(Company Letterhead)

June 3, 2024

Ms. Veronica Vanterpool

Acting Administrator

Federal Transit Administration

U.S. Department of Transportation

1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE

West Building

Ground Floor – Room W12-140

Washington, D.C. 20590-0001

Dear Acting Administrator Vanterpool:

On behalf of \_\_\_(company name)\_\_\_\_\_, I submit the following the comments in response to the Federal Transit Administration’s (FTA) notice, published in the Federal Register on April 4, 2024 (Notice), concerning the proposed circular on the Rural Areas Formula Grant Programs Guidance, FTA C 9040.1H (Draft Circular).

(Company Name) is an intercity bus company ….[provide background on the company, where it operates and its affiliation/connection to the 5311 program].

We appreciate FTA providing an opportunity to comment on its proposed Draft Circular, and believe the 5311 program would benefit from additional revisions or clarifications to this guidance document.

First, [identify and explain the issue(s) and/or changes you would like to see in the Draft Circular.

**For example:** We have concerns with the Governor Certification section, Chapter IX, item 3, concerning the process allowing a state to avoid setting aside 15% of the 5311(f) funds for intercity bus service needs. Under the current Circular, the governor of a state is directed to send a certification letter to the FTA Administrator, for review; however, the Draft Circular changes the level of review by directing the governor to send a certification letter to the FTA *Regional* Administrator. This downgrades the review process and possibly opens the review to local bias. We urge FTA to restore the language in the current Circular, and maintain the certification review at the FTA Administrator level.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this significant document. If you have any questions regarding the revisions or clarifications we offer in this comment submission, please contact \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ at (XXX) XXX-XXXX.

Respectfully,

Name

Title

Company (unless these comments are submitted on Company letterhead)