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# Congress of the United States

## Washington, DC 20515

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SUBCOMMITTEE ON  
DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION

July 19, 2021

The Honorable Phil Berger  
Senate President Pro Tempore  
North Carolina General Assembly  
16 West Jones Street, Room 2007  
Raleigh, NC 27601

The Honorable Tim Moore  
Speaker of the House  
North Carolina General Assembly  
16 West Jones Street, Room 2304  
Raleigh, NC 27601

Dear President Pro Tempore Berger and Speaker Moore,

We write today in support of the Town of Huntersville's request to receive equitable funding from the American Rescue Plan in North Carolina's budget.

In our decades of public service, North Carolina has never faced a challenge as great as the public health emergency and economic devastation caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. While the undersigned have views across the political spectrum, this is not a partisan crisis.

Unfortunately, the Town of Huntersville was shortchanged at a critical moment in our recovery from this crisis. According to initial estimates, the Town of Huntersville was projected to receive \$17 million from American Rescue Plan funding. The actual allocation has fallen far short: on June 8, WCNC reported, "U.S. Department of the Treasury records show Huntersville, home to more than 58,000 people, is set to receive \$4.8 million in American Rescue Plan money. Data shows 15 other cities and towns in the Carolinas with smaller populations will receive more than Huntersville. A WCNC Charlotte analysis shows the town is set to receive just under \$83 per person, which is among the lowest per capita in North Carolina and South Carolina, well below the \$196 per person average."

In a May 26 letter, Huntersville Mayor John Aneralla wrote you about the importance of these funds to growing suburban towns. He wrote, "As suburban communities, our lower income residents are often hidden by the size of our much larger census tracts, limiting our potential to seek federal assistance for them. The ARPA funds could have a much greater impact on our citizens with affordable housing and economic mobility efforts if we were to receive the

estimated \$17 million. Our businesses are also still struggling from the economic hardships of COVID-19.”

With equitable funding from the American Rescue Plan, the Town of Huntersville will be able to invest in critical infrastructure projects, economic development, job creation, tourism, and the Huntersville-based non-profits that have held the community together during these difficult times.

Item 29 in Governor Cooper’s American Rescue Plan Act, “Assistance for Local Governments,” would solve this problem and make Huntersville whole. We respectfully ask that it be included in the state budget this year. While \$12 million is a small fraction of the almost \$6 billion dollars in American Rescue Fund, it is a transformational sum for a city of almost 60,000.

We hope you will seriously consider this request. The people of Huntersville, North Carolina’s 17<sup>th</sup> largest city, do not have time to wait.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Alma S. Adams".

Congresswoman Alma S. Adams, Ph.D.  
North Carolina’s 12<sup>th</sup> Congressional District

Natasha Marcus  
North Carolina State Senator, District 41

cc: Governor Roy Cooper  
Senate Democratic Leader Dan Blue  
House Democratic Leader Robert Reives