



Crown Castle  
6801-A Northpark Boulevard  
Charlotte, NC 28216

August 27, 2019

The Honorable Elaine Chao  
Secretary of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Chao:

Crown Castle supports North Carolina Department of Transportation's (NCDOT's) I-85/I-40 Foundations for Safer and Automated Transportation (FAST) application to the U.S. Department of Transportation's BUILD Program. As the nation's largest provider of shared telecommunications infrastructure, Crown Castle applauds the state of North Carolina's efforts to densify fiber networks that enable residents and businesses to benefit from the advances in safety and economic development.

The I-85/I-40 corridor is critical to east-west regional travel and is vital for commuters between three of North Carolina's major metropolitan areas. This project will result in fiber connectivity that will align the path along the corridor. These types of investments improve user safety, freight mobility, and the digital connectivity of communities in central North Carolina.

We understand the project elements will benefit the transportation system in the state:

1. Completes the NCDOT fiber-optic backbone from Raleigh to Charlotte, allowing operations personnel and first responders immediate and reliable access to a variety of traffic management systems.
2. Supports the eventual interconnection of freight facilities.
3. Supports the deployment of connected and automated vehicle technology.
4. Introduces new state-of-the art technology to improve traffic safety along the heavily traveled corridor, by focusing on risky driver behavior and non-ideal road conditions.
5. Provides the potential for improved cutting-edge broadband access to both urban and rural communities along the corridor.

These are just a few of the many reasons, Crown Castle supports the NCDOT I-85 / I-40 application. Thank you for your consideration of this BUILD grant request from NCDOT. If you have additional questions, please feel free to contact me via any of the methods in my signature.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Ann Brooks'.

Ann Brooks

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CrownCastle.com