

A. Letters of Support



TRIANGLE J COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

World Class Region

February 28, 2022

US Department of Transportation
Office of the Secretary of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

I am writing in support of GoTriangle's application for a RAISE Grant for the Regional Transit Center (RTC) Relocation project. We believe the relocated Regional Transit Center is the single most important near-term transit investment in our region, as it can serve as the lynchpin connecting several existing and proposed transit services in the region's newly adopted Metropolitan Transportation Plan – not only better connecting existing local and regional bus routes, but directly serving the alignments of Wake County's Raleigh-Cary-Research Triangle Park Bus Rapid Transit corridor and the Durham-Raleigh Regional Rail corridor.

Relocating the transit center to its identified preferred location will clearly improve transit speed and reliability, address passenger amenity and operational needs, and provide new multi-modal connections. And as the keystone for the broader regional transit network, it will become the locus for passenger rail, bus rapid transit and regional bus investments that are currently operating of being planned. Without the relocated transit center, each of these modes would be less efficient, less effective and have an inferior user experience than is both possible and valuable.

The Triangle J Council of Governments is the designated Lead Regional Organization for the burgeoning Research Triangle Region in North Carolina. Representing seven counties and over 40 municipalities, TJCOG has a long history of working closely with GoTriangle, NCDOT and the region's two MPOs on critical regional mobility investments.

By providing direct connections to planned investments including passenger rail, bus rapid transit, the Triangle Bikeway, and to an adjacent adaptive reuse project, the new facility is without doubt a critical investment.

In summary, I fully support the efforts of GoTriangle as they seek to fund the new Regional Transit Center for the Triangle region in North Carolina and will continue to support the project as we work together to meet the needs of the public. I look forward to hearing about the success of the application.

Sincerely,

Lee Worsley

Executive Director



DURHAM • CHAPEL HILL • CARRBORO METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

DURHAM · CHAPEL HILL · CARRBORO

CHAPEL HILL · CARRBORO

METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

PLANNING TOMORROW'S TRANSPORTATION

101 City Hall Plaza • Durham, NC 27701 • Phone (919) 560-4366 • dchcmpo.org

April 13, 2022

U.S. Department of Transportation Office of the Secretary of Transportation 1200 New Jersey Ave, SE Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

I am writing to express, on behalf of the Durham-Chapel Hill-Carrboro Metropolitan Planning Organization (DCHC MPO), my support of GoTriangle's application to the RAISE Grant Program for the Regional Transit Center (RTC) Relocation project. In order to better serve the needs of transit riders and to address the onsite and offsite limitations of the current facility, regional planning efforts have identified the need and committed the local funding share for constructing a new intermodal facility. The relocated Regional Transit Center will improve transit speed and reliability, address passenger amenity and operational needs, and provide new multi-modal connections. As a result, the new facility will increase equitable and sustainable access to destinations within Research Triangle Park and across the region as whole. By providing direct connections to planned investments including commuter rail, bus rapid transit, the Triangle Bikeway, and to an adjacent adaptive reuse project, the new facility will enhance regional multi-modal connectivity to jobs and other destinations in and around Research Triangle Park.

The DCHC MPO supports GoTriangle, and all transit agencies in our region, through management of local transit plans and integration of transportation projects across jurisdictional boundaries. The RTC will further DCHC MPO's goals of a comprehensive and multi-modal regional transportation network.

In summary, I fully support the efforts of GoTriangle as they seek to fund the new Regional Transit Center for the Triangle region in North Carolina and will continue to support the project as we work together to meet the needs of the public. I look forward to hearing about the success of the application.

Sincerely,

Jenn Weaver, Chair

Durham-Chapel Hill-Carrboro Metropolitan Planning Organization



March 17, 2022

US Department of Transportation 1200 New Jersey Ave, SE Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

Please accept this letter of support on behalf of the NC Capital Area Metropolitan Planning Organization for the RAISE Grant program for the Regional Transit Center (RTC) Relocation project by GoTriangle. To better serve the needs of transit riders, and to address the onsite and offsite limitations of the current facility, regional planning efforts have identified the need and committed the local funding share for constructing a new intermodal facility. The relocated Regional Transit Center will improve transit speed and reliability, address passenger amenity and operational needs, and provide new multi-modal connections. As a result, the new facility will increase equitable and sustainable access to destinations within Research Triangle Park and across the region as whole.

