



Regional Vision ■ Collaborative Leadership ■ Professional Service

January 28, 2026

Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation
600 East Main Street, Suite 2102
Richmond, VA 23219

Dear Reviewer:

On behalf of the Thomas Jefferson Planning District Commission (TJPDC), I am pleased to offer this letter of support for Jaunt's application to the Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation (DRPT) MERIT Demonstration Project Assistance grant program. As the regional planning body serving the Counties of Albemarle, Fluvanna, Greene, Louisa, and Nelson and the City of Charlottesville, the TJPDC works to enhance quality of life through regional collaboration and planning. Transportation access and mobility are a core part of our mission, and Jaunt is a critical partner in these efforts.

Jaunt connects residents in seven jurisdictions to their desired destinations meeting employment, healthcare, educational, social and shopping needs. Current Jaunt service from rural Fluvanna and Louisa counties to the urban core operates on select weekdays with a limited schedule. Jaunt's application for service expansion seeks to better align midday and late afternoon trips for residents, and we believe that the proposed service improvements would be responsive to demonstrated community demand and meaningfully improve access for residents.

The TJPDC operates the Partnership for Accessible Transportation Help (PATH), a mobility management program dedicated to improving access to transportation in Virginia's Region 10. The need for improved midday service has been consistently reinforced by direct feedback received through the PATH helpline, particularly from elderly and disabled callers who cite gaps in Jaunt's existing schedule as a barrier to mobility. We believe the successful implementation of this concept will positively impact the health of our community.

Our organizations have a close and effective working relationship that has significantly strengthened transportation mobility throughout the region. We greatly value our partnership with Jaunt, and fully support their efforts to expand their important services through this grant opportunity.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Christine Jacobs".

Christine Jacobs
Executive Director