



**BILTMORE FARMS**<sup>SM</sup>  
Established 1897

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg  
Secretary, US Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE  
Washington, D.C. 20590

Subject: Submission- North Carolina Department of Transportation Application, I-26 Flying to the Future Project.

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

Please accept this letter as Biltmore Farms LLC's strong support of the North Carolina Department of Transportation RAISE grant application for project HE-0001, interchange on Interstate 26.

Our company believes this interchange exit will accomplish multiple transportation goals for the region: access for all populations working and living nearby, entry to federal, state and county recreational opportunities and reduction in congestion and commuting times within the Asheville/Hendersonville corridor.

Envisioned is a regional master planned community within close proximity to the interchange. This vision incorporates significant opportunities for employees to live, work and recreate within the community while simultaneously taking advantage of nearby commercial hubs which are currently hampered by overly congested access points. We understand the interchange will directly reduce traffic counts at two of the top three most congested areas within the Asheville MSA.

The interchange will also provide direct access to the Blue Ridge Parkway, Pisgah National Forest, Bent Creek Experimental Forest, The North Carolina Arboretum, and Bent Creek River Park. These recreational opportunities are nationally important environmental assets which also provide sustainable economic benefit to the region.

In order to facilitate the connecting roadway and interchange, Biltmore Farms LLC is willing to donate our property for the right-of-way at no cost to NCDOT. Dependent on the Federal Highway Administration's route selection, Biltmore Farms LLC's land will comprise the preponderance if not all of the needed land for the connecting road and interchange.

Please feel free to contact me at any time to discuss our support of the project.

Highest Regards,

Benjamin P. Teague  
Vice President of Strategic Development