The NC Capital Area MPO has worked closely with GoTriangle and other stakeholders on the development of this project through the ongoing implementation of the Wake Transit Plan (a county-wide, multi-year transit plan that utilizes local, federal, and state funding sources) and other regional collaborations with the DCHC MPO, transit agencies, and other partners. The cooperation between GoTriangle and the NC Capital Area MPO has allowed for numerous successful endeavors in the past, including securing BUILD funding for the Raleigh Union Station Bus Component in 2018, and the continued execution of the Wake Transit Plan. The NC Capital Area MPO and GoTriangle both play significant roles in implementing the Wake Transit Plan, which requires continuous coordination between the two organizations: GoTriangle serving as the tax district administrators for the Wake County transit sales tax revenue and CAMPO serving as the administrators of the Wake Transit Plan. The NC Capital Area MPO is committed to continue providing technical and administrative support for the project through the MPO's administration of the Wake Transit Plan.

In summary, the Capital Area MPO fully support the efforts of GoTriangle as they seek to fund the new Regional Transit Center for the Triangle region in North Carolina and will continue to support the project as we work together to meet the needs of the public. I look forward to hearing about the success of the application.

Sincerely,

Sig Hutchinson, Chair

NC Capital Area Metropolitan Planning Organization

Chris Lukasina, Executive Director

Ch. M. 41-

NC Capital Area Metropolitan Planning Organization



STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

ROY COOPER J. ERIC BOYETTE GOVERNOR SECRETARY

March 16, 2022

U.S. Department of Transportation Office of the Secretary of Transportation 1200 New Jersey Ave, SE Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

I am writing to express my support of GoTriangle's application to RAISE Grant Program for the Regional Transit Center (RTC) Relocation project. In order to better serve the needs of transit riders and to address the onsite and offsite limitations of the current facility, regional planning efforts have identified the need and committed the local funding share for constructing a new intermodal facility. The relocated Regional Transit Center will improve transit speed and reliability, address passenger amenity and operational needs, and provide new multi-modal connections. As a result, the new facility will increase equitable and sustainable access to destinations within Research Triangle Park and across the region as whole.

By providing direct connections to planned investments including commuter rail, bus rapid transit, the Triangle Bikeway, and to an adjacent adaptive reuse project, the new facility will enhance regional multi-modal connectivity to jobs and other destinations in and around Research Triangle Park. The relocation will save riders time and reduce operating costs given its central location relative to the regional transit network and its proximity to the highway network. The project's goals align closely with NCDOT's mission of connecting people, products and places safely and efficiently with customer focus, accountability and environmental sensitivity to enhance the economy and vitality of North Carolina.

In summary, I fully support the efforts of GoTriangle as they seek to fund the new Regional Transit Center for the Triangle region in North Carolina and will continue to support the project as we work together to meet the needs of the public. I look forward to hearing about the success of the application.

Sincerely, DocuSigned by:

Julie White

Julie While Beputy Secretary Multi-Modal Transportation

Mailing Address: NC DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION MULTI-MODAL TRANSPORTATION 1501 MAIL SERVICE CENTER RALEIGH, NC 27699-1501

Telephone: 919-707-2800 Fax: 919-733-9150

Customer Service: 1-877-368-4968

Location: 1 SOUTH WILMINGTON STREET RALEIGH, NC 27601

Website: ncdot.gov



18 March 2022

U.S. Department of Transportation Office of the Secretary of Transportation 1200 New Jersey Ave, SE Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

I am writing to express my support of GoTriangle's application to RAISE Grant Program for the Regional Transit Center (RTC) Relocation project. In order to better serve the needs of transit riders and to address the onsite and offsite limitations of the current facility, regional planning efforts have identified the need and committed the local funding share for constructing a new intermodal facility. The relocated Regional Transit Center will improve transit speed and reliability, address passenger amenity and operational needs, and provide new multi-modal connections. As a result, the new facility will increase equitable and sustainable access to destinations within Research Triangle Park and across the region as whole. Research Triangle Park currently provides 55,000 jobs in the Region and is the largest employment center. Since January 2019, an additional 7.500 jobs have been announced in RTP.

