



BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

December 18, 2025

The Honorable Alma Adams
U.S House of Representatives
2436 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

RE: Fiscal Year 2026 Community Project Funding

Dear Congresswoman Adams:

On behalf of Mecklenburg County (County), I respectfully request that you remove the County's "Local Foods Production and Distribution Center – Phase 2 Development and Equipment" Community Project Funding (CPF) from H.R. 4552, the Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2026.

Mecklenburg Board of County Commissioners and County staff are concerned about Carolina Farm Trust's (CFT's) financial operations, CFT's ability to perform the original scope of work supported by County funding, and whether CFT has the capabilities necessary to successfully deliver future outcomes through its partnership with the County.

Reflected in a recent Board of County Commissioners hearing in November, the County has received concerns regarding the Local Foods Production and Distribution Center's operations from its intended customer base in Charlotte's Hoskins neighborhood. The County is also troubled by CFT's significant reduction in personnel, affordability of produce available through CFT for public purchase, and the partnership's lack of benefit to farmers and local food producers within Mecklenburg County. Together, these concerns have raised significant questions regarding the viability of the County's partnership with CFT as well as CFT's ability to address food insecurity issues within Mecklenburg County.

After extensive deliberation and with regret, Mecklenburg Board of County Commissioners and County staff have determined it is in the best interest of the County to rescind its "Local Foods Production and Distribution Center – Phase 2 Development and Equipment" CPF request. Thank you for your continued support and please do not hesitate to reach out should you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Mark D. Jerrell". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Mark" being the most prominent.

Mark D. Jerrell
Chairman
Mecklenburg Board of County Commissioners