

339 New Leicester Hwy., Suite 140  
Asheville, NC 28806  
p: 828.251.6622 | 800.727.0557  
f: 828.251.6353 | w: landofsky.org



2/10/2026

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

**RE: FY 2026 BUILD Grant Application – City of Hendersonville**

Dear Secretary Duffy,

On behalf of the Land of Sky Regional Council, I am pleased to offer this letter of strong support for the City of Hendersonville's FY 2026 BUILD Grant application for the *Hendersonville Downtown Streets Modernization Project: New Streets for New Business*.

Land of Sky Regional Council serves as the regional Council of Government for Buncombe, Henderson, Madison, and Transylvania Counties. In this capacity, we work closely with local governments and partner agencies to advance investments that improve safety, economic vitality, and quality of life across Western North Carolina. The City of Hendersonville's proposed project exemplifies these shared regional priorities.

The Hendersonville Downtown Streets Modernization Project will enhance safety for pedestrians, bicyclists, and motorists along key historic downtown corridors while strengthening connections between downtown and surrounding neighborhoods. The project will create a more welcoming and functional public realm, support local businesses, improve access to regional trail networks, and increase resilience to flooding and extreme weather events—an important consideration for communities in our mountain region.

This project aligns closely with the U.S. Department of Transportation's BUILD program objectives by investing in infrastructure that improves transportation safety, promotes economic development, supports local jobs, and enhances quality of life for residents and visitors alike. By maintaining roadway capacity while expanding multimodal options, the project will provide practical, accessible transportation choices that serve families, workers, and tourists throughout the region.

Land of Sky Regional Council recognizes the Hendersonville Downtown Streets Modernization Project as a catalytic investment with benefits extending beyond city limits. Thank you for your consideration of this important application. We appreciate the U.S. Department of Transportation's continued commitment to supporting communities through the BUILD program.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Erica Anderson".

Erica Anderson  
Deputy Executive Director