



NORTH CAROLINA
Department of Transportation

SIPS Update

Nastasha Earle-Young
Performance and Operations Manager

February 26, 2026

Connecting people, products and places safely and efficiently with customer focus, accountability and environmental sensitivity to enhance the economy and vitality of North Carolina

NEVI Program

National Electric Vehicle Infrastructure (NEVI) Overview

- NEVI Goal – build network of EV charging stations across the U.S.
- North Carolina received \$109 million
- Phase 1: Build out of Alternative Fuel Corridors
 - CFR 680 Rule lays out station technical requirements including:
 - 4 Combined Charging System (CCS) charging ports
 - 150 kW of power per port
 - Previous guidance laid out station location requirements
 - < 50 miles between stations
 - < 1-mile drive off AFC to station
- Phase 2: Build out Off AFC Corridor and Community Charging

NEVI Phase 1 Round 1 Awards

- Issued NEVI Phase 1 Round 1 RFP in Spring 2024 for 11 locations
- Received 27 proposals from 9 different companies
- Proposals underwent “best value” evaluation process
- Based on June 2023 federal guidance, NCDOT awarded 9 projects totaling \$5.9 million, with 6 currently under development

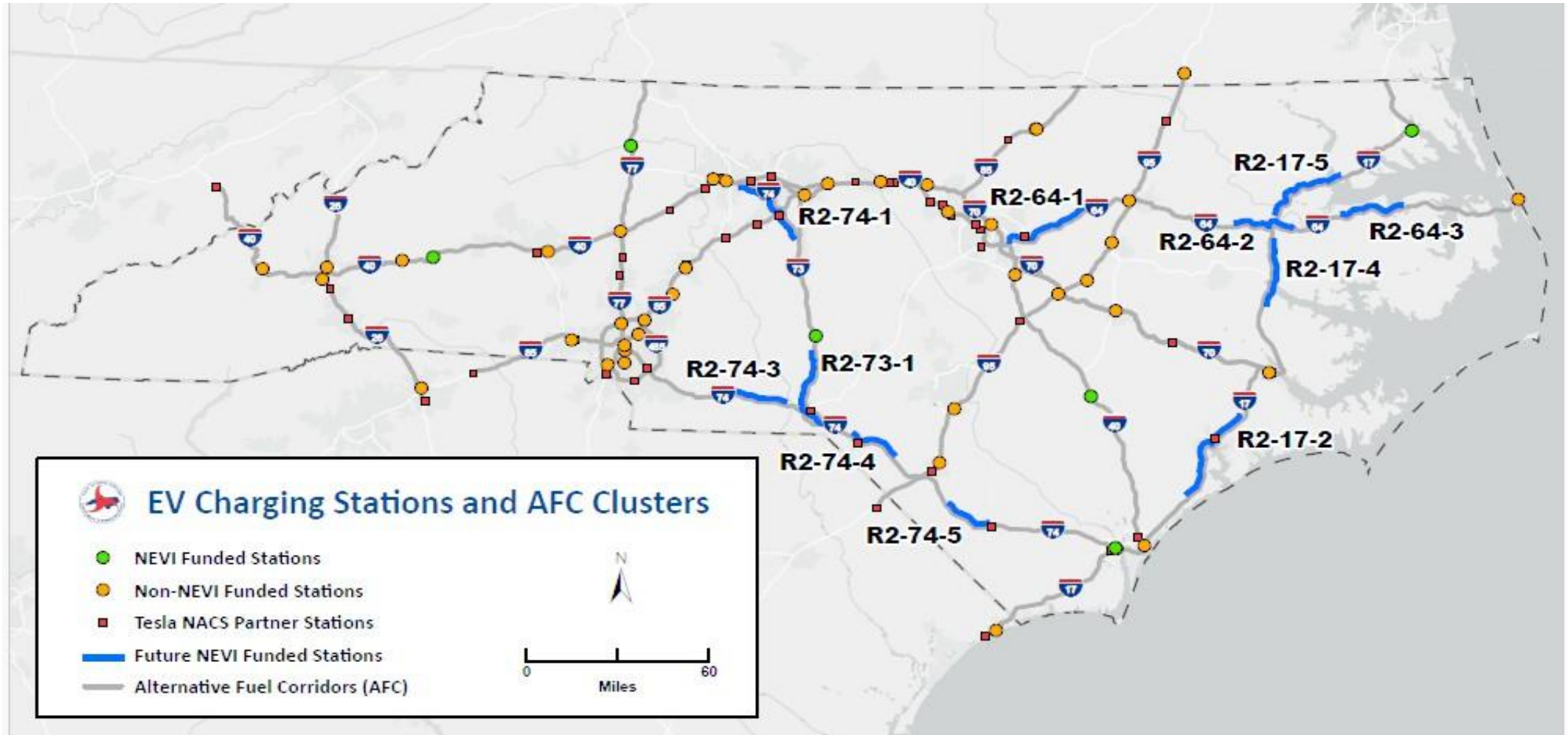
Revised NEVI Guidance – October 2025

- Station Siting
 - Removal of 50-mile spacing between stations
 - Removal of 1 mile distance from corridor exit to station entrance
 - Existing stations that meet primary technical requirements can be part of the overall AFC buildout
- Maintains FHWA certification of AFC full build-out prior to community charging and off AFC buildout efforts

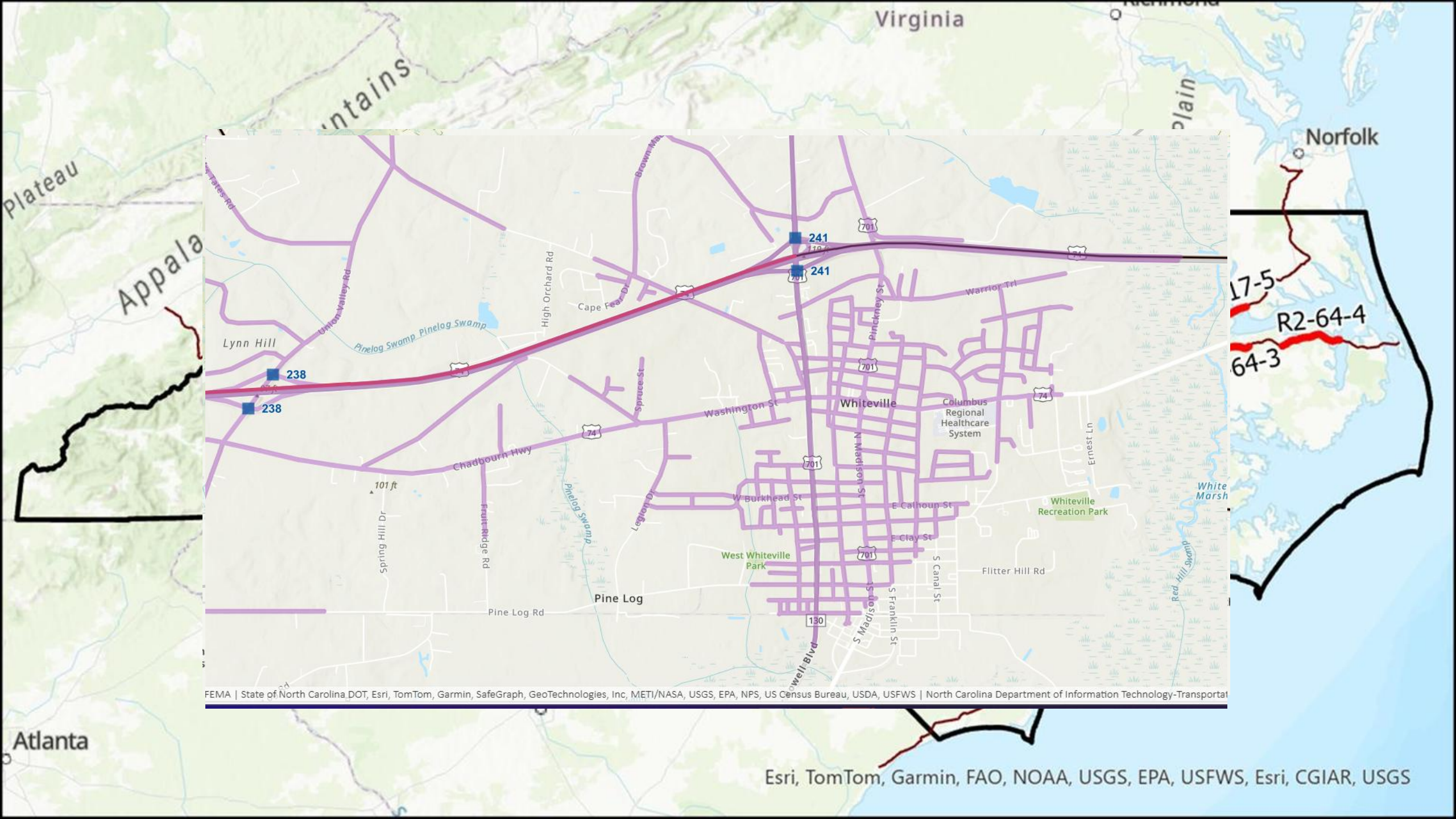
FHWA Full Build Out Certification – November 2025

