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NORTH CAROLINA  
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January 27, 2025

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

Dear Secretary Duffy,

I am writing to express my support for the East Spencer, North Carolina's application for the Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development (BUILD) grant. As a representative of the Rowan County Tourism Development Authority, I endorse this project, as it presents a unique opportunity to enhance not only the infrastructure of East Spencer, but also the broader Rowan County tourism and visitor economy.

For Rowan County, tourism and visitors are a significant economic driver. East Spencer's revitalization efforts will create enhanced accessibility and appeal for visitors, helping to promote local attractions, historical sites, and recreational areas. The planned improvements will not only make the town more attractive to potential visitors but will also ensure better connectivity to nearby destinations within Rowan County and beyond, expanding the region's tourism offerings.

Furthermore, Rowan County Tourism is partnering with the Town of East Spencer to implement town way-finding signage and invest in their local arts and culture programs. This project promises to revitalize key areas, improve mobility, and further enhance the current endeavors. These upgrades will have an immediate and long-term positive impact on the quality of life for residents and visitors alike, while also fostering future growth and opportunities.

In closing, I endorse the Town of East Spencer's application for the BUILD grant and support the construction conversion of Correll Street/McCanless Road from an underpass to an interchange on Interstate 85 in Rowan County, North Carolina. This investment will have a lasting and meaningful impact on the community and tourism in Rowan County, creating a more welcoming destination for all. Thank you for your service and consideration of this key project.

Sincerely,

*James Rankin Meacham*

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