

From: [Tom Smith](#)
To: [Kennedy, Alexa](#)
Cc: [Olivia Collier](#)
Subject: RE: A-0009C Letter of Support
Date: Wednesday, April 15, 2020 11:00:22 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image003.png](#)
[image004.png](#)

Good Morning Alexa,

Thank you for your note regarding Corridor K in North Carolina...since I worked with you guys on this project back in 2016, it is exciting to me to see progress being made.

Regarding your request, ARC has taken the position that it does not provide individual letters of support for projects seeking Federal grants since multiple Appalachian states may, in a sense, be competing for the same funding.

That being said, I wish NCDOT the very best in its endeavors to get the project moving....I grew up in the mountains of North Carolina and personally know what improved access can do for an isolated area.

Please don't hesitate to call if you have additional questions.

Tom



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From: Kennedy, Alexa <Alexa.Kennedy@stantec.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 14, 2020 3:36 PM
To: Tom Smith <TSmith@arc.gov>; Olivia Collier <ocollier@nccommerce.com>
Subject: A-0009C Letter of Support

Good afternoon,

The North Carolina Department of Transportation is pursuing the Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage

Development (BUILD) grant in order to secure additional funding for STIP Project A-0009C. This project proposes improvements to Corridor K along US 129, NC 143, and NC 28 from Robbinsville to Stecoah in Graham County in order to improve mobility and reliability of the transportation infrastructure. Grant funds will be pursued for the NCDOT recommended alternative: Improve Existing US 129/NC 143 + Improve Existing NC 143/NC 28. BUILD recipients are evaluated based on safety improvements, state of good repair (improvements to existing road conditions), economic competitiveness, environmental sustainability, and quality of life (improved connectivity to jobs, healthcare, etc.).

Additional information on BUILD grant criteria and the application process can be found [here](#). As a quick summary, here are the main evaluation criteria:

Primary Criteria:

Safety: Improvements in the project area and to the wider transportation network; reduction in accidents and fatalities

State of Good Repair: Improvement of the condition or resiliency of existing facilities

Economic Competitiveness: Impacts on movement of goods and people, such as increased efficiency and connectivity

Environmental Sustainability: Reduction in energy and pollutants

Quality of Life: Support for improved connectivity to jobs, health care, etc., broadband installation, increased transportation choices

Secondary Criteria:

Innovation: Innovative technologies, project delivery, or financing

Partnership: Collaboration among a broad range of stakeholders

We would appreciate a letter of support from ARC to strengthen the grant application. I have attached a template here for you to reference. Please let me know if there are any questions!

Best,

Alexa Kennedy

Environmental Planner, Transportation

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