



September 22, 2023

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

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

I am writing to express support for the *North Carolina S-Line Mobility Hub Program* application for the Department of Transportation's Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods (RCN) Program for fiscal year 2023. The grant application is being submitted by the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) and other communities along the S-Line corridor.

The *North Carolina S-Line Mobility Hub Program* ("*Mobility Hub Program*") will serve to advance regional connectivity along the S-Line Rail Corridor in central North Carolina – adding opportunities for local connections to goods and services, improving social equity in historically disadvantaged communities, supporting sustainable transportation, and spurring economic growth.

This *Mobility Hub Program* will build on the planning and preliminary design work for each mobility hub detailed in the North Carolina S-Line Mobility Hub Plan that was awarded RAISE funding for completion. This *Mobility Hub Program* will move each mobility hub forward to a shovel-ready phase or construction.

The RCN Program would continue this impactful work for the creation of the mobility hubs, reactivating the communities along the S-line corridor and their neighboring jurisdictions. The *Mobility Hub Program* will allow communities to capitalize on the S-line corridor construction by optimizing first and last mile solutions and connect with each other.

Amtrak recognizes the critical importance of multi-modal connectivity and having safe, accessible, affordable, and convenient first and last mile options. We applaud NCDOT's efforts to build a true multi-modal network and look forward to working in partnership to develop the S-Line corridor.

The partnerships between the communities along the S-Line and regional and state agencies will further multi-modal, equitable, and accessible travel through the State,

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leading to new economic opportunities in communities whose histories have been greatly affected by the growth and decline of rail. The ***Mobility Hub Program*** will be an essential piece in the reinvigoration, quality of life, growth, and overall vibrancy in our communities.

I respectfully urge your full consideration of the ***North Carolina S-Line Mobility Hub Program*** grant application.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jeff Mann". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Jeff Mann  
Sr. Director, State-supported Service Line