



Jacksonville Urban Area
Metropolitan Planning Organization

June 12, 2014

Subject: Eastern North Carolina MPO/RPO Coalition Meeting

Fellow MPO/RPO Coalition Members:

Please let me express my sincerest gratitude to those of you who were able to attend our meeting in Jacksonville on May 23, 2014. For those of you who were not available to attend, the following is a summary of our discussion:

- The Coalition now has 16 members including New Bern MPO and Grand Strand MPO
- Coordination among Divisions 1, 2, 3, and 4 to develop customized prioritization formulas was a great success for the Coalition – only Divisions able to do so statewide
- Overview of Statewide scoring results are final, but opportunity still exists to influence projects at the Regional and Division levels
- Coordination with the Divisions and neighboring MPOs/RPOs is critical to ensure that high-priority Coalition projects are funded by the next STIP
- Continued effort by the Coalition is needed to advocate for Eastern North Carolina

While the transportation funding landscape has changed significantly since the Coalition's formation in 2012, based on discussions with NCDOT staff and members of the North Carolina General Assembly, it is clear that our mission is more relevant than ever to the project development and delivery process. Your continued support of the Coalition reinforces the value and need for collaboration among stakeholders in eastern North Carolina on the issue of regional transportation and a commitment to become more proactive in cooperatively addressing transportation needs that greatly impact the economic vitality and quality of life of our region.

Again thank you for your participation and support.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Micheal A. Lazzara".

Micheal A. Lazzara
Transportation Advisory Committee Chairman