



STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

ROY COOPER
GOVERNOR

J.R. "JOEY" HOPKINS
SECRETARY

11/29/2023

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg
Secretary of Transportation
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, D.C. 20590

Subject: Letter of Financial Commitment for the Cape Fear Memorial Bridge Replacement

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

The North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) is pleased to provide this letter of financial commitment for the USDOT 2023 Bridge Investment Program (BIP) Large Bridge Project, the Cape Fear Memorial Bridge Replacement.

The Cape Fear Memorial Bridge (CFMB) Replacement Project (Project) will replace an existing four-lane steel vertical-lift bridge that is functionally obsolete. The bridge, completed in 1969, carries US 17/US 76/US 421 across the Cape Fear River between New Hanover and Brunswick Counties with terminations in the City of Wilmington on the east and Eagles Island (New Hanover and Brunswick Counties) on the west.

This grant application is a result of years of collaboration between NCDOT and local stakeholders to address the maintenance and capacity needs of this vital transportation asset. As is common with many large transportation facilities located in disadvantaged, lower-populated areas, the Department has struggled to secure funding for this project through traditional funding methods (see the "Project Budget" section of the narrative for additional information). This is due to limited funding resources and facilities with higher volumes tending to outrank these projects for desperately needed funding. The Department is hopeful that an impactful grant award could offset a significant portion of the cost for the project, thus making it more competitive for the funding available through the State's traditional funding methods. Our Local stakeholders are also evaluating a tolling option to provide match for the project. According to NC tolling policy, the decision to toll a facility must be initiated by the local government.

Mailing Address:
NC DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
SECRETARY'S OFFICE
1501 MAIL SERVICE CENTER STREET
RALEIGH, NC 27699-1501

Telephone: (919) 707-2800
Fax: (919) 733-9150
Customer Service: 1-877-368-4968

Location:
1 SOUTH WILMINGTON STREET
RALEIGH, NC 27601

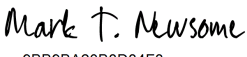
Website: www.ncdot.gov

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NCDOT fully commits to pursuing all options available to fund the required match for the replacement if this project is awarded.

Thank you for your consideration of NCDOT's Cape Fear Memorial Bridge Replacement Project application. If you have any questions, please call 919-612-6133 or email mnewsome2@ncdot.gov.

Sincerely,

DocuSigned by:

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Mark T. Newsome

Chief Financial Officer

North Carolina Department of Transportation

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