



Board of Commissioners

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The Honorable Pete Buttigieg
Secretary of Transportation
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

January 17, 2025

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

I am writing on behalf of the Wake County Board of Commissioners to express our support for the **Wake Forest S-Line Mobility Hub** application for the Department of Transportation's Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) Program for 2025. This grant is being submitted by the Town of Wake Forest in partnership with the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT).

The **Wake Forest S-Line Mobility Hub ("Mobility Hub")** will advance regional multimodal transportation along the S-Line Rail Corridor in central North Carolina – adding opportunities for local connections to goods and services, improving social equity in historically disadvantaged communities, supporting sustainable transportation, and spurring economic growth. This *Mobility Hub* will complete construction of a mobility hub in Wake Forest, NC – a key community in the overall S-Line Passenger Rail system and one of three Wake County communities located along the S-Line corridor. This *Mobility Hub* will be the first constructed mobility hub along the corridor. This effort builds on recent federal grant awards for the design and construction of the S-Line Rail Corridor up to Wake Forest, and the previously awarded RAISE grant application for feasibility study, environmental review, and preliminary engineering of the Wake Forest Mobility Hub site.

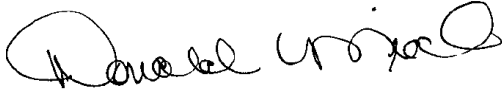
This *Mobility Hub* will be a place of accessible, equitable multimodal connectivity, offering an integrated suite of mobility services, amenities, and supporting technologies, which will allow passengers to transfer modes in a safe and convenient manner. The *Mobility Hub* will allow this community to capitalize on the S-line corridor construction by optimizing first and last mile solutions and connect with each other.

Wake County is one of the five fastest growing large counties in the United States; we are currently growing at a rate of 51 people a day. Improving transportation options and access is critical to the future success of our rapidly growing County and region. The *Mobility Hub* project aligns with the goals in our local transit investment plan, which include better connecting our region and our communities while increasing access to transit and providing frequent, reliable, urban mobility.

The S-Line corridor is historically significant to central North Carolina, and it will shape the future of the region. The partnerships between Wake Forest and regional and state agencies will further multimodal, equitable, and accessible travel through the State, leading to new economic opportunities in communities whose histories have been greatly affected by the growth and decline of rail. The **Mobility Hub** will be an essential element in the reinvigoration, quality of life, growth, and overall vibrancy in our communities.

I respectfully urge your full consideration of the **Wake Forest S-Line Mobility Hub** grant application.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Donald W. Mial". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "D" and a distinct "M" at the end.

Donald W. Mial
Vice-Chair, Wake County Board of Commissioners