 Neighborhoods Coalition, Peggy Daly-Masternak

In the Public Interest, Donald Cohen

Institute for Policy Studies, Basav Sen

Joy Machines Bike Shop, Krissie Wells

Just Economics, Vicki Meath

Labor Network for Sustainability, Oren Kadosh

Latino Youth Development and Resource Center, Mercedes Vazquez Simmons

Law Office of Dennis M. Grzezinski, Dennis M. Grzezinski

League of Conservation Voters (LCV), Darien Davis

Living Streets Alliance, Vanessa Cascio

Los Angeles Walks, Alex Ramirez

Louisiana 4-Corners Coalition for Transportation Planning Reform, Kim Mitchell

Madison Area Bus Advocates, Susan De Vos

Mainers for Smarter Transportation, Myles Smith

Marin County Bicycle Coalition, Warren Wells

Mobilify Southwestern Pennsylvania, Chris Sandvig

Montgomery Bicycle Advocates (MoBike), Jack Cochrane

MountainTrue, Susan Bean

Move California, Eli Lipman

Move LA, Eli Lipmen

Move Minnesota, MJ Carpio

MOVE Ohio, Akshai Singh

Move Redmond, Kelli Refer

New Jersey Future, Peter Kasabach

New York Communities for Change, Olivia Leirer

Nikhil Badlani Foundation, Sangeeta Badlani

Nondrivers Alliance, Anna Zivarts

Nu-Voters Movement, Omari Shakur

OPAWL - Building AAPI Feminist Leadership, Tessa Xuan

Open Plans, Sara Lind

Oregon Environmental Council, Kristopher Fortin Grijalva

Oregon Walks, Zachary Lauritzen

Our Streets, Joe Harrington

Parks & Trails New York, Dylan Carey

Pennsylvania Downtown Center, Samantha Pearson

Permanent Citizens Advisory Committee to the MTA (PCAC), Lisa Daglian

Philly Transit Riders Union, Nat Lownes

Pittsburghers for Public Transit, Laura Chu Wiens

Planning and Conservation League, Matthew Baker

Plug In America, Ingrid Malmgren

Progressive Leadership Alliance of Nevada, Laura Martin

Property Rights Alliance, Mark Nowotarski

Providence Streets Coalition, Liza Burkin

PSOB Bike Committee, Marsha Hanchrow

Quaker Action Mid Atlantic Region, Liz Robinson

Reconnect Rochester, Cody Donahue

Reconnect South Park Coalition, Maria G. Ramirez

Regional Plan Association, Kate Slevin

Relmagine Appalachia, Dana Kuhnline

Ride Illinois, Dave Simmons

Ride New Orleans, Shirani Jayasuriya

Riders Alliance, Betsy Plum

Rise and Resist Elevator Action Group, Jessica Murray

Rockbridge Conservation, Jamie Goodin

Roosevelt Boulevard Subway Movement, Jay Arzu

Safe Roads Alliance, Emily Stein

Safe Streets Austin, Adam Greenfield

San Luis Valley Ecosystem Council, Christine Canaly

Santaoyála Consultores y Asociados, Gonzalo Contreras Pfäfflin

Scajaquada Corridor Coalition, Justin Booth

Seamless Bay Area, Adina Levin

Shenandoah Valley Bicycle Coalition, Kyle Lawrence

South Pas Active, Casey Law

Southwest Energy Efficiency Project, Travis Madsen

SPUR, Laura Tolkoff

St. Vincent's Green Team, Bethany Gregg

Streets For All, Michael Schneider

Stronger Haven, Rishabh Mittal

Sunrise Movement KC, Anthony Cunningham

Sustain Charlotte, Meg Fencil

Syracuse United Neighbors (SUN), Phil Preen

TakeltBack.Org, Charles Chamberlain

The Black Institute, Tuulikki Robertson

The Crim Fitness Foundation, Madyson Quick

The New Haven Safe Streets Coalition, Max Chaoulideer

The People's Lobby, Will Tanzman

The Street Trust, Sarah lannarone

The Transit Coalition, Bart Reed

thirdspace pARTners LLC, Lillian Cho

Transbay Coalition, Carter Lavin

Transform CA, Abibat Rahman-Davies

Transit Columbus, Stevie Pasamonte

Transit For All PA!, Connor Descheemaker

Transit Riders Union of Connecticut, Fiona McElroy

Transit Trekker, Kimberly Huntress-Inskeep

TransitMatters. Caitlin Allen-Connelly

Transportation Alternatives, Elizabeth Adams

Transportation Choices Coalition, Kirk Hovenkotter

Transportation for Massachusetts, Pete Wilson

Transportation Riders United, Megan Owens

Tri-State Transportation Campaign, Renae Reynolds

Virginia Interfaith Power & Light, Faith Harris

Virginia Organizing, Brian Johns

Vision Long Island, Eric Alexander

Walk Bike Nashville, Wesley Smith

WalkMassachusetts, Brendan Kearney

Washington Area Bicyclist Association, Kalli Krumpos

We Are Revolutionary, Lukee Forbes

West Line Corridor Collaborative, Michael Hughes

Western New York Independent Living, Inc., Todd G Vaarwerk

Winchendon Community Action Committee, Miranda Jennings

Wisconsin Bike Fed, Mike Ridgeman Working for Justice Ministry, St. Paul's United Methodist Church, Michael DiMonte