

201 West Main Street  
Post Office Box 1229  
Hamlet, North Carolina 28345



Phone (910) 582-2651  
Fax (910) 582-5815  
www.hamletnc.us

OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

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

February 10, 2023

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

I am writing to express my support for the Walk NC: Creating Safer Crossings for NC Communities application for the Department of Transportation's Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) grant program for fiscal year 2023. This grant is being submitted by the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT).

WALK NC will fund pedestrian countdown signal heads, crosswalks, and accessible routes at signalized intersections in more than a dozen towns and cities in North Carolina. RAISE grant funding will improve pedestrian safety at hundreds of NCDOT-maintained signals in historically underserved communities.

These proposed changes will improve accessibility for people at signalized intersections and provide pedestrians with dedicated WALK phases and marked crosswalks. Additional signal timing improvements will be implemented, and sidewalk gaps constructed where feasible and needed. These pedestrian improvements will address issues of social equity in communities by providing safe crossings and connecting networks, expanding access to jobs, healthy food, recreation, and social services.

Improving pedestrian infrastructure in the City of Hamlet will have numerous benefits for the community. Firstly, it will increase the safety of pedestrians and encourage more people to walk and bike, leading to a reduction in traffic congestion and air pollution. Secondly, a well-designed pedestrian network will connect different parts of the city, making it easier for residents to get around and access local businesses, parks, and other community amenities. This will foster a sense of community by promoting interaction and engagement among residents and improving the overall quality of life in Hamlet. Furthermore, well-designed pedestrian infrastructure can also attract tourists and boost the local economy by making the city more accessible and appealing. In short, pedestrian infrastructure provided through WALK NC will not only make the City of Hamlet safer for its residents, but also create a more connected, vibrant, and prosperous community.

The WALK NC improvements are important to the future of our North Carolina community. The partnerships between the selected communities and regional and state agencies will further connect and improve the quality of life. WALK NC will also foster innovation, growth, and overall vibrancy of our communities.

I respectfully urge your full and fair consideration of the WALK NC: Creating Safer Crossings for NC Communities grant application.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Matthew Christian".

Matthew Christian  
Hamlet City Manager