

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

March 30, 2023

The Honorable Tom Cole
Chairman
Subcommittee on Transportation,
Housing, and Urban Development
House Committee on Appropriations
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Mike Quigley
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Transportation,
Housing, and Urban Development
House Committee on Appropriations
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member Quigley:

We are pleased that President Biden's budget proposal includes \$4.45 billion for the Federal Transit Administration Capital Investment Grants (CIG) Program and Expedited Project Delivery (EPD) Pilot Program in FY24. These funds will support the advancement of 18 major transit projects in 11 states around the country. As the congressional representatives for Wake County, North Carolina, we are especially pleased that this proposal recommends \$77.8 million in funding for the Wake Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) Southern Corridor Project.

This transit project will span five miles, connecting Downtown Raleigh to Downtown Garner and traveling through major job and activity centers. Wake County is among the fastest-growing counties in the country, growing by approximately 62 people per day with 225,000 people added over the last decade. As a result, we have an urgent need for enhanced, robust, and efficient public transportation.

The Wake BRT Southern Corridor Project is part of the larger Wake County Transit Plan, which was approved by Wake County voters in 2016 along with a half-cent sales tax increase to bolster transit funding. In total, the plan includes approximately 20 miles of transit through four Bus Rapid Transit corridors throughout Wake County. The Wake BRT Southern Corridor Project provides better access to affordable housing units, which have been strategically placed near planned transit stops, and will also connect more residents to exciting job opportunities in Southern Wake County.

Wake County is a powerful economic engine for our state and region, but we need reliable and efficient transportation options to match our continuing growth. As you finalize the Transportation-Housing and Urban Development appropriations bill for FY24, we urge you to include the proposed funds for CIG/EPD Programs, including \$77.8 million for the Wake Bus Rapid Transit Southern Corridor Project. Please contact our offices with any questions.

Sincerely,



Deborah K. Ross
Member of Congress



Wiley Nickel
Member of Congress