



COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Karen Howard, Chair
Katie Kenlan, Vice Chair
David Delaney
Franklin Gomez Flores
Amanda Robertson

COUNTY MANAGER: Bryan Thompson

January 28, 2025

Office of Acquisition and Grants Management
Federal Highway Administration
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave, SE
Washington, DC 20590

To whom it may concern:

I am pleased to submit this letter of support for the Triangle West Transportation Planning Organization's (TWTPO) application to the Promoting Resilient Operations for Transformative, Efficient, and Cost-saving Transportation Discretionary Grant Program (PROTECT). The TWTPO has witnessed firsthand the challenges posed by the increased frequency and intensity of natural disasters in our region and the critical need to create a regional resiliency improvement plan.

TWTPO operates within a dynamic environment marked by rapid population growth and increasing demands on our transportation infrastructure. As the communities served by the Transportation Planning Organization continue to expand, our planning processes must evolve to address these emerging challenges effectively with innovative transportation solutions. The PROTECT Grant Program offers a timely opportunity to identify vulnerabilities within our transportation network, modernize our approach, adapt to the changing landscape of transportation planning, and improve the resilience of our surface transportation system. This is particularly crucial as we strive to keep pace with the demands of a growing population while ensuring that our transportation system remains resilient, safe, efficient, and equitable for all.

Chatham County prioritizes the advancement of transportation planning to enhance community resilience, roadway efficiency, and public safety. Investing in resilient transportation systems would mean Chatham County roadways can better withstand extreme weather, improve safety during inclement weather, and minimize possible traffic disruptions. More transportation options can reduce travel time, fuel consumption, and carbon emissions. Thus, improving the quality of life for Chatham residents. By planning for the future now, the county can create a sustainable, robust transportation network that benefits the environment and its residents.

Thank you for your consideration,

Sincerely,

Karen Howard
Chair, Chatham County Board of Commissioners

Integrity – Respect – Collaboration – Community – Equity – Service – Accountability