

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

June 7, 2024

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg
U.S. Department of Transportation
Office of the Secretary
200 New Jersey Ave SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

We write regarding the North Carolina Railroad's (NCRR) application through the Consolidated Rail Infrastructure and Safety Improvements (CRISI) grant program for the Carolinian & Piedmont Passenger & Freight Improvements (CAPPFI) project. This project is critical to supporting equity, safety, network, and supply-chain resiliency in the freight and passenger rail networks between Greensboro and Raleigh, as well as indirectly benefiting rail traffic from Morehead City to Charlotte.

NCRR's application was jointly prepared with the support of the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) and Norfolk Southern Railway (NSR). NCRR seeks \$105 million in CRISI funding critical to the completion of several key components of the rail system, including the construction of siding extensions, a grade separation, rail replacement, rail bridge replacement design and permitting, and a corridor clearance study. The work is estimated to cost \$170 million, with a 38% match paid for jointly by NCRR, NCDOT, and NSR. This match, which includes both public and private funds, demonstrates NCRR's commitment to the project.

This corridor project will support safety, service, resiliency, infrastructure, and growth in North Carolina. The project will connect critical lines in Eastern North Carolina, promote growth in our state's emerging automotive and battery belt, and bolster national defense through transporting military equipment.

For these reasons, we urge your full and fair consideration of NCRR's application within all relevant rules and regulations. Please do not hesitate to contact our offices for additional information about the project.

Very truly yours,



Deborah K. Ross
Member of Congress



Thom Tillis
U.S. Senator



Ted Budd
U.S. Senator




Alma S. Adams, PhD.
Member of Congress




Wiley Nickel
Member of Congress



Valerie P. Foushee
Member of Congress



Gregory F. Murphy, M.D.
Member of Congress



David Rouzer
Member of Congress



Donald G. Davis
Member of Congress