



STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

ROY COOPER
GOVERNOR

J. ERIC BOYETTE
SECRETARY

October 27, 2020

The Honorable K. Jane Williams
Acting Administrator
Federal Transit Administration
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Acting Administrator Williams:

We write in strong support of the North Carolina's Department of Transportation's (NCDOT) application for funding under The Public Transportation COVID-19 Research Demonstration Grant Program.

As identified under the NC Transit Cares project, one of the biggest challenges currently facing NC Transit is how to keep transit passengers and operators safe. Public health experts, including faculty from the Johns Hopkins University and the University of North Carolina, suggest that transit agencies can fundamentally work to improve airflow patterns, filtration efficiency, and outdoor air ventilation in their vehicles and facilities to help reduce the risk of COVID-19 transmission. In the near-term, transit agencies can optimize their existing vehicles, facilities, and their associated HVAC systems. In the long-term, transit agencies can consider new HVAC system designs that will more effectively help control the spread of human disease while still balancing the needs for thermal comfort and energy efficiency.

To aid NC transit agencies in effective indoor air management, research is needed to move to new HVAC design concepts for transit vehicles and facilities, based on concepts used in the healthcare industry. Step one of this research is to complete Computational Fluid Dynamics (CFD) modeling of typical vehicles and facility common areas to guide effective improvements in airflow patterns, filtration efficiency and air change rates for new HVAC concepts. Step two will be to develop standard HVAC design specifications for typical vehicles used by NC Transit and facility common areas, and this step will be accomplished working in collaboration with public health experts. These design specifications may then be applied to vehicles offered under the NC State Vehicle Procurement Contract and will be universally relevant to rural and urban transit agencies throughout North Carolina and the United States.

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We fully support NCDOT in this application for grant funding. As public transit providers in North Carolina, we do not have the resources to pursue this type of research and so your leadership in initiating a State-wide effort is much appreciated. The benefits of this research and follow-on work will enable us to work to keep our transit passengers and operating staff as safe as possible, which is our primary goal.

