

SUE MYRICK
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February 5, 2010

Secretary Ray LaHood
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary LaHood:

I am writing in support of the grant application submitted by the City of Charlotte, NC under the Section 5309 Discretionary Grants for the Urban Circulator Program. Funding will be used to construct the first mile and a half of a proposed 10 mile streetcar project in the City's urban core which will enhance mobility in neighborhoods of diverse income and racial composition, linking them to employment, education, and medical services.

This project will be a vital component of an overall transit system that is urgently needed to keep pace with projected population and employment growth. Charlotte is one of the fastest growing cities in the United States and is expected to continue this rapid growth trend, especially in the streetcar corridor. There is a critical need for improvement to the transit system to support economic development and access to employment opportunities for our citizens.

The City has developed public and private collaborative relationships in each step of planning, design, and implementing the full streetcar alignment and is prepared to advance this first segment into construction. I wholeheartedly offer my support to this project.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if I can offer any additional information regarding this request. I appreciate your careful consideration of this application.

Sincerely,

Sue Myrick
Member of Congress