



Office of the Mayor

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Subject: Letter of Unwavering Support for Lawton Area Transit System & Proposed Enhancements

I am writing to express my unwavering support for the Lawton Area Transit System (LATS) and the transformative enhancements that are poised to revolutionize our city's public transportation infrastructure. As the Mayor of Lawton, it is both my honor and duty to advocate for initiatives that enhance the lives of our residents and foster a more connected and vibrant community.

The proposed enhancements to LATS represent a significant investment in the well-being and prosperity of our community. By addressing key areas such as accessibility, convenience, and environmental sustainability, these improvements will have a profound and far-reaching impact on the lives of our beloved residents.

One of the most exciting aspects of these enhancements is the transition to hybrid buses, a forward-thinking move that underscores our commitment to environmental stewardship. By incorporating cleaner and more efficient technologies into our public transportation system, we are not only reducing our carbon footprint but also improving air quality and mitigating the effects of climate change. This transition aligns with our city's sustainability goals and demonstrates our dedication to creating a healthier and more livable environment for generations to come. The transition to hybrid buses will have significant implications for the health and well-being of our residents. By reducing emissions and air pollution, hybrid buses will contribute to cleaner and healthier air quality in our city. This is particularly important for vulnerable populations, such as children, the elderly, and individuals with respiratory conditions, who are disproportionately affected by poor air quality. By improving air quality, we are not only protecting the health of our residents but also reducing the incidence of respiratory illnesses and other health conditions associated with air pollution.

The proposed enhancements include a comprehensive suite of amenities designed to elevate the transit experience for our residents. From the addition of benches and bus shelters to the establishment of a new transfer center, maintenance, and administrative facility, each enhancement is carefully crafted to enhance comfort, convenience, and accessibility for all transit riders. The provision of shelter from the elements is particularly important, as it ensures that transit riders, including children, elderly, and those with

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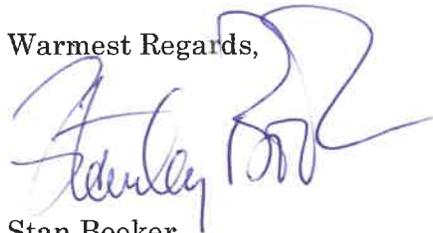
mobility challenges, can travel safely and comfortably regardless of weather conditions. These amenities will provide much-needed relief and support to our residents, particularly those who rely on public transportation as their primary means of getting around.

Moreover, these enhancements will have significant socio-economic implications, contributing to a more equitable and inclusive community. These enhancements will have a ripple effect throughout our community, benefiting residents of all ages and backgrounds. The impact of these enhancements will extend far beyond the realm of transportation, touching the lives of residents in profound and meaningful ways. By providing improved access to transportation, we are empowering individuals to access employment opportunities, educational resources, healthcare services, and recreational activities, thereby enhancing their quality of life and fostering economic prosperity. Additionally, the establishment of a new transfer center and maintenance facility will streamline operations, improve efficiency, and reduce wait times, ensuring that transit riders can reach their destinations quickly and conveniently.

As Mayor, I wholeheartedly support these enhancements to the Lawton Area Transit System and the positive impact they will have on our community. By investing in our public transportation infrastructure, we are not only improving mobility and access to essential services but also fostering economic growth, promoting social equity, and enhancing the overall quality of life for our beloved residents. These enhancements are a testament to our city's commitment to progress and innovation, and I am proud to stand behind them.

In closing, I commend your dedication to advancing the Lawton Area Transit System and thank you for your tireless efforts to improve public transportation services in our city. Together, we can create a more connected, prosperous, and sustainable Lawton for generations to come.

Warmest Regards,



Stan Booker
Mayor of Lawton

APPROVED as to form and legality

on April 15, 2024

Signature: G.W. Gibson