



Anson County Manager Office
101 S. Greene Street
Wadesboro, NC 28170

Leonard "Len" Sossamon
Anson County Manager
(704) 994-3200

U.S. Secretary of Transportation
United States Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

To Whom it May Concern:

I would like to express my strong support for the North Carolina Department of Transportation's (NCDOT's) **Bridges not Barriers - A collaborative Bridge Bundle Replacement Project** ("the Project" hereafter) application to the U.S. Department of Transportation's Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) Grant Program. The Project offers an opportunity to replace 15 bridges maintained by NCDOT across Division 10 in North Carolina. Division 10 is comprised of Anson County, Cabarrus County, Mecklenburg County, Stanly County, and Union County. The project is part of a coordinated effort to replace primarily rural bridges in disadvantaged communities across the Division.

The Project focuses on the replacement of bridges with a variety of problems including flooding, drift, and/or scour. Four of the bridges are low water bridges and are especially susceptible to extreme weather events. Eleven bridges are load posted and nine of the bridges experience flooding. Nine bridges experience scour, and five experience significant drift that needs to be regularly cleared out, significantly increasing operations and maintenance costs. The bridges range from 42 years to 80 years, with sufficiency ratings between 37 and 73 percent.


The Project will provide an opportunity to replace aged bridges that otherwise might not be replaced in a timely manner due to their prioritization level compared to other bridge projects in the Division. The removal of recurring flooding, scour, and drift issues will reduce regular maintenance, decreasing cost burdens to the State. This will allow NCDOT to stretch resources further and allocate them to other areas in need across the Division and State.

Anson County is located strategically so that US Highway 74 traverses it from west to east. This is important since US 74 runs from the North Carolina mountains through Charlotte and onto Wilmington, which is a port city on the coast. This makes Anson County a great prospect for industrial development and interstate commerce. US 74 is actually intersected by US 52 which runs north to south further enhancing Anson County's position as a major trade route.

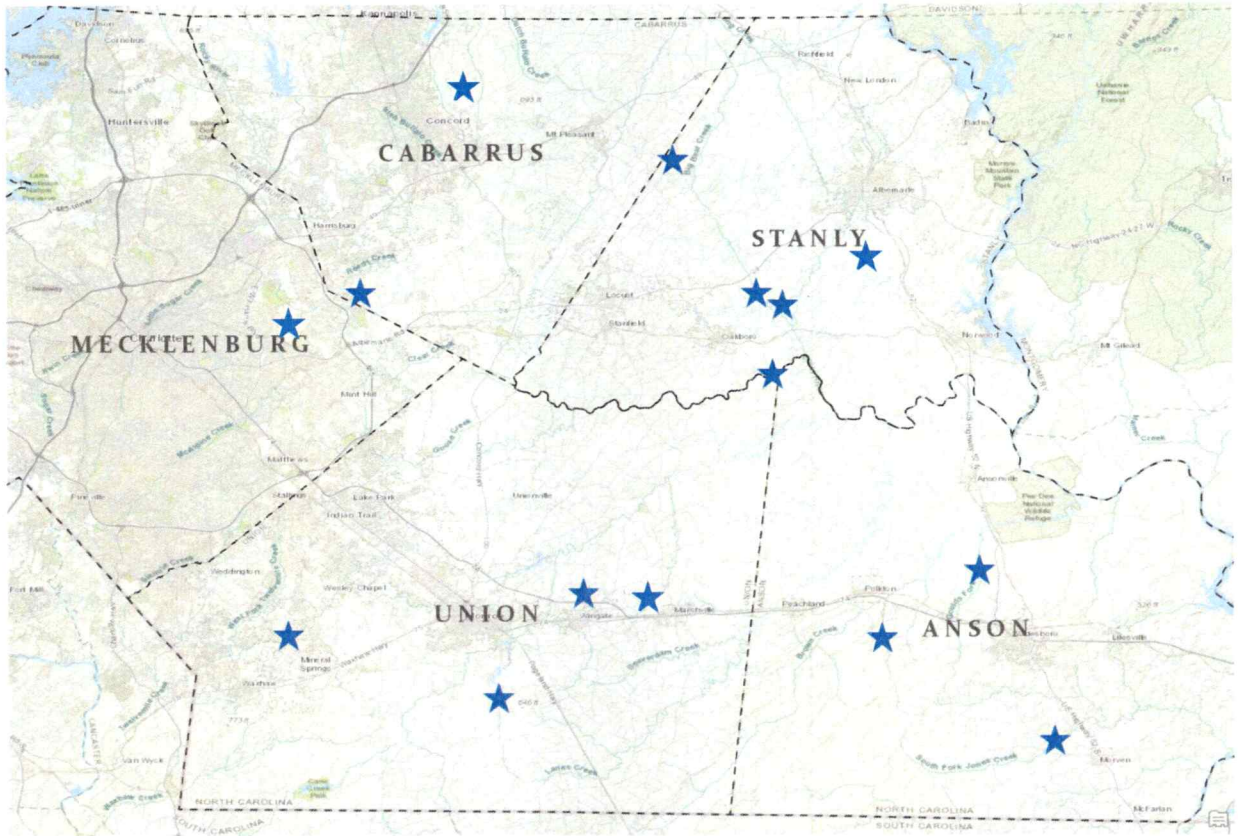
Furthermore, the implementation of the Project is expected to foster increased accessibility to community members and foster improved emergency response that is not burdened by detours in the event extreme weather events. These bridge replacements are extremely important to the local community and region, as well as benefit impoverished residents within the project area. In fact, four bridges are located within disadvantaged census tracts and six are located within Areas of Persistent Poverty.

For these reasons, I, along with those I represent, strongly urge you to support the **Bridges not Barriers - A collaborative Bridge Bundle Replacement Project** and the NCDOT's application for federal Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity Grant Program funding to accelerate construction.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Leonard Sossamon", written over a horizontal line.

Leonard Sossamon
County Manager
Anson County, NC



COUNTY	BRIDGE #	ROAD NAME	CROSSING	Cabarrus Co	
CABARRUS	120173	PEACH ORCARD RD.	McKEE CREEK	Y	
ANSON	030148	Mills Rd	LITTLE BROWN CREEK		
UNION	890144	Stack Rd	LITTLE RICHARDSON CK		
UNION	890074	Monroe-Ansonville Rd	MEADOW BRANCH		
ANSON	030265	Robinson Rd	S. FORK OF JONES CK		
STANLY	830200	BRIDGE PORT RD.	BEAR CREEK		
UNION	890312	SHANNON RD.	E. FORK OF 12 MILE CK		
STANLY	830106	BOOGER HOLLAR RD.	BEAR CREEK		
STANLY	830081	BRIDGE RD.	LITTLE BEAR CREEK		
ANSON	030161	Lockhart Rd	GOULDS FORK CREEK		
MECKLENBURG	590060	Robinson Church Rd	UT to Reedy Creek		
UNION	890067	Austin Grove Church Rd	SALEM CREEK		
STANLY	830095	Old Aquadale Rd	LITTLE CREEK		
CABARRUS	120050	Penninger Rd	UT to Cold Water Creek		Y
UNION	890170	Potters Rd	Cane Creek		

Anson Co Union Co Stanly Co Wesley Chapel City of Charlotte Meck Co

Y					
	Y				
	Y				
Y					
		Y			
	Y			Y	
		Y			
		Y			
Y					
				Y	Y
	Y				
		Y			
	Y				