The Regional Transit Center must be relocated to RTP as a component of a regional mobility strategy to reduce current and future utilization of single occupancy vehicles. The Research Triangle Foundation of NC, the founder and administrator of RTP, has offered an additional site in our new \$1.5B HUB town center development if the currently proposed site proves infeasible. The current site ranked highest owing to its direct proximity to the proposed RTP Commuter Rail stop. The Foundation, in partnership with GoTriangle, is already testing last-mile solutions to connect the Regional Transit Center riders to the front door of their employers.

In summary, the Research Triangle Foundation of NC, on behalf of the 300 companies in RTP, fully supports the efforts of GoTriangle as they seek to fund the new Regional Transit Center for the Triangle region in North Carolina and will continue to support the project as we work together to meet the needs of the public. I look forward to hearing about the success of the application.

Sincerely,

RESEARCH TRIANGLE FOUNDATION OF NORTH CAROLINA

Scott Levitan, President + CEO

DAVID PRICE 4TH DISTRICT NORTH CAROLINA

2108 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING WASHINGTON, DC 20515 (202) 225-1784

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COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

CHAIRMAN, TRANSPORTATION & HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT STATE AND FOREIGN OPERATIONS HOMELAND SECURITY

COMMITTEE ON THE BUDGET

CHAIRMAN, HOUSE DEMOCRACY PARTNERSHIP

April 1, 2022

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg Secretary of Transportation United States Department of Transportation 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE Washington, D.C. 20590

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

I am writing in support of GoTriangle's application for the Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) grant program. The Regional Transit Center (RTC) Relocation Project in Research Triangle Park (RTP), North Carolina aims to assist and improve transit speed and reliability, address passenger amenity and operational needs, and provide new multi-modal connections.

In the rapidly growing Research Triangle region, the RTC relocation project would provide direct connections to planned investments including commuter rail, Bus Rapid Transit (BRT), the Triangle Bikeway, and to an adjacent adaptive reuse project. This new facility will enhance regional multi-modal connectivity to jobs and other destinations in and around Research Triangle Park, improving equitable and sustainable accessibility to destinations within RTP and across the region as whole. It will also reduce bus transit and commute times, helping to reduce GoTriangle's operating costs with an established and central location relative to the regional transit and highway network. Overall, I believe this project would help enhance the quality of life for our residents and ensure our region remains one of the most desirable places in the nation to live, work, and play.

I strongly support this work and urge you to give the GoTriangle Regional Transit Center Relocation Project proposal all due consideration. Thank you for your continued efforts towards improving our nation's transportation infrastructure.

Sincerely,

DAVID E. PRICE

ind Price

Member of Congress

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives Washington, DC 20515-3302

March 28, 2022

U.S. Department of Transportation Office of the Secretary of Transportation 1200 New Jersey Ave, SE Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

I write regarding GoTriangle's application to the RAISE Grant Program for the Regional Transit Center (RTC) Relocation project. In order to better serve the needs of transit riders and to address the onsite and offsite limitations of the current facility, regional planning efforts have identified the need and committed the local funding share for constructing a new intermodal facility. The relocated Regional Transit Center will improve transit speed and reliability, address passenger amenity and operational needs, and provide new multi-modal connections. As a result, the new facility will increase equitable and sustainable access to destinations within Research Triangle Park and across the region as whole.

Specifically, the new facility will include additional covered boarding bays with electrical bus charging infrastructure, covered drop-off spaces for paratransit, microtransit, and rideshare vehicles, and a signalized bus-only driveway, ensuring comfortable and reliable transfers for riders taking regional trips or making last mile connections.