- Mapped existing stations in North Carolina along AFCs
 - 47 Combined Charging System (CCS) stations and
 - 56 North American Charging Standard (NACS) partner stations
- Mapped “NEVI-compliant” stations within 2 miles of AFCs
 - At least 4 CCS ports
 - Each port delivers at least 150 kW
 - Does not include NACS (Tesla) stations unless they can support CCS vehicles
- Mapped Round 1 award sites
- Considered maximum of 60 miles spaced between stations

NC Full Build Out Certification Map



*Tesla NACS was included as “supportive” of FBO



FEMA | State of North Carolina DOT, Esri, TomTom, Garmin, SafeGraph, GeoTechnologies, Inc, METI/NASA, USGS, EPA, NPS, US Census Bureau, USDA, USFWS | North Carolina Department of Information Technology-Transportation

Esri, TomTom, Garmin, FAO, NOAA, USGS, EPA, USFWS, Esri, CGIAR, USGS

Schedule

Date	Activity
January 2026	Cluster map released
February 2026	Developer and stakeholder webinars
March 2026	Round 2 RFP released
45-60 days after RFP Release	Applications due
July 2026	Round 2 Conditional Awards

Contact Us

Paula Hemmer

pmhemmer@ncdot.gov

 <https://www.ncdot.gov/initiatives-policies/environmental/climate-change/NEVI/Pages/default.aspx>

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Freight Plan

Freight Plan Update

Freight Plan Update

- Freight plan update is underway, with plan scheduled to be adopted February 2027.
- NCARPO is represented on the Steering Committee. (Sam Boswell and Stephanie Harmon)
- Regional Freight Forum meetings will be held in the April timeframe in Raleigh, Wilmington, Charlotte and Asheville – be on the lookout for email invitation.
- Stakeholder Meeting
 - Central Pines Regional Council
 - Durham, NC; March 3
 - Charlotte Mecklenburg Government Center
 - Charlotte, NC; March 4
 - Land of Sky Council of Government
 - Asheville, NC; March 10th

Contact Pam Cook with any questions: prcook@ncdot.gov



Truck Parking Partners Wanted

SIPSGrants@ncdot.gov

CMAQ/CRP

New BABA Requirements

- The current EVSE waiver indicates that final assembly and 55% of the parts need to be manufactured in the United States.
- Manufacturers have increased this percentage but, we are not currently aware of any equipment that is comprised of 100% American Made components.
- When your funds are obligated for your EVSE project, your project is subject to the current waiver at that moment. We are encouraging MPOs/RPOs to reach out to their municipalities or other local project sponsors to communicate this proposed change and to encourage them where possible to finalize contracts and obligate funds to help ensure their projects are covered under the 55% waiver.

