



Reconnect Rochester
1115 East Main St.
Mail Box 61
Rochester, NY 14609

April 12, 2021

The Honorable Joseph Morelle
United States House of Representatives
1317 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representative Morelle,

On behalf of Reconnect Rochester, I am writing today to express support for the Rochester Genesee Regional Transportation Authority's (RGRTA) application for a congressional appropriation for new bus shelters.

Reconnect Rochester is a non-profit whose mission is to advocate for enhanced public transportation and policies that promote physical connectivity and equitable mobility options in the Rochester region. We partner with RGRTA on many initiatives to support their provision of safe, reliable, and convenient public transportation that connects people to jobs, education, healthcare, shopping and recreational activities.

Bus stop seating that provides a respectable place to sit while you wait, is a basic comfort and convenience that should be provided to public transit riders. This amenity is especially important for senior citizens, people with disabilities, and parents with young children. Seating not only makes the lives of current riders a little easier, but also encourages more people to use public transportation. Bus stop shelters provide additional protection for riders from the sun, rain, and snow, especially during harsh Rochester winters.

We understand that RGRTA currently has a backlog of bus shelters in need of repair and replacement, and plans to add this amenity at some bus stop locations that are currently without a shelter. Reconnect Rochester strongly supports expansion of bus stop amenities as a priority for our community. We commend RGRTA for its effort to expand amenities, and urge you to approve their application for the resources they need to do so. Thanks for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Renee Stetzer
President, Reconnect Rochester