By providing direct connections to planned investments including commuter rail, bus rapid transit, the Triangle Bikeway, and to an adjacent adaptive reuse project, the new facility will enhance regional multi-modal connectivity to jobs and other destinations in and around Research Triangle Park.

The relocation will save riders time and reduce operating costs given its central location relative to the regional transit network and its proximity to the highway network.

For these reasons, I urge your full and fair consideration of GoTriangle's application to the RAISE Grant Program for the Regional Transit Center (RTC) Relocation project. Please do not hesitate to contact my office for additional information about the project.

Very truly yours,

Deborah K. Ross Member of Congress

ahkm



March 17, 2022

U.S. Department of Transportation Office of the Secretary of Transportation 1200 New Jersey Ave, SE Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

On behalf of the Regional Transportation Alliance, I am writing to express our support of GoTriangle's application to the RAISE Grant Program for the Regional Transit Center (RTC) Relocation project.

RTA is the voice of the regional business community on transportation in North Carolina's growing Research Triangle area. Our mission is to deliver business leadership to get our region moving faster.

In order to better serve the needs of transit riders and address the limitations of the existing facility, regional planning efforts have identified the need and opportunity, and committed the local funding share for constructing a new, effective intermodal facility. The relocated Regional Transit Center will improve transit speed and reliability, address passenger amenity and operational needs, and provide new multi-modal connections.

The new RTC facility will increase equitable and sustainable access to destinations within Research Triangle Park and across the region as whole, while serving as a primary hub for a growing multimodal system including a network of 50+ miles of bus rapid transit that will open this decade as well as our future regional commuter rail spine and extensive regional bus access.

The regional business community has championed the need for effective transportation options for our growing region for many decades. The new RTC facility will help bring that vision to life due to its central location relative to the regional transit network and its proximity to the highway network.

In summary, we fully support the efforts of GoTriangle as they seek to fund the new Regional Transit Center for the Triangle region in North Carolina. Thank you for considering this request, and we look forward to hearing about the success of the application.

Sincerely,

Joe Milazzo II, PE Executive Director

Regional Transportation Alliance



James E. Shepard, Founder

April 4, 2022

U.S. Department of Transportation
Office of the Secretary of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

I am writing to express my support of GoTriangle's application to the RAISE Grant Program for the Regional Transit Center (RTC) Relocation project. To better serve the needs of transit riders and address the limitations of the current facility, regional planning efforts have identified the need and committed the local funding share for constructing a new intermodal facility. The relocated Regional Transit Center will improve transit speed and reliability, address passenger amenity and operational needs, and provide new multi-modal connections. As a result, the new facility will increase equitable and sustainable access to destinations within Research Triangle Park and across the Triangle region of North Carolina. It will also allow for a regional transit connection between North Carolina Central University and the relocated Regional Transit Center in RTP. In summary, I fully support the efforts of GoTriangle as they seek to fund the Regional Transit Center Relocation project, and I look forward to hearing about the success of the application.

Sincerely,

Johnson O. Akinleye, Ph.D.

Chancellor



March 15, 2022

U.S. Department of Transportation Federal Transit Administration 1200 New Jersey Ave, SE Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

GORDON MERKLEIN

ASSOCIATE VICE CHANCELLOR FOR REAL ESTATE OPERATIONS

merklein@unc.edu 0 919-962-6172

THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA AT CHAPEL HILL FINANCE AND OPERATIONS

Real Estate Operations
South Building | Suite 300 | Campus Box 1000
200 East Cameron Avenue | Chapel Hill, NC 27599-1000
fo.unc.edu/real-estate-development

I am writing to express my support of GoTriangle's application to the RAISE Grant Program for the Regional Transit Center (RTC) Relocation project. In order to better serve the needs of transit riders and to address the onsite and offsite limitations of the current facility, regional planning efforts have identified the need and committed the local funding share for constructing a new intermodal facility. The relocated Regional Transit Center will improve transit speed and reliability, address passenger amenity and operational needs, and provide new multi-modal connections. As a result, the new facility will increase equitable and sustainable access to destinations across the whole region including the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

