



PAT McCrory
Governor

NICHOLAS J. TENNYSON
Secretary

February 17, 2016

Mayor Jennifer Roberts
City of Charlotte
600 East 4th Street
Charlotte, North Carolina 28202

Dear Mayor Roberts:

Last month, in response to a request from Governor McCrory, the Charlotte Regional Transportation Planning Organization (CRTPO) acted to re-affirm the use of optional toll lanes as a strategy on four corridors in the region.

During discussions of the strategy there were people who raised concerns that they generally called issues with the contract. When I spoke at the January 20th meeting of CRTPO, I said that we would be soliciting comments to help improve the project through negotiated changes to the agreement, where possible.

This letter is to request each of the jurisdictions that make up CRTPO to provide a consolidated list of the specific aspects of the contract to which members of your body object. Your response does not need to be in the form of an action by your body. We would appreciate a response by March 14. Warren Cooksey will contact you to facilitate collection of the responses from all the jurisdictions in the planning area and to answer questions about the process we are following. We may not be able to satisfy every issue raised, but we want to make certain we are identifying all the potential points of concern. However, we recognize there are aspects of this project for which additional review may yield a better outcome. For example, the policy decision made at the beginning of the project development, in consultation with regional transportation planners, was to restrict the types of vehicles that could use the lanes to vehicles under 20 feet in length (including trailers). We are nearing a point when we can identify the operational effects of allowing longer vehicles, including various sizes of trucks. There may be justification to modifying the vehicle type provision of the contract.

Likewise, the issue of entrance and exit points from the optional toll lanes has been mentioned. This question has been the subject of work since the contract was signed, additional points have been added and we need to make sure we have clearly described those changes. If additional changes are needed, those would be another issue on which modifications would be required.

Attached you will find the latest fact sheet we have developed for the project. We are not asking for an action by your board/council – just a list generated by your jurisdiction. Once we have assembled the total list, we'll be able to provide an estimated timeline for response. Any changes will be the subject of negotiated agreement between NCDOT and I-77 Mobility Partners, as provided for in the contract.



As the first of its kind for North Carolina, this is a very large and complex enterprise. We want to make sure it delivers the kind of extraordinary benefit possible from a project of this scale and appreciate your help in doing so.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Nicholas J. Tennyson', with a large, stylized initial 'N'.

Nicholas J. Tennyson

Attachment: Fact Sheet