

LIZZIE FLETCHER
7TH DISTRICT, TEXAS

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON
ENERGY AND COMMERCE
SUBCOMMITTEE ON HEALTH
SUBCOMMITTEE ON COMMUNICATIONS
AND TECHNOLOGY
SUBCOMMITTEE ON CONSUMER PROTECTION
AND COMMERCE

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON
SCIENCE, SPACE, AND TECHNOLOGY
SUBCOMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT



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April 21, 2021

Dear Chair DeFazio and Ranking Member Graves:

I am requesting funding for the Westheimer BOOST Project in the surface transportation reauthorization legislation.

The project sponsor for this project is the Metropolitan Transit Authority of Harris County, Houston, Texas (METRO) and the project is located along Westheimer Road in Houston, Texas in zip codes 77027, 77056, 77057, 77063, 77042, 77077, 77082.

The funding is designated for uncompleted portions of the Westheimer BOOST corridor between Greenbrier Drive and the end of the line at West Oaks Mall. The project is being funded in incremental phases as funding is made available. The Westheimer BOOST is an east-west crosstown bus route offering frequent service to major employment centers including Downtown Houston, Greenway Plaza, Uptown, and Westchase, connecting dense residential neighborhoods to employment centers, key destinations, and essential services. In addition, the 82 Westheimer connects to 64 bus lines in METRO's local and regional network, including several of the other highest-ridership, BOOST routes and the METRO Rapid Silverline (BRT). The route is the highest-ridership bus route in the METRO system, and in all of Texas, with over 13,000 boardings on the average weekday. Improvements will consist of bus stop enhancements, new bus shelters, improved passenger information, and easier boarding platforms and safe all-door access.

The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer dollars and is anticipated to have the following benefits: The BOOST program aims to holistically improve the transit experience on METRO's busiest bus routes, delivering benefits to tens of thousands of existing riders and positioning the routes to attract new ridership in the years to come. The BOOST program provides existing and prospective customers with a better walk, a better stop, and a better ride. BOOST creates transit corridors that are safer, more accessible, and more comfortable for METRO riders (and others) and offer faster, more reliable, and more frequent service.

I certify that neither I nor my immediate family has any financial interest in this project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lizzie Fletcher". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Lizzie" being more prominent than the last name "Fletcher".

Lizzie Fletcher
Member of Congress