

## STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

JOSH STEIN
GOVERNOR

J.R. "JOEY" HOPKINS
SECRETARY

July 31, 2025

Secretary Sean Duffy U.S. Department of Transportation 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE Washington, DC, 20590

Subject: Certification of Financial Contribution FY2026 Large Bridge Grant Bridge

Investment Program (Large Grant BIP) Application: I-95/US 301 Bridge

Replacements

Dear Secretary Duffy,

The North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) wishes to express its full support for the I-95/US 301 Bridge Replacement application under the United States Department of Transportation's Bridge Investment Program (BIP). The I-95/US 301 Bridge Replacement Project seeks BIP Bridge Project Grant funds to allow NCDOT to replace aging and deficient bridges on the vital I-95 and US 301 corridors in Johnston County, North Carolina.

The State of North Carolina understands the importance of maintaining a sustainable freight network. I-95 is a part of the National Highway System, a Strategic Transportation Corridor, and a key route for tourists and goods throughout the east coast of the United States. US 301 is the vital redundant route that provides resiliency for the system.

The project will replace seven bridges. The two bridges on US 301 date back to the 1920s and all of the structures were constructed or rehabilitated when I-95 was constructed in the late 1950s.

The I-95/US 301 Bridge Replacements Project is reflected in our mission statement:

Connecting people, products and places safely and efficiently with customer focus, accountability and environmental sensitivity to enhance the economy and vitality of North Carolina.

USDOT Secretary Sean Duffy

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To that end, the NCDOT will fund the I-95/US 301 Large Bridge application in the amount of \$29,570,000 (2025\$) using a combination of Statewide Mobility and Regional Impact funds as a match of non-federal, state funds.

Thank you for your consideration of the I-95/US 301 Bridge Replacement Project for the FY2026 Bridge Investment Program Bridge Project Grant.

If NCDOT can be of any further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me at (919) 707-4320 or via e-mail at <a href="mailto:mnewsome2@ncdot.gov">mnewsome2@ncdot.gov</a>.

Sincerely,

Mark T. Newsome
Chief Financial Officer