New requirements are listed here:

[Notice of Proposed Modification of the Waiver of Buy America Requirements for Electric Vehicle Chargers](#)

CRP Projects Reminder

Funding for all phases for awarded projects must be obligated by FHWA by May



Steven Bolyard (sjbolyard@ncdot.gov)

Heather Hildebrandt (hjhildebrandt@ncdot.gov)

CMAQ

We recently sent out a reminder with FY 2026 suballocations to eligible POs.
This does not represent additional funding for anyone who has already programmed FY 2026 allocations.

Steven Bolyard (sjbolyard@ncdot.gov)
Heather Hildebrandt (hjhildebrandt@ncdot.gov)

Data and Innovation

To sign up visit here:

[Microsoft Virtual Events Powered by Teams](#)

LUNCH & LEARN

MARCH 5, 2026

11:45 a.m.-1 p.m.

ADA Web Accessibility Guidelines

ABOUT THIS WEBINAR:

Join us for an informative webinar focused on NCDOT's efforts to make our public-facing websites and documentation Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliant. The U.S. Department of Justice issued a final rule that requires public web and mobile applications, owned and maintained by state and local governments, be compliant with the ADA Web Accessibility Guidelines Version 2.1, Level AA. The deadline for North Carolina compliance is April 26, 2026. This applies to all content on NCDOT websites that can be accessed by the public - including our Connect sites. This session will provide an overview of the requirements and introduce resources available to help you bring your web content into compliance. Whether you manage content or have documents posted on public web pages, this is your opportunity to learn how to ensure your materials are accessible and ask questions about support resources available from NCDIT.

PRESENTERS:

Caitlyn Mabry
Data and Information
Branch Manager for
the Office of Strategic
Initiatives and Program
Support at NCDOT

Amy Hepler
Lead Accessibility
Developer at NCDIT



SIGN UP HERE

Questions?
Contact the CLEAR team at clear@ncdot.gov.

CLEAR
Communicate Lessons, Exchange Advice, Record

State Transportation Innovation Councils (STIC)

- The State Transportation Innovation Council Incentive program is now accepting applications until April 17, 2026
- This program funds activities such as:
 - Conducting internal assessments
 - Initiating capacity building
 - Developing guidance
 - Drafting standards and specifications
 - Organizing peer exchanges
 - Implementing system process changes
- The program awards up to \$125,000 to offset the costs of standardizing innovative practices

State Transportation Innovation Councils (STIC)

- To find examples of completed STIC projects visit this QR code:



- To apply to be a part of the program, visit this QR code:



Mileage-based User Fee

What is an MBUF?

A mileage-based user fee, or MBUF:

- Allows drivers to contribute to transportation based on how many miles they drive, not how much gas they purchase or a flat EV fee.
- Reconnects the link between how much drivers pay and how much they drive

Mileage-Based User Fee (MBUF) 

means each driver  \$\$\$

pays for miles  \$\$

they drive  \$

TETC MBUF Pilot

The Eastern Transportation Coalition (TETC)

- Partnership of 20 states and Washington, D.C.
- Collaborating since 2018 to explore a mileage-based user fee as one funding alternative
- This pilot is open to transportation leaders and decision-makers in most TETC states regardless of how involved they have been with TETC's work.

