



November 1, 2017

Office of the Assistant Secretary for Transportation Policy
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

To Whom It May Concern,

This letter is to express my support for the North Carolina Department of Transportation's grant application for the United States Department of Transportation's Infrastructure for Rebuilding America (INFRA) grant funds for the proposed I-95/US 70 Innovative Technology and Rural Mobility Corridor Improvements.

The US 70 (future I-42) portion of the Project completes the last two remaining gaps between I-40 and the eastern terminus of the Havelock Bypass to bring the entire stretch of road up to freeway standards. This will be the culmination of a decades-long effort to develop this facility to serve Eastern North Carolina both economically and in times of need, as US 70 serves as an evacuation route during severe storms.

The Port of Morehead City, reached by US 70, is an important gateway to the global marketplace and this project will improve the national highway system, benefiting freight customers that utilize the Port of Morehead City. This investment in the infrastructure of Eastern North Carolina will have a long-lasting, positive impact on the economy, mobility, and safety of the region.

I sincerely hope that you are successful in your endeavor to secure grant funding for I-95/US 70 Innovative Technology and Rural Mobility Corridor Improvements project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Paul Cozza", followed by a horizontal line and a small star-like flourish.

Paul Cozza
Executive Director