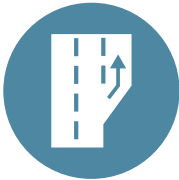


GRAHAM

Greater Rural Access and Highways to Accelerate Mobility



BICYCLE & PEDESTRIAN



CLIMBING LANES



UPGRADES



ITS COMPONENTS



SAFETY

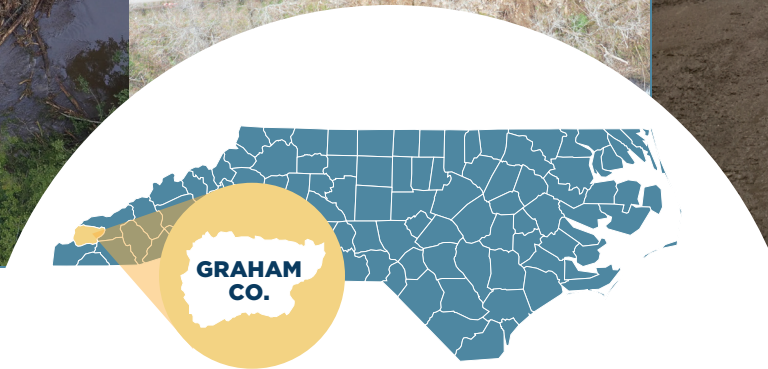


STATE OF GOOD REPAIR



WILDLIFE CROSSING

Project Budget



GRAHAM
CO.

USDOT RAISE Investment Program
GRANT APPLICATION
FEBRUARY 2023



Total Project Costs and FY 2023 RAISE Grant Funding Request

RAISE funding is needed to ensure the timely construction of improvements to the final section of A-0009C, one of the last remaining segments of the ADHS to be completed. The Project is estimated to cost **\$324,622,000** (2022\$) of which **\$279,622,000** (2022\$) is funded with Federal ADHS program funds. The ADHS funding includes future year funds from the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law through fiscal year 2026. This proposal requests **\$45,000,000** (2022\$) in RAISE grant funding to fill the funding gap and complete the project. A letter from NCDOT committing available future year funding is included in the **Funding Commitments** section of the application.

With the award of RAISE grant funding, the Project would be 100 percent Federally funded. The Project is exempt from the Federal cost-share requirement given its location in a rural area, a Historically Disadvantaged Community (Census Tract 37075920300), and two Areas of Persistent Poverty (Census Tracts 37075920300 and 37173960301). The Project location is further outlined in the **Project Description** and **Project Location** section of this application.

Project Cost Background

NCDOT has identified the Project as A-0009C in the State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP). To increase the opportunity for regional and local contractors to bid on the Project, A-0009C was divided into the three sections: A-0009CA, A-0009CB, and A-0009CC. Given market conditions, the low bids for sections A-0009CA and A-0009CB came in substantially higher than expected. Based on the bids for these sections, NCDOT reevaluated the costs for section A-0009CC and decided to further split it into sections A-0009CC and A-0009CD to lower the contract cost and to make additional progress on A-0009C until funding is secured to complete the Project. Construction is now underway for sections A-0009CA through A-0009CC. RAISE grant funding is requested to complete section A-0009CD and to add Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) components to the Project.

Grant eligible costs have also been requested through an FY 2022 Nationally Significant Federal Lands and Tribal Projects (NSFLTP) Program grant application; however, recipients for the FY 2022 cycle have not yet been announced. The Project requested \$49,000,000 of NSFLTP funding based on the difference between the construction costs and ADHS funding that was identified at the time of the application. The FY 23 Appropriations Act included an additional \$10,900,000 (2022\$) of ADHS funds to NC, which has been applied to this project. However the cost of section CD has also increased by \$6,500,000 (2022\$).



Project Funding Sources and Uses of Funds

NCDOT is unable to fully address the challenges described in the **Project Description** and **Merit Criteria** sections of the application without additional Federal funds. With the receipt of RAISE funds, NCDOT will be able to complete A-0009C and add critical ITS improvements to ensure the safety, mobility, economic competitiveness, environmental sustainability, resiliency, and quality of life for residents and visitors to rural Appalachia. The Project will implement innovative and collaborative solutions while also improving the state of good repair on a critical ADHS corridor.

A-0009CA, A-0009CB, and A-0009CC have been Let, and construction is being funded using ADHS funds. The construction costs for these components reflect the low bid contract amounts and an additional 20 percent for contingencies. To complete the construction of section A-0009CD, this proposal is requesting **\$44,433,000** (2022\$) of RAISE grant funding. The construction cost for section A-0009CD includes the estimated construction cost with an additional 20 percent contingency. The 20 percent contingencies are conservative to reflect uncertainties such as rising inflation and the unique construction challenges associated with the region, including the terrain and remoteness. Table 1 summarizes the construction costs, funding sources, and both dollar amounts and percentages for how each funding source will share in major project activities.

Table 1: Sources and Uses of Funds for the GRAHAM Project (2022\$)

	Section A-0009CA Construction	Section A-0009CB Construction	Section A-0009CC Construction	Section A-0009CD Construction	ITS	Total Funding
Funding Source	Funding Source					
RAISE Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$44,433,000 (14%)	\$567,000 (<1%)	\$45,000,000 (14%)
Other Federal Funds (ADHS)	\$57,000,000 (18%)	\$139,690,000 (43%)	\$80,865,000 (25%)	\$2,067,000 (<1%)	\$0	\$279,622,000 (86%)
Non-Federal Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total	\$57,000,000	\$139,690,000	\$80,865,000	\$46,500,000	\$567,000	\$324,622,000



To implement the proposed ITS improvements, GRAHAM is requesting \$567,000 (2022\$) of RAISE grant funding. Table 2 shows the cost breakdown for each ITS component, including the count and unit cost.

Table 2: Uses of Funds for the GRAHAM Project ITS Components (2022\$)

ITS Component	Count	Unit Cost	Total Cost
Signal Coordination -Equipment	2	\$6,000	\$12,000
Signal Coordination - Retiming	5	\$8,000	\$40,000
CCTV	1	\$25,000	\$25,000
Dynamic Trailblazer	6	\$15,000	\$90,000
Dynamic Message Sign	2	\$200,000	\$400,000
Total:	\$57,000,000	\$139,690,000	\$567,000

*The above costs are also not inclusive of any additional right of way or roadway items that may be required, such as guardrail.

The Project will incur expenses associated with the construction of sections A-0009CA through A-0009CC between time of award and obligation; however, RAISE grant funding is not being requested for these sections of the Project.

Project Costs Across Census Tracts

Table 3 separates the total cost of the Project by census tract.

Table 3: Total Project Cost Separated by Census Tract

Census Tract(s)	Project Costs per Census Tract
9201	\$127,395,000
9202	\$189,573,000
9203 (HDC, APP)	\$7,239,000
9603.01 (APP)	\$215,000
9301.02	\$200,000
Total Project Cost:	\$324,622,000

State and County FIPS = 37075

APP: Area of Persistent Poverty

HDC: Historically Disadvantaged Community

Note: a portion of A-0009C passes through Eastern Band of Cherokee Indian territory and certain routes are included in the National Tribal Transportation Facility Inventory (NTTFI)



USDOT Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) Grant Application

February 2023

GRAHAM

Greater Rural Access and Highways to Accelerate Mobility



N.C. Department of Transportation

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