Pilot Details:

- Enrollment begins February 1, 2026
- Pilot will be live through May 31, 2026
- Free to participate
- Strict privacy protections in place
- Participants will receive monthly reports simulating what they would have paid in an MBUF vs. gas tax or EV registration fee
- Participants will complete two anonymous surveys to provide feedback
- Open to transportation leaders and decision-makers in TETC states

Who Should Participate

- Eligible states:
 - Alabama
 - Connecticut
 - Delaware
 - Florida
 - Georgia
 - Kentucky
 - Maine
 - Maryland
 - Massachusetts
 - New Hampshire
 - New Jersey
 - New York
 - **North Carolina**
 - Pennsylvania
 - Rhode Island
 - South Carolina
 - Tennessee
 - Vermont
 - Washington, D.C.
 - West Virginia
- Stakeholders invited to participate:
 - State DOT and DMV agency staff
 - State legislators
 - Transportation partner agency staff (e.g. MPOs, TMAs)
 - County staff
 - Chamber of commerce staff

Why Should We Participate

- The pilot is free and participant data is protected
- Results from previous pilots have shown that participating provides real world experience and knowledge about the benefits and challenges of an MBUF
- Feedback will influence state, regional, and national conversations about MBUF.
- The pilot considers the Electric Vehicle fees in many states which would provide drivers of those vehicles with the opportunity to compare an MBUF to a flat fee

How To Join

1. Fill out the enrollment form
2. Choose one of the mileage-reporting options (MROs):
 - Plug-in Device with GPS
 - Plug-in Device without GPS
 - Telematics
 - Manual Odometer Capture
3. Drive as you normally would
4. After the pilot ends on May 31, 2026, mail back the device and submit the final odometer photo
Or disable vehicle telematics

For questions:

Contact a Pilot team member

- 240-230-6277
- info@tetcmbufpilot.org

External Letter of Support Process

External Grants Letters of Support

- Increase in Grants- Increase in Requests for Support for local projects
- Important to Locals to get Department's Support
 - Makes more competitive
- Ensures we are aware of projects on our facilities
- Local Grants- DOT Implications:
 - Subrecipients
 - Match
 - Some grants require state to sponsor or manage project
 - Projects could impact NCDOT planned or funded projects

Process



Reason

Standardize Process

- Ensure we are being consistent and fair
- Time-sensitive, don't want to get lost in email

More Complete Decision-Making

- Information on project scope, budget, and management

Central Repository

- Track all projects at Statewide level
- Can respond to inquiries about grant programs or projects

Designated Signatures

- Designated Signatory
 - Highway/Roadway Projects- E/W Deputy Chief
 - Modal Projects- Deputy Secretary for Multimodal
 - Other- COO Discretion



