



February 13, 2026

The Honorable Sean Duffy, Secretary
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, D.C. 20590

RE: FY2026 BUILD Grant Application –

Hendersonville Downtown Streets Modernization Project: New Streets for New Business

Dear Secretary Duffy:

On behalf of the Hendersonville Rescue Mission, I am writing to express our strong support for the FY2026 BUILD Grant Application for the Hendersonville Downtown Streets Modernization Project: New Streets for New Business.

As a Christian ministry serving the most vulnerable members of our community for nearly 45 years, Hendersonville Rescue Mission provides life-stabilizing services to individuals and families experiencing homelessness and hardship. Many of our residents rely on safe, accessible downtown infrastructure to reach employment opportunities, medical appointments, social services, and churches. Improved sidewalks, lighting, crossings, and traffic design are essential—particularly for those who do not own vehicles and depend on walking, public transit, or bicycles as their primary means of transportation. Many of the individuals in our programs are seeking entry-level, service-industry positions commonly located in downtown areas.

We believe this project will meaningfully improve the daily lives and long-term prospects of the individuals we serve. We respectfully urge approval of the FY2026 BUILD Grant to support this transformative investment in Hendersonville's future. Thank you for your consideration.

In His service,

Rev. Anthony S. McMinn,
President/CEO

/tlc

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