

September 10, 2024

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

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

On behalf of the Regional Transportation Alliance, the voice of the regional business community on transportation in North Carolina's Research Triangle area, I am writing to express RTA's support for the Creating a Legacy of Equity + Access to a Network of EVSE Resources in North Carolina (CLEANER NC) application to the U.S. Department of Transportation's (USDOT's) 2024 Charging and Fueling Infrastructure (CFI) Community Grant Program.


The regional business community supports the expansion of electrification in our region and across the state. This Project will deliver two new EV charging stations with a total of four Level 2 ports and four Direct Current Fast Charging (DCFC) ports at Elizabeth City State University (ECSU). This investment will expand convenient, reliable, affordable, and equitable EV charging infrastructure.

The proposed project will provide new charging stations in an important county seat and major educational institution in a rural area of our state, just off the future Interstate I-87 corridor that will connect Raleigh, northeastern North Carolina, and southeastern Virginia.

The Project's investments in EV charging stations will be paired with a pilot expansion of the NCDOT Office of HBCU Outreach's Internship Program to support the implementation of North Carolina's Plan for EV Infrastructure Deployment. Up to four interns from ECSU will be placed at state agencies with a clean transportation component for 10 weeks. Additionally, NCDOT's Office of Civil Rights (OCR) will partner with local community-based organizations across the state to perform robust outreach and recruitment into job training programs.

I respectfully urge your full consideration of the CLEANER NC grant application. Please contact me at 919.664.7065 or joe@letsgetmoving.org with questions.

Sincerely,



Joe Milazzo II, PE
Executive Director,
Regional Transportation Alliance