

January 17, 2024

Honorable Pete Buttigieg
Secretary
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave. SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

As a passenger of Wilson, North Carolina's RIDE on-demand service, I am writing this letter to show my support for the Connected, Rural, Equitable, and Autonomous Transportation for Everyone (CREATE) grant application the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) is submitting to the Advanced Transportation Technology and Innovation (ATTAIN) program.

I have heard that the NCDOT Integrated Mobility Division's goal is to deliver safe, affordable, convenient, and expanded transit services using advanced technology. The City of Wilson's new on-demand service, RIDE, does exactly that. I can schedule my trips through an app on my phone. This service has enabled me to obtain and keep employment as well as get to doctor appointments, etc. This is something that I could not do prior to them implementing RIDE.

I understand that the CREATE project will improve the service and help me to reach more opportunities and even preschedule some of my rides. I am also interested in learning more about the automated vehicles and using them for my trips.

Please consider the CREATE grant application for ATTAIN program funding.

Sincerely,

