

AMY H. CANNON  
County Manager

MELISSA C. CARDINALI  
Assistant County Manager



CUMBERLAND  
COUNTY  
NORTH CAROLINA

DUANE T. HOLDER  
Assistant County Manager

TRACY JACKSON  
Assistant County Manager

SALLY S. SHUTT  
Assistant County Manager

## OFFICE OF THE COUNTY MANAGER

Secretary James H. Trogdon III  
North Carolina Department of Transportation  
1501 Mail Service Center  
Raleigh, NC 27699-1501

March 18, 2019

Dear Secretary Trogdon:

Please accept this letter of support for the North Carolina Department of Transportation's (NCDOT's) *I-95 /Future I-87 Rural Corridor, Resiliency, and Innovative Technology Improvements Project* application to the U.S. Department of Transportation's INFRA Program. The Project is the outcome of a thoughtful combination of multiple complementary investments and coordinated strategy to improve corridor performance, freight mobility, infrastructure resiliency, build out and harden the network of freight distribution/military corridors and digital connectivity of rural communities in eastern North Carolina.

The I-95 Corridor is critical to long-distance travel up and down the East Coast and is vital for local trips within North Carolina as well. Given its location along the eastern seaboard with multiple river crossings, I-95, as currently designed, is vulnerable to flooding. The Project widens 27-miles of I-95 to eight (8) lanes, from Exit 13 to 40 between Lumberton and Fayetteville and raises two bridges near Lumberton and several low-lying portions of the road that are susceptible to flooding. It also includes state-of-the-art flood monitoring technology in order to manage evacuation routes in real time.

For these reasons, we strongly urge you to support the *I-95 /Future I-87 Rural Corridor, Resiliency, and Innovative Technology Improvements Project* and the NCDOT's application for federal INFRA grant funding to accelerate its construction.

Sincerely,

Amy H. Cannon  
County Manager