



WAKE FOREST
BUSINESS & INDUSTRY PARTNERSHIP

Wake Forest Business & Industry Partnership, Inc.
525 South White Street, Suite 117
Wake Forest, North Carolina 27587
919.435.9420
www.discoverwakeforest.org

January 6, 2025

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

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

I am writing to strongly support 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. The Town of Wake Forest is submitting this grant in partnership with the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT).

The Wake Forest S-Line Mobility Hub ("Mobility Hub") will serve to 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 application will complete the construction of a mobility hub in Wake Forest, NC – a key community in the overall S-Line Passenger Rail system. This Mobility Hub will be the first constructed mobility hub along the corridor. This effort builds off significant 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 the feasibility study, NEPA, 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, allowing passengers to transfer modes safely and conveniently. The Mobility Hub will enable this community to capitalize on the S-line corridor construction by optimizing first- and last-mile solutions and connect with each other.

As the economic development entity for the Town of Wake Forest, our work focuses on opportunities and initiatives that create new jobs, spur new investment in the local tax base, and enhance the local quality of life. This Mobility Hub is a unique opportunity strategically situated in Wake Forest's historic core that will tangibly advance each of these imperatives. Moving forward, its advancement is among our top priorities for Downtown Wake Forest.

Additionally, 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, development, and overall vibrancy in our communities.

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

Sincerely,

Jason Cannon
President
Wake Forest Business & Industry Partnership, Inc.