Specifically, the new facility will include additional covered boarding bays with electrical bus charging infrastructure, covered drop-off spaces for paratransit, microtransit, and rideshare vehicles, and a signalized bus-only driveway, ensuring comfortable and reliable transfers for riders taking regional trips or making last mile connections. By providing direct connections to planned investments including commuter rail, bus rapid transit, the Triangle Bikeway, and to an adjacent adaptive reuse project, the new facility will enhance regional multi-modal connectivity to jobs and other destinations in and around Research Triangle Park.

In summary, I fully support the efforts of GoTriangle to seek funding for the new Regional Transit Center for the Triangle region in North Carolina and will continue to support the project as we work together to meet the needs of the regional community. I look forward to hearing about the success of the application.

Sincerel

Gordon Merklein

Associate Vice Chancellor

Real Estate and Campus Enterprises

University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill



April 1, 2022

U.S. Department of Transportation Office of the Secretary of Transportation 1200 New Jersey Ave, SE Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

I am writing to express my support of GoTriangle's application to the RAISE Grant Program for the Regional Transit Center (RTC) Relocation project. To better serve the needs of transit riders and address the limitations of the current facility, regional planning efforts have identified the need and committed the local funding share for constructing a new intermodal facility.

The relocated Regional Transit Center will improve transit speed and reliability, address passenger amenity and operational needs, and provide new multi-modal connections. As a result, the new facility will increase equitable and sustainable access to destinations within Research Triangle Park and across the Triangle region of North Carolina. It will also allow for a regional transit connection between Durham Technical Community College and the relocated Regional Transit Center in RTP.

I fully support the efforts of GoTriangle as they seek to fund the Regional Transit Center Relocation project, and I urge support and funding for this proposal.

Sincerely

JB Buxton President



April 9, 2022

U.S. Department of Transportation Office of the Secretary of Transportation 1200 New Jersey Ave, SE Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

I am writing to express my support of GoTriangle's application to the *RAISE Grant Program for the Regional Transit Center (RTC) Relocation* project.

To better serve the needs of transit riders and address the limitations of the current facility, regional planning efforts have identified the need and committed the local funding share for constructing a new intermodal facility. The relocated Regional Transit Center will improve transit speed and reliability, address passenger amenity and operational needs, and provide new multi-modal connections.

This new facility, blended with local bus rapid transit, will increase equitable and sustainable access to destinations within the Research Triangle Park (RTP) and across the Triangle region of North Carolina. It will also allow for a stronger regional transit connection between Wake Tech's RTP Campus and destinations throughout the Triangle, including the rapidly developing downtowns of Raleigh and Durham. Wake Tech, with 70,000 students, is the largest college or university in the state of North Carolina and built our RTP based campus to support and interact with the 300+ companies in RTP. I believe that our faculty, staff and students will all utilize public transportation and I am eager to continue reducing barriers (like transportation) so that we continue to create better economic mobility for the citizens of Wake County by way of job training.

In summary, I fully support the efforts of GoTriangle as they seek to fund the Regional Transit Center Relocation project, and I look forward to hearing about the success of the application.

Sincerely,

R. Scott Ralls, PhD

President, Wake Technical Community College





March 23, 2022

US Department of Transportation Office of the Secretary of Transportation 1200 New Jersey Ave, SE Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

The Town of Cary is pleased to submit this letter of support for GoTriangle's application for the RAISE Grant program for the Regional Transit Center (RTC) Relocation project.

The Town of Cary provides GoCary Fixed Route and Door-to-Door public transportation service in Wake County, located in central North Carolina. As one of our regional partners, GoTriangle provides bus service to the broader Research Triangle region of North Carolina in Wake, Durham, and Orange counties. Our organizations have a strong history of working together to solve larger transportation and infrastructure needs. In 2016, Wake County voters approved a local option sales tax to support major transit expansion in this area, which is growing by almost 60 people per day.

