

March 23, 2022

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg Secretary of Transportation U.S. Department of Transportation 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

On behalf of the Regional Transportation Alliance, the voice of the regional business community on transportation in North Carolina's growing Research Triangle area, I am writing to express our support for the **North Carolina Regional S-Line Mobility Hub Plan** application for the Department of Transportation's Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) grant program for fiscal year 2022.

This grant is being submitted by the Town of Wake Forest in partnership with the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) and other communities along the S-Line corridor.

The North Carolina Regional S-Line Mobility Hub Plan ("Mobility Hub Plan") will serve to advance regional multimodal transportation along the S-Line Rail Corridor in central North Carolina – enhancing mobility options, improving social equity, increasing the resilience of the transportation network, and spurring economic growth. The S-Line corridor is a key component in making the Southeast Corridor network of passenger and freight rail lines between Florida and Washington a reality.

Each mobility hub will be a place of safe, convenient, and accessible, multimodal connectivity, offering an integrated suite of mobility services, amenities, and supporting technologies. By planning and designing future S-Line rail stations as mobility hubs, each community will be prepared to maximize the benefits of the rail service by optimizing first and last mile solutions.

The S-Line corridor is both historically significant and important to the future of central North Carolina. The partnerships between the communities along the S-Line and regional and state agencies will further the prosperity of the region, leading to new economic opportunities in communities that were quite literally built on the success of rail.

The regional business community strongly recommends that FY 2022 funding under the RAISE grant program be allocated to NCDOT and the Town of Wake Forest for this initiative. If you have any questions, please contact me at 919.664.7065 or joe@letsgetmoving.org.

Sincerely,

Executive Director, Regional Transportation Alliance