

FUNDING COMMITMENTS

Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development (BUILD) Grant Program



STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

JOSH STEIN
GOVERNOR

J.R. "JOEY" HOPKINS
SECRETARY

January 28, 2025

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

Subject: Letter of Financial Commitment for the NCDOT's Bridges not Barriers – A Collaborative Bridge Bundle Replacement BUILD Discretionary Grant Application

Dear Secretary Duffy,

The North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) is pleased to provide this letter of financial commitment for the Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development (BUILD) Grant Program Project, Bridges not Barriers – A Collaborative Bridge Bundle Replacement Project (the Project).

The Project proposes to replace 15 bridges experiencing a variety of issues including flooding, drift, and/or scour maintained by NCDOT across Division 10 in North Carolina. Nine of the bridges experience recurring flooding, and four structures are low water bridges that are susceptible to extreme weather events. Eleven bridges are load posted and nine experience scouring. Five structures experience significant drift that needs to be cleared out regularly, significantly increasing operations and maintenance costs. The project is part of a coordinated effort to replace rural bridges in disadvantaged communities across the Division. The replacement of these bridges is anticipated to cost \$24,527,500.

NCDOT is submitting a request for \$19,622,000 of BUILD funds to construct the project and acknowledges a non-federal commitment of \$4,905,500. It is anticipated that these funds will come from State Division Bridge Funds. The Department is hopeful this award could significantly offset costs of the project, expanding the impact of traditional state funding methods. NCDOT fully commits to pursuing all options available to fund the required match for the implementation of this Project if it is awarded.

This BUILD grant application, when combined with significant state investment in road improvements throughout the region, would position North Carolina to immediately move forward to improve the state of good repair, enhance the economic competitiveness, resilience, safety, environmental sustainability, mobility and community connectivity, innovation opportunities and quality of life in the region. The Project is a prudent investment that will proactively protect existing transportation assets, thereby preventing future losses.

USDOT Secretary Sean Duffy Letter of Financial Support for NCDOT's Bridges not Barriers FY2025 BUILD grant program application January 28, 2025 Page 2 of 2

The project is reflected in our mission statement:

Connecting people, products and places safely and efficiently with customer focus, accountability and environmental sensitivity to enhance the economy and vitality of North Carolina.

Thank you for your consideration of NCDOT's Bridges not Barriers – A Collaborative Bridge Bundle Replacement Project. If you have any questions, please call 919-707-4320 or email mnewsome2@ncdot.gov.

Sincerely,



Mark T. Newsome Chief Financial Officer North Carolina Department of Transportation