



September 8, 2023

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 Moore County Economic Development Partnership (MCEDP), I am writing in support of the **North Carolina S-Line Mobility Hub Program application** for the North Carolina Department of Transportation's (NCDOT) **Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods (RCN) Program** for fiscal year 2023. This grant is being submitted in partnership with 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 multimodal transportation 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.

Each mobility hub will be a place of accessible, multimodal connectivity, offering an integrated suite of mobility services, amenities, and supporting technologies, which will allow passengers to transfer modes in a safe and convenient manner. 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.

The S-Line corridor is historically significant to central North Carolina, and it will shape the future of the region. As the economic development organization serving Moore County, NC, MCEDP recognizes that this advancement of multimodal transportation will not only generate new economic opportunities and momentum, but it will also contribute substantially to the overall revitalization of our communities, resulting in a higher quality of life, beneficial growth, and greater vibrancy in the region.

Thank you for your consideration of this North Carolina S-Line Mobility Hub Program grant application.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Natalie D. Hawkins'.

Natalie D. Hawkins, PMP
President