Update/Things to Consider

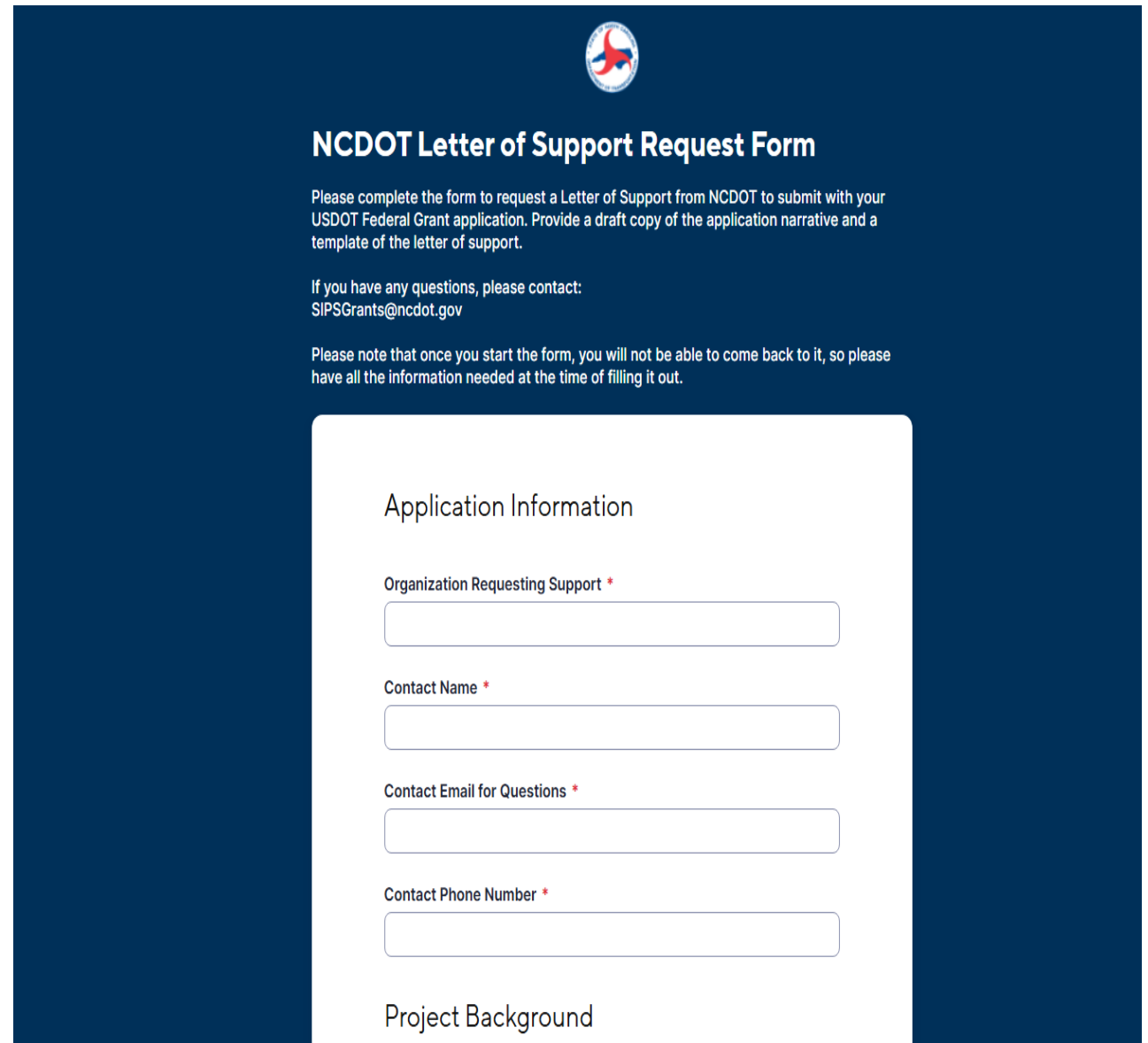
- Is it a state-maintained route?
- Have you discussed it with your highway division?
- Are you anticipating using NCDOT to administer the project?
- Have you included fees for NCDOT and a cost estimate?
- Are you trying to use alternate delivery?




Smartsheet Form

- Completed by locals
- Triggers email to Division Engineer and Modal Lead (if applicable)

Link to form:



The screenshot shows the NCDOT Letter of Support Request Form interface. At the top center is the NCDOT logo. Below it is the title "NCDOT Letter of Support Request Form". The instructions state: "Please complete the form to request a Letter of Support from NCDOT to submit with your USDOT Federal Grant application. Provide a draft copy of the application narrative and a template of the letter of support." It also provides contact information: "If you have any questions, please contact: SIPSGrants@ncdot.gov". A note says: "Please note that once you start the form, you will not be able to come back to it, so please have all the information needed at the time of filling it out." The form itself is a white box with a dark blue background. It has a section titled "Application Information" with four input fields: "Organization Requesting Support *", "Contact Name *", "Contact Email for Questions *", and "Contact Phone Number *". Below this is a section titled "Project Background".



NCDOT Letter of Support Request Form

Please complete the form to request a Letter of Support from NCDOT to submit with your USDOT Federal Grant application. Provide a draft copy of the application narrative and a template of the letter of support.

If you have any questions, please contact:
SIPSGrants@ncdot.gov

Please note that once you start the form, you will not be able to come back to it, so please have all the information needed at the time of filling it out.

Application Information

Organization Requesting Support *

Contact Name *

Contact Email for Questions *

Contact Phone Number *

Project Background

Thank you!