To better serve the needs of transit riders and to address the onsite and offsite limitations of the current GoTriangle facility, regional planning efforts have identified the need to construct a new intermodal facility. This project is supported by a local funding commitment in the Wake Transit Plan. The relocated Regional Transit Center will improve transit speed and reliability, address passenger amenity and operational needs, and provide new multi-modal connections. This new facility will capitalize on other transit investments currently underway and will increase equitable and sustainable access to destinations within Research Triangle Park and across the region as whole.

The Town of Cary fully supports the efforts of GoTriangle as they seek to fund the new Regional Transit Center for the Triangle region in North Carolina and will continue to support the project as we work together to meet the needs of the public.

Sincerely,

Sean R. Stegall Town Manager

Luna Slegall



March 14, 2022

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

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

I am writing to express my support of the application being submitted for the RAISE Grant program for the Regional Transit Center (RTC) Relocation project by GoTriangle. To better serve the needs of transit riders and to address the onsite and offsite limitations of the current facility, regional planning efforts have identified the need and have committed the local funding share for constructing a new intermodal facility. The relocated RTC will improve transit speed and reliability and address passenger amenity and operational needs.

By providing direct connections to planned investments including commuter rail, bus rapid transit, the Triangle Bikeway and to an adjacent adaptive reuse project, the new facility will enhance regional multimodal connectivity to jobs and other destinations in and around Research Triangle Park.

The relocation will save riders time and reduce operating costs given its central location relative to the regional transit network and its proximity to the highway network. By increasing operational efficiencies GoTriangle will provide our regional riders quicker access to GoRaleigh Station and with connection opportunities throughout the systems.

In summary, the City of Raleigh, fully supports GoTriangle's effort as they seek to fund the new RTC.

Sincerely,

Michael Moore

Director, Department of Transportation

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cc: Marchell Adams-David, City Manager



CHAPEL HILL TRANSIT Town of Chapel Hill 6900 Millhouse Road Chapel Hill, NC 27516-8175

phone (919) 969-4900 fax (919) 968-2840 www.townofchapelhill.org/transit

March 29, 2022

U.S. Department of Transportation Office of the Secretary of Transportation 1200 New Jersey Ave, SE Washington, DC 20590

RE: Letter of Support for GoTriangle's RAISE Grant Application for the Regional Transit Center

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

I am writing to express Chapel Hill Transit's support of GoTriangle's application to the RAISE program for the Regional Transit Center (RTC) Relocation project. In order to better serve the needs of transit customers and to address the onsite and offsite limitations of the current facility, regional planning efforts have identified the need and committed the local funding share for constructing a new intermodal facility. The relocated Regional Transit Center will improve transit speed and reliability, address passenger amenity and operational needs, and provide new multi-modal connections. As a result, the new facility will increase equitable and sustainable access to destinations within Research Triangle Park and across the region.

The new facility will provide additional covered boarding bays with electrical bus charging infrastructure, covered drop-off spaces for paratransit, microtransit, and rideshare vehicles, and a signalized bus-only driveway, ensuring comfortable and reliable transfers for riders taking regional trips or making last mile connections. By providing direct connections to planned investments including commuter rail, bus rapid transit, the Triangle Bikeway, and to an adjacent adaptive reuse project, the new facility will enhance regional multi-modal connectivity to jobs and other destinations in and around Research Triangle Park. The relocation will also save customers time and reduce operating costs given its central location relative to the regional transit network and its proximity to the highway network.

In summary, we fully support the efforts of GoTriangle as they seek to fund the new Regional Transit Center for the Triangle region in North Carolina and will continue to support the project as we work together to meet the needs of the communities we serve. Thank you for strong consideration of GoTriangle's application. Please do not hesitate to contact me at 919.260.0932 or blitchfield@townofchapelhill.org, if there is anything I can clarify.

Sincerely,

Brian M Litchfield

Director