

Village of Summit

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March 23, 2024

Honorable Sean Casten
United States Congressman
2440 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman, Casten:

I write to support Pace's request for FY25 Community Project Funding to implement transit signal priority on Harlem Avenue between Ogden Avenue and 95th Street, one of the corridors with the heaviest bus ridership in Cook County. The requested funding would pay for implementation of transit signal priority (TSP) equipment at 30 traffic signals on Harlem Avenue.

TSP creates shorter travel times for bus riders because it allows buses to communicate with traffic signals to shorten red lights and lengthen green lights for buses, and makes transit more reliable and more attractive by giving buses an advantage over regular auto traffic. The implementation of TSP can create immediate benefits to Pace Route 307 and 386 riders at a modest cost, while also facilitating potential future development of full-fledged Pulse rapid transit service.

When policymakers invest in public transportation, it creates greater incentives for commuters to use transit, leading to many societal benefits--reduced traffic congestion, improved air quality, job access for those most in need, and economic development for local businesses. Pace's proposed investment in this corridor also offers benefits to historically disadvantaged communities in Cook County, in line with the Biden Administration's Justice40 initiative.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Sergio Rodriguez
Village President
Village of Summit