



May 6, 2010

Eugene A. Conti
North Carolina Department of Transportation
1501 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27699-1501

Dear Secretary Conti:

On behalf of the *NC Go!* Executive Committee, I am writing to express our gratitude for your recent letter and kind words about the role *NC Go!* has played in supporting transportation needs in our state. I am also pleased to tell you that *NC Go!* wholeheartedly supports the Mobility Fund as outlined in Governor Perdue's FY 2011 budget.

Funding an adequate transportation system has never been a greater challenge – or a greater need for our state. Declining revenue, in part due to the diminished receipts from the motor fuels tax, has restricted our state's ability to maintain and improve roads in step with the growth North Carolina has experienced and will continue to experience. With population projected to increase to more than 12 million by 2030, now is the time for bold ideas and actions to match. The Mobility Fund is a step in the right direction.

Keeping pace with growth is essential if our state wants to grow its economy, attract businesses, create new jobs and maintain a high quality of life for the citizens of North Carolina. Investing in transportation can help accomplish these goals by increasing the capacity of our roads, offering public transportation options and ensuring users of the overall transportation system have safe, efficient travel.

The Mobility Fund will provide an infusion of money into our transportation system that is in step with the needs of communities around the state. It will address congestion relief for urban areas and interstate projects in rural areas. At the same time, it will free up money for rural projects from additional equity formula funding.

Most importantly, the Mobility Fund will allow our state to address the critical need to replace the Yadkin River Bridge, which is vital not just to the I-85 corridor but to commerce throughout our state and along the eastern U.S.

NC Go! is also pleased to see further commitment to reducing the transfer from the Highway Trust Fund – a priority for our organization for years.

NC Go!
Executive Committee

Marc Finlayson, Co-chair
Highway 17 Association

Berry Jenkins, Co-chair
Carolinas AGC

Christie Barbee
Carolina Asphalt Pavement
Association

Betsy Bailey
Professional Engineers of NC

Bruce Beasley
Wilson Chamber of Commerce

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North Carolina Association of
County Commissioners

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NC League of Municipalities

Joe Milazzo
Regional Transportation Alliance

Jerry Reece
North Carolina Concrete
Pavement Association

Kathryn Sawyer Westcott
American Council of Engineering
Companies of NC

Jay Stem
North Carolina Aggregates
Association

Amber Wagner
NC Public Transportation Authority

Julie White
NC Metropolitan Coalition

The public's trust can be further strengthened by ensuring that money raised from transportation sources goes to transportation projects.

We commend Governor Perdue on her inclusion of the Mobility Fund in her budget and recognize the positive work of the Department of Transportation, under your leadership, for making great strides in transforming the agency. *NC Go!* is pleased to be a partner in helping to not just return North Carolina to being the *Good Roads State*, but putting us on track to becoming the *Good Transportation State*.

Sincerely,



Marc Finlayson, *NC Go!* Co-Chair



Berry Jenkins, *NC Go!* Co-Chair