



September 22, 2009

Dear North Carolina Congressional Delegates,

I write to call your attention to an issue of immediate and grave concern to the City of Fayetteville and the Fayetteville Area Metropolitan Planning Organization. This issue is the pending rescission of federal highway funds, due to take effect on September 29th unless Congress acts now to fix this problem.

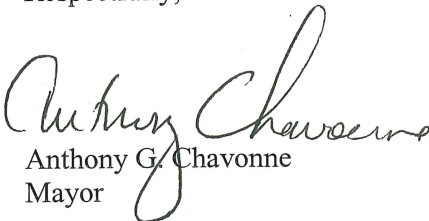
If no action is taken, the rescission will lead to a major reduction in otherwise available federal highway funds across the nation – \$8.7 billion would be cut nationally and in North Carolina, \$250 million dollars would be cut. This will have very negative impact on cities, MPOs and the North Carolina Department of Transportation.

In North Carolina, a \$250 million dollar federal-aid cut exceeds 27% of typical years' federal highway funding allocation. That would directly undermine the hard work state, local and MPO officials have put into the timely implementation of ARRA funding projects. Given the weakened state of the economy and the proven benefits of targeted infrastructure investment, this would be a very bad time for a rescission.

In addition to cutting highway funding across the board, the rescission would reduce the ability of MPO and local officials to use flexible funds to meet key transportation needs and to plan for future transportation needs. This includes cuts to STP DA and CMAQ funds as well as the Metropolitan Planning grant funds. In Fayetteville, we can expect a reduction of \$1.25 million in STP DA funds that directly enhance the community's ability to meet public transportation, pedestrian, bicycle and roadway needs.

I sincerely hope you will be able to urge Congress to act now to eliminate the rescission before September 29, 2009.

Respectfully,


Anthony G. Chavonne
Mayor

cc: Fayetteville City Council

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