# THE HINDU SOCIETY OF NORTH CAROLINA



309 Aviation Parkway, Morrisville NC 27560 Ph. 919-481-2574 Web: <u>www.hsnconline.org</u>

Date-31<sup>st</sup> March 2025.

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#### RE: Public Comment re: TIP Amendment #8 Public Comment Draft 2026-2035 STIP

#### To Whom it May Concern:

I am writing in regard to the U-5811 Aviation Parkway project. It's my understanding that this project was scheduled in the State Transportation Improvement Plan (STIP) for FY28 construction and that construction is now proposed to be postponed until FY30. This is a critical project for the region including the many motorists and pedestrians that regularly travel the corridor.

While it's disappointing that the project is proposed to be postponed, I understand that additional time is needed for right-of-way acquisition and utility relocation. Therefore, I support the Town of Morrisville's request that the project be approached in phases to allow construction of the section between Town Hall Drive and McCrimmon Parkway to commence on its original schedule (or as soon as possible) with construction of the remainder of the corridor to follow immediately thereafter.

Aviation parkway is the most critical roadways in the Town of Morrisville as most of the residents from Cary, Morrisville, Apex and nearby places use this roadway to go to Airport or access Interstate 40 and 540. For most part of the day (7 AM to 8 PM) the Aviation is always jam from intersection 54 till 40 junction. There are so many community places from HWY 54 till Interstate 40 intersection such as our organization Hindu Society of NC(HSNC) which support over 30K+ community members, BAPS-supports 10+K community members, Wake County garbage convenience center located on 266 Aviation parkway, multiple apartment complexes on Evans intersection, the railroad crossing on 54 etc. has already created huge



traffic issue on this part of Aviation parkway. In a way it has affected Morrisville Town's growth. Refer exhibit A below a map to indicate this complex corridor locations and the incidents and crash data to demonstrate the current dangerous situation. **Our community along with Town of Morrisville and nearby Towns are growing, and any delay will further create more traffic related incidents, hazardous conditions and issues.** 

HSNC has recently got the rezoning approval from Town of Morrisville for its 23+ acre campus development plan (refer exhibit B). One of the conditions for approval was to execute "Traffic Management Plan (TMP). Per this TMP HSNC is required to ensure sufficient parking arrangements and ensure traffic flow during our events on Aviation parkway. However, the major hurdle for HSNC to implement TMP is the existing traffic volume/jams on Aviation parkway which is not related to HSNC event. We are indeed hoping that the Aviation widening will easy the situation.

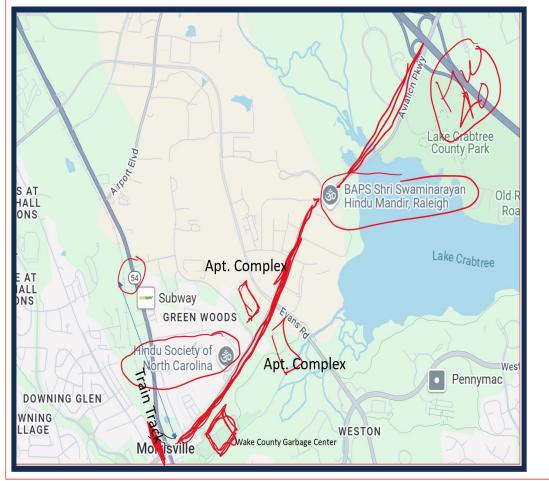
Thank you for your consideration and assistance in keeping this important project on track.

Sincerely,

Manoj Pandya President-HSNC



### Exhibit A – Aviation Parkway from Hwy 54 to Interstate 40 -Complex Corridor



Pedestrian Safety concerns on the above marked Rodeway

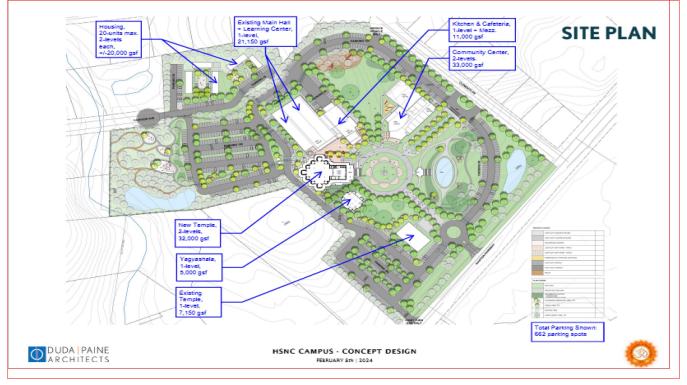
- Significant portions of Aviation Pkwy currently lack sidewalks.
- Events frequently occur along the Aviation Pkwy corridor at Cedar Fork District Park, the Hindu Society of North Carolina (HSNC) and BAPS **Shri Swaminarayan Mandir** (BAPs)
- Pedestrians frequently walk on the side of the street adjacent to vehicles.
- Planned safety enhancements with the U-5811 project, including a sidewalk and multiuse path, are needed to provide infrastructure essential for pedestrian safety.
- A camera at the Aviation Pkwy and NC 54 intersection found that since August of 2023, 6,152 people have traversed the intersection with a comparable number of near miss vehicle to pedestrian accidents.
- The intersection currently contains no pedestrian infrastructure. The planned addition of crosswalks at the intersection will provide a much-needed pedestrian safety element.



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# Aviation Pkwy/NC54 Intersection Safety.

- The Aviation Pkwy and NC 54 intersection is on the 2024 Highway Safety Improvement Plan and noted as a crash location with a pattern of crashes.
- Since 2018 there have been a total of 283 crashes at the intersection including at least 24 angle crashes and 56 left turn same road crashes.
- There have also been a combined total of 209 traffic complaints and motorist assist calls many related to vehicles stuck on the tracks or performing unsafe acts in the intersection.
- A camera at the Aviation Pkwy and NC54 intersection found that since August of 2023 there have been 70,845 near miss vehicle to vehicle accidents at the intersection.
- Three cars and trains have collided at the Aviation Pkwy and NC 54 intersection since 2013 which has resulted in a total of 4 fatalities.
- The project includes a redesign of the intersection to improve safety including elimination of the westbound left turn onto NC 54, the addition of a pre-signal in the eastbound lane before the tracks.



## **Exhibit B- HSNC Campus Design**