

**TESTIMONY OF MARCUS J. MOLINARO, NOMINEE TO BE FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATOR**

*Before the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs*

*United States Senate*

March 27, 2025

**Chairman Scott, Ranking Member Warren, Members of the Committee —**

Thank you for the opportunity to be here with you today. I'm honored and humbled to appear before you as President Trump's nominee for Federal Transit Administrator.

I am grateful to the President for his trust in me, and to Secretary Duffy for his confidence in my leadership. I also thank each of you—Democrat and Republican—for your service to this country and commitment to a stronger, more connected America.

Public service has been the work of my life. I've had the privilege of serving at every level of government—local, county, state, and federal. From village mayor to member of Congress, I've worked to build consensus, bridge divides, and deliver solutions that matter to people. As County Executive, I led through crisis, managed complex budgets, and embraced accountability—not for its own sake, but to ensure we honor the trust taxpayers place in us. I've learned local decision making matters and one size rarely fits all.

I'm joined today by my son Jack, and I send my love to my wife Corinne and our children—Abigail, Elias, and Theo. They all sacrifice much more than they should so I might serve, and I love them very much.

Transit is more than a system of buses, ferries, and rails—it's the shared circulatory system of our economy. It connects rural towns and big cities, creates opportunity, and drives growth. It revitalizes the centers of community. It gives Americans—from students to seniors, veterans to working parents—the freedom to move, thrive and succeed.

To meet today's challenges—and tomorrow's demands—transit must embrace technology, modernize systems, and leverage investment in housing, commercial, and overall economic development. We must make use of data to improve reliability and enhance safety, and innovation to better serve riders and communities. To fully realize this vision, we must drive innovation, streamline permitting, boost performance, and fully harness technology to transform how we plan, build, and operate transit. A modern, safe, reliable, and accessible transit system in urban centers and rural communities – under ground, over roads, and across waterways – will advance America and Americans.

In my career, I've focused on creating opportunities for individuals with disabilities. As Dutchess County Executive, our ThinkDIFFERENTLY initiative, launched in 2015, changed how government serves people—not through rhetoric, but through action. We made universal accessibility a core value. If confirmed, that same commitment to those with physical, developmental, and intellectual disabilities will shape every aspect of my work at the FTA – for daughters like my own and the millions of Americans like her.

Transit depends on people—each agency’s operators, engineers, maintenance crews, dispatchers, and custodians who keep America moving. Their dedication deserves our respect, our investment, and a seat at the table. I value the work of the unions that represent them and see them as partners in building a system that is safer, more efficient, and future-ready. And I thank my good friend John Samuelson, President of the Transport Workers Union, for his support and being here with me today.

Let me also recognize the professionals at the Federal Transit Administration. Their expertise and dedication are essential to this mission, and I look forward to working alongside them to deliver results for the American people.

If confirmed, I will advance President Trump’s bold America First agenda for rebuilding our infrastructure, and meet Secretary Duffy’s high standards for leadership, innovation, and accountability. I will work with each of you—regardless of party—to help build transit systems that deliver: for riders, for workers, for taxpayers, and for the communities we all serve.

We are at a moment of great possibility: a golden age. Together, we can ensure that transit not only moves Americans—but helps move America forward. **Just as our own circulatory system connects every part of the body to sustain life, transit binds our communities—urban and rural, coastal and heartland—ensuring opportunity, access, and resilience flow to every corner of this nation.**

Thank you for the opportunity to appear before you. I look forward to your questions and, if confirmed, to getting to work.

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