



TRIANGLE WEST

Transportation Planning Organization

July 17, 2025

U.S. Secretary of Transportation Sean P. Duffy
Office of the Secretary
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

RE: Letter of Support for the City of Durham's FY25 Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) Program Application

Dear Secretary Duffy,

On behalf of the Triangle West Transportation Planning Organization (TPO), I am pleased to express our strong support for the City of Durham's application to the U.S. Department of Transportation's FY25 Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) Implementation Grant, titled *From Corridor to Community: Safe Streets for Durham Families*. This funding will accelerate the implementation of Durham's Vision Zero Action Plan, the Triangle West Regional Safety Action Plan, and support critical planning and demonstration activities to prevent traffic deaths and serious injuries on local roads.

The City of Durham has committed to eliminating traffic-related fatalities and serious injuries by 2045. Its newly adopted Vision Zero Action Plan provides a clear and strategic path forward, with a focus on the High Injury Network, where just 10% of streets account for 74% of deaths and serious injuries. Fayetteville Street, which ranks among the highest-priority corridors on this network, is a critical connector for residents accessing jobs, local goods, transit, and essential services. It is especially important for families who rely on safe, walkable routes to schools, parks, and bus stops. As part of this application, the City also plans to address unsafe speeds by conducting Road Safety Audits and developing citywide speed management strategies, recognizing that speed contributes to 31% of traffic fatalities in Durham.

As crash rates rise nationally and Durham's population continues to grow, the City of Durham's leadership in adopting and acting on Vision Zero principles is both timely and necessary. The proposed project on Fayetteville Street, from Lakewood Avenue to Riddle Road, will implement evidence-based safety countermeasures, including new sidewalks, safer pedestrian crossings at bus stops and areas of high pedestrian activity, upgraded curb ramps for accessibility, and access management improvements for improved traffic flow. The accompanying planning and



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demonstration activities will deploy low-cost, high-impact speed management strategies to test rapid responses to traffic safety concerns and inform future implementation.

By supporting this planning effort, we move closer to a future where no loss of life on our roadways is acceptable. We fully support this effort and believe the proposed improvements will meaningfully enhance safety while strengthening Durham's approach to meet the needs of all road users. We respectfully request and appreciate your time in considering their proposal for SS4A supplemental planning grant funding.

Thank you for your time and dedication to advancing safer streets across the nation.

Sincerely,

Karen Howard
Board Chair
Triangle West TPO