

The Honorable Sean Duffy

Secretary, U.S Department of Transportation

1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E

Washington, DC 20590

Re: Madsion Street Bridge Expansion Project- Promoting Resilient Operation for Transformative, Efficient, and Cost -saving Transportation (Project) Grant Application

Dear Secretary Duffy :This letter is to express the strong support of What A Burger for the North Carolina Department of Transportation's Madison Street Bridge Expansion project in the City of Whiteville, Columbus County, North Carolina. The project will improve the Madison Street (US) 701 Business) crossing over Soules Swamp by extending the existing bridge and adding a second bridge. These improvements will help the roadway to better handle heavy rainfall and flooding events, keeping this important connection open for residents, businesses, emergency responders and travelers.

Flooding is a recurring issue along Madison Street and Through downtown Whiteville during heavy rainfall events. Improving the bridge crossing would reduce flooding in the area and allow rainwater to recede more quickly after heavy rainfall events. Specifically, What A Burger, the importance of the Madison Street Bridge Expansion project can be summarized by the following.

Business (US 701) is the life blood to downtown Whiteville. The continuation of heavy rain and flooding reduces the element stores closing employee and travel. The improvement would allow the heavy rain and flood water to flow more freely and reduce the risk of the city flooding. The Madsion Steet Bridge Expiation project represents a strategic investment in transportation resilience, mobility, public safety. And long-term vitality of downtown Whiteville and Columbus County as a region. I respectfully urge you full consideration and support for funding that will allow North Carolina DOT to advance and complete these important lasting benefits to the Coty of Whiteville, Columbus County and southeastern North Carolian.

Thank you for your consideration of the grant and your commitment to our nation's critical transportation system.

Sincerely,

Sammy Jacobs

What a Burger

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sammy Jacobs', with a large, stylized flourish extending from the end of the signature.