Sincerely,

North Carolina Public Transportation Systems

<p>DocuSigned by: <i>Amanda Koton</i> CDB00C7344C84A3... DocuSigned by:</p>	<p>DocuSigned by: <i>Carol Hurst Long</i> C3E24EBD1BD34F3... DocuSigned by:</p>	<p>DocuSigned by: <i>Jessie Lee</i> 64E44267419A4A3... DocuSigned by:</p>	<p>DocuSigned by: <i>Charles</i> E64FDAE6369E4C2... DocuSigned by:</p>	<p>DocuSigned by: <i>Marina Taylor</i> 50EBEFA41AA3495... DocuSigned by:</p>	<p>DocuSigned by: <i>Scott Russell</i> 94EECCFFDB547D...</p>
<p>DocuSigned by: <i>Angel Venecia</i> 846C6B3661764B7... DocuSigned by:</p>	<p>DocuSigned by: <i>Craig Hughes</i> BFEB2A7BC6274D4... DocuSigned by:</p>	<p>DocuSigned by: <i>Joe</i> EADFE05B944D4C5... DocuSigned by:</p>	<p>DocuSigned by: <i>Lynn Swett</i> 72528EFOEFA49B... DocuSigned by:</p>	<p>DocuSigned by: <i>Pam Perry</i> B8AA5DE935B0476... DocuSigned by:</p>	<p>DocuSigned by: <i>Sharon</i> A6D1CB684431429... DocuSigned by:</p>
<p>DocuSigned by: <i>Angela W. Wynne</i> 8085AE238A17411... DocuSigned by:</p>	<p>DocuSigned by: <i>David Bone</i> 0A8E844E4175436... DocuSigned by:</p>	<p>DocuSigned by: <i>Donna</i> E9C7020710184AA... DocuSigned by:</p>	<p>DocuSigned by: <i>Marie Gunther</i> CBC6226A3B2F496... DocuSigned by:</p>	<p>DocuSigned by: <i>Patrice Lassiter</i> CBE6E71E1567458... DocuSigned by:</p>	<p>DocuSigned by: <i>Sharon</i> D60DE1B7E96A4CE... DocuSigned by:</p>
<p>DocuSigned by: <i>Angie M. Moore</i> 1DC3C83DCAEF449... DocuSigned by:</p>	<p>DocuSigned by: <i>Donna</i> A27A3F09537B4DD... DocuSigned by:</p>	<p>DocuSigned by: <i>Donna</i> E9C7020710184AA... DocuSigned by:</p>	<p>DocuSigned by: <i>Marlene Vinson</i> 816767435B56405... DocuSigned by:</p>	<p>DocuSigned by: <i>Paula Stepe</i> 6325A07A9C25492... DocuSigned by:</p>	<p>DocuSigned by: <i>Paula Blalock</i> 2BC82CC0C0434E4...</p>
<p>DocuSigned by: <i>Anita Davis-Haywood</i> 481FD8A51387489... DocuSigned by:</p>	<p>DocuSigned by: <i>Dobbie Smith</i> 60F314BEA9064FC... DocuSigned by:</p>	<p>DocuSigned by: <i>Jan Jacobs</i> 30B7D712F043455... DocuSigned by:</p>	<p>DocuSigned by: <i>Matthew Cable</i> 88953E261DC74F6... DocuSigned by:</p>	<p>DocuSigned by: <i>Ralph Gilliam</i> 6165B757E8AA4C0... DocuSigned by:</p>	<p>DocuSigned by: <i>Sharon</i> 7804C678814C4DF... DocuSigned by:</p>
<p>DocuSigned by: <i>Anna Testerman</i> A932F598FFE5433...</p>	<p>DocuSigned by: <i>Janine</i> D91FA0121BCC4D8... DocuSigned by:</p>	<p>DocuSigned by: <i>Kelly Blazey</i> FED78E0655F14C8... DocuSigned by:</p>	<p>DocuSigned by: <i>Meghan</i> D92CF8B3F47C4F2... DocuSigned by:</p>	<p>DocuSigned by: <i>Meggan Odell</i> 7CDAEDCF9DB4F0... DocuSigned by:</p>	<p>DocuSigned by: <i>Sonia</i> 1C82B9AB1D2545F... DocuSigned by:</p>
<p>DocuSigned by: <i>April Alm</i> 88A1591556814BF... DocuSigned by:</p>	<p>DocuSigned by: <i>Eunice Loui</i> 512A5CA4CA3D46E... DocuSigned by:</p>	<p>DocuSigned by: <i>Kent Port</i> EAFDEC721146402... DocuSigned by:</p>	<p>DocuSigned by: <i>Melissa Williamson</i> AD614DCB34E74C4... DocuSigned by:</p>	<p>DocuSigned by: <i>Randy Cantor</i> 63C66FA637264C7... DocuSigned by:</p>	<p>DocuSigned by: <i>Jawanna</i> 499A2E94A713497... DocuSigned by:</p>
<p>DocuSigned by: <i>April Sneed</i> C2BB19280D4C4BD...</p>	<p>DocuSigned by: <i>Felicia Sanchez</i> 6398090FECF34F8... DocuSigned by:</p>	<p>DocuSigned by: <i>Wendy E. Ailes</i> 72D983285D16418... DocuSigned by:</p>	<p>DocuSigned by: <i>Michael Coone</i> 0A542FE2BA2449C... DocuSigned by:</p>	<p>DocuSigned by: <i>Randy Hume</i> 37B4DBBC69C94CE... DocuSigned by:</p>	<p>DocuSigned by: <i>Sharon</i> 722E5DD0AB25490...</p>
<p>DocuSigned by: <i>Bob Davis</i> D01A1A020546435... DocuSigned by:</p>	<p>DocuSigned by: <i>Stonna</i> F5370E748FF7499... DocuSigned by:</p>	<p>DocuSigned by: <i>Mike</i> FD149C50E32F41A... DocuSigned by:</p>	<p>DocuSigned by: <i>Mehrdad</i> 861417D799B74F4... DocuSigned by:</p>	<p>DocuSigned by: <i>Richard M. Jones, Jr.</i> A072928CD78648B... DocuSigned by:</p>	<p>DocuSigned by: <i>Sharon</i> F1C7AD4FCE21435...</p>
<p>DocuSigned by: <i>Bradley Johnson</i> 131378F2365C4D8...</p>	<p>DocuSigned by: <i>Robert</i> 82FDBC2D7C04492... DocuSigned by:</p>	<p>DocuSigned by: <i>Hina Angel</i> 4CFC6EDC4838499... DocuSigned by:</p>	<p>DocuSigned by: <i>Mike</i> 4A32022C4E8249A... DocuSigned by:</p>	<p>DocuSigned by: <i>Richard M. Jones, Jr.</i> FD62DCA4835D487... DocuSigned by:</p>	<p>DocuSigned by: <i>Tiffany Boyer</i> 3D11DE09F6584AC...</p>
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<p>DocuSigned by: <i>Camille Sterling</i> 72056D2A090D49F...</p>	<p>DocuSigned by: <i>Jeff Cockerham</i> 467B280B025D42F... DocuSigned by:</p>	<p>DocuSigned by: <i>W. Weslowski</i> 885D3229B3A748E... DocuSigned by:</p>	<p>DocuSigned by: <i>Neal Davis</i> 4958CDE165DA476... DocuSigned by:</p>	<p>DocuSigned by: <i>Rosemarie</i> D311EA179DAA4E9... DocuSigned by:</p>	<p>DocuSigned by: <i>Vincent Wong</i> A7B77241D3F8493... DocuSigned by:</p>
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