

North Carolina General Assembly House of Representatives

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January 27, 2025

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

Dear Secretary Duffy,

I would like to express my wholehearted support for the Town of East Spencer's application to the U.S. Department of Transportation for a Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development (BUILD) grant. As a State Representative for Rowan County, I support the construction conversion of Correll Street/McCanless Road from an underpass to an interchange on I-85 in Rowan County. I believe this project offers a significant opportunity to correct future traffic issues and to overall improve the infrastructure in East Spencer.

The East Spencer Interchange for a Growth Nexus (DESIGN) project offers a vital opportunity to tackle the long-standing transportation and economic issues that the Town faces. This initiative is essential for overcoming East Spencer's transportation obstacles. The Town was isolated from neighboring communities due to barriers such as the railroad to the west, Town Creek to the east, and no direct routes to the south. Residents have depended on Long Street for access to the surrounding areas.

The DESIGN project will provide East Spencer with the tools needed to confront many of its mobility and economic challenges. Residents will gain improved access to I-85, which will alleviate traffic on Long Street,

lessening the load on this aging roadway and making it safer for cyclists and pedestrians. Furthermore, with funding secured for the interchange, the Town can also foster better access to jobs and Hanford-Dole Elementary School. This grant represents a transformative opportunity for East Spencer, allowing it to create new avenues for economic growth for its community members.

Sincerely,

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Representative Harry Warren NC House of Representatives District 76, Rowan County