



STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

ROY COOPER
GOVERNOR

J. ERIC BOYETTE
SECRETARY

October 6, 2020

Ms. Wendy Jacobs, Chair
Durham Chapel Hill Carrboro Metropolitan Planning Organization
City of Durham Department of Transportation
101 City Hall Plaza
Durham NC 27701

Dear Commissioner Jacobs:

Secretary Boyette asked that I reply to your September 15 letter regarding locally administered bicycle/pedestrian projects.

As you know, NCDOT has faced a number of financial challenges in recent years, forcing the delay of both highway and non-highway projects. We have worked diligently to develop a financial plan that will allow us to return to more normal operations. A key element of our plan is the sale of \$700 million in BUILD NC bonds. We are currently working with the North Carolina State Treasurer and hope to complete the sale this Fall.

Another major issue of concern is federal transportation funding legislation. Congress recently extended the federal authorization bill, FAST Act, one fiscal year and passed a continuing resolution providing transportation funding through December 11. However, Congress has not completed work on an appropriations act that will provide the majority of the transportation funding for fiscal year 2021. Until Congress completes work on the appropriations act, our ability to secure federal reimbursement will be affected.

Once the sale of BUILD NC bonds is completed and Congress completes its work on transportation funding legislation, NCDOT will be able to transition to more normal operations. At that time, the schedules in the State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) and locally adopted Transportation Improvement Programs (TIPs) will be used to determine the order in which projects are implemented. If the DCHC MPO would like to explore options to accelerate bicycle/pedestrian projects, please contact Mr. Mike Stanley, who is the STIP Manager for the Central Region of North Carolina.

Mailing Address:
NC DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
DIV. OF PLANNING & PROGRAMMING
1534 MAIL SERVICE CENTER
RALEIGH NC 27699-1534

Telephone: (919) 707-4610
Fax: (919) 733-3585
Customer Service: 1-877-368-4968

Website: www.ncdot.gov

Location:
1 S. WILMINGTON ST.
RALEIGH NC 27601

Ms. Wendy Jacobs

Page 2

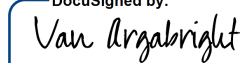
October 6, 2020

In the meantime, we will continue to make as much funding available to restart locally administered projects as is financially prudent. NCDOT received an additional \$144 M of obligation authority during FHWA's August re-distribution and used a significant amount of that funding to restart locally administered projects, including four in DCHC. Additionally, in recent months, another \$25 million was allocated to restart locally administered projects throughout the state.

We are aware that local governments across the state are anxious to complete much needed locally administered projects. We appreciate the patience and understanding that has been shown as we work through these difficult times.

If you need additional information, please let me know.

Sincerely,

DocuSigned by:

CF4C9D4B05E84C7...

Van Argabright

Director, Division of Planning and Programming

cc: J. Eric Boyette, Secretary
Mike Fox, Chair, NCBOT
Valerie Jordan, NCBOT
Stephanie King, Chief Financial Officer
Tim Little, Chief Engineer
Joey Hopkins, Division 5 Engineer
Wright Archer, III, Division 7 Engineer
Mike Stanley, Central Region STIP Manager