

[Your Letterhead
Or
Return Address]

March , 2011

[Title] [NameFirst] [NameLast]
[Office]
[Chamber]
[Address1] [Address2]
[CityStateZip]

RE: CURRITUCK MID-COUNTY BRIDGE FUNDING

Dear [Salutation] [NameLast]:

I am writing to urge the General Assembly to appropriate gap-funding for the proposed Currituck Mid-County Bridge in the upcoming budget. In the planning stage for more than twenty years, much has been accomplished and \$18 million dollars have been spent. The Mid-County Bridge has consistently been a high priority transportation project.

The economy of the Outer Banks depends on efficient access – especially from the markets to the north which account for 70% of the visitors. Currently, congestion on the weekends causes the traffic to backup for an hour and a half (or more), delaying access to both Dare and Currituck beaches.

Construction of the bridge will create jobs immediately, and convenient access from the beach to Currituck mainland will spur economic development. There is adequate land available on the mainland at a reasonable cost to permit construction of tourist attractions accessible via the bridge.

I am aware of the budget constraints facing the North Carolina General Assembly. However, the Public-Private Partnership to be formed to construct and operate the facility will allow us to leverage scarce dollars – at a time when material and construction costs have stabilized. Furthermore, funding sources for the bridge have been identified: tolls, private equity, and gap-funding. Please advocate for full funding of the Currituck Mid-County Bridge.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,

[Your Name]

Cc: