

Board of Commissioners

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Lenoir County Administration
Post Office Box 3289
101 N. Queen Street
Kinston, NC 28502

Telephone: (252) 559-6450
Fax: (252) 559-6454

Michael S. James, County Manager
Adam T. Short, Assistant County Manager
Reekitta B. Deaver, Clerk to the Board

March 9, 2026

The Honorable Dr. Greg Murphy
407 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC, 20515
Phone: (202) 225-3415

Dear Congressman Murphy:

On behalf of the Lenoir County Board of County Commissioners, I am writing to express our strong support for two critical capital projects that represent our highest infrastructure priorities for Lenoir County. These projects are essential investments in public safety, education, and long-term community resilience, and we respectfully seek your support as we pursue federal funding opportunities for both.

Our first and highest priority is the development of a new Joint Bus Maintenance and Workforce Training Facility, a collaborative partnership between Lenoir County Public Schools and Lenoir Community College. For this project, we intend to pursue funding through the USDA Community Facilities program.

Relocating the current bus garage out of the floodplain is a necessary and responsible step to protect an essential public service. This move will safeguard county assets, reduce the risk of costly disruptions, and ensure the reliable transportation of students to and from school. Beyond infrastructure protection, this project represents a forward-thinking workforce investment. By co-locating the Lenoir Community College Automotive Systems Technology program within the facility, students will gain hands-on experience working in a real fleet environment—including school buses—while supporting daily operations. This partnership strengthens both our public school system and our workforce development pipeline.

Our second priority is the construction of a new Emergency Medical Services (EMS) station, for which we intend to apply for funding through the USDA Community Facilities Program.

As emergency call volumes increase and service demands grow more complex, it is imperative that we invest in infrastructure that supports rapid response, operational efficiency, and high-quality patient care. A strategically located EMS station will improve coverage, reduce response times, and enhance coordination with municipal and volunteer public safety partners. Modern facilities will also support equipment readiness, infection control standards, workforce recruitment and retention, and ongoing training. This project is foundational to maintaining a dependable emergency response system in our rural community.

Both projects align with federal priorities to strengthen rural infrastructure, expand workforce opportunities, and protect public health and safety. The Board of Commissioners is committed to advancing these applications and leveraging every available resource to deliver these critical improvements for our residents.

We respectfully request your continued support as we pursue USDA Community Facilities for the Joint Bus Maintenance and Workforce Training Facility and USDA Community Facilities funding for the new EMS station. We greatly appreciate your leadership and advocacy on behalf of eastern North Carolina communities and look forward to working closely with your office throughout this process.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Linda Rouse Sutton" with a small smiley face at the end.

Linda Rouse-Sutton, Chair
Lenoir County Board of County Commissioners

LENOIR
COMMUNITY COLLEGE
OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

March 2, 2026

To Whom It May Concern:

Lenoir Community College is proud to express its strong support for the proposed School Bus Garage and Workforce Training Facility to be developed in partnership with Lenoir County Public Schools and Lenoir County.

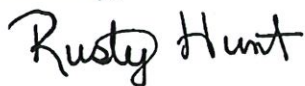
This project presents a transformative opportunity for our Automotive Systems Technology program. By housing our instructional program within the new facility, students will gain direct, hands-on experience in a real-world fleet maintenance environment. The ability to work on school buses and related equipment as part of their curriculum will significantly enhance experiential learning, safety training, diagnostic skills, and workforce readiness.

The relocation of the current bus garage from the floodplain also demonstrates a shared commitment to sustainability and long-term community resilience. The new facility will provide a stable, modern environment that supports both educational excellence and dependable school transportation services.

This collaboration exemplifies how educational institutions and local government can work together to maximize resources while addressing community needs. It strengthens the workforce pipeline in automotive and diesel systems technology—fields that remain critical to the economic vitality of our region.

Lenoir Community College fully supports this initiative and the pursuit of USDA grant funding to bring this innovative and impactful partnership to fruition.

Sincerely,



Rusty Hunt, Ed.D.
President

SUPERINTENDENT
M. Brent Williams

ASSOCIATE SUPERINTENDENT
Frances J. Herring

ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT
Nicholas E. Harvey, II



Connecting Your Child to a Prosperous Future

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To Whom It May Concern:

Lenoir County Public Schools is pleased to offer its full support for the development of a new School Bus Garage and Workforce Training Facility in partnership with Lenoir Community College and Lenoir County.

Reliable student transportation is fundamental to our mission. The relocation of our existing bus garage operations out of the floodplain is essential to protecting critical transportation infrastructure and ensuring uninterrupted service for the thousands of students who depend on us each day. This project will significantly improve operational efficiency, safety, and long-term sustainability.

In addition to strengthening our transportation system, the partnership with Lenoir Community College creates meaningful educational opportunities. Integrating the Automotive Systems Technology program into the facility allows students to engage in practical, hands-on learning while supporting the maintenance of the district's fleet. This collaboration promotes career pathways, technical skill development, and community engagement.

The proposed facility reflects thoughtful planning, responsible stewardship of public resources, and a commitment to both present and future generations. We strongly support efforts to secure USDA grant funding to construct this important community asset.

Sincerely,

M. Brent Williams
Superintendent
Lenoir County Public Schools

Lenoir County Public Schools

PO Box 729 | 2017 W Vernon Avenue | Kinston NC 28502-0729 | Phone: 252.527.1109 | Fax: 252.527.6884 | www.lcpsnc.org



LENOIR COUNTY

DEVELOPMENT ALLIANCE
NORTH CAROLINA

March 5, 2026

To Whom It May Concern:

The Lenoir County Development Alliance is proud to offer its strong support for the proposed School Bus Garage and Workforce Training Facility being pursued through a partnership between Lenoir County Public Schools, Lenoir Community College, and Lenoir County.

Economic development is not just about recruiting new industry. It is about building the conditions that make a community worth investing in. A well-trained local workforce, dependable public infrastructure, and smart use of public resources are the foundation of everything we work toward in Lenoir County. This project checks every one of those boxes.

The partnership structure here is exactly what our region needs more of. When local government, public education, and higher education sit down together and find a way to solve multiple problems with a single solution, the whole community wins. Students gain real skills in a real working environment. The school district gains a safe, modern facility outside of the floodplain. And Lenoir County gains a stronger workforce pipeline in a field that supports jobs across every sector of our local economy.

The Lenoir County Development Alliance stands fully behind this initiative and strongly encourages the support of USDA grant funding to bring this project to life. This is the kind of investment that pays dividends for decades.

Sincerely,



Trey Cash
President
Lenoir County Development Alliance



March 5, 2026

The North Carolina Global TransPark Economic Development Region is pleased to offer its full support for the proposed School Bus Garage and Workforce Training Facility to be developed through a partnership between Lenoir County Public Schools, Lenoir Community College, and Lenoir County.

Workforce development is one of the most important investments a community can make. This project does something rare. It addresses an immediate infrastructure need while creating a long-term training pipeline for skilled workers in automotive and diesel technology. That combination is exactly the kind of forward-thinking approach that strengthens a regional economy from the ground up.

Relocating the existing bus garage out of the floodplain is a smart, responsible decision for the county and for the thousands of families who depend on reliable student transportation every single day. Pairing that relocation with a hands-on training environment for Lenoir Community College students multiplies the return on every dollar invested in this facility.

Eastern North Carolina needs more projects like this one. Projects that bring institutions together, build workforce capacity, and serve the community for generations. The NC Global TransPark Economic Development Region strongly supports this initiative and the pursuit of USDA grant funding to make it a reality.

Sincerely,

Mark Pope President
NC Global TransPark Economic Development Region
2780 Jetport Road, Suite D
Kinston, NC 28504