Adams Advocates for Huntersville in Letter to General Assembly Leadership



From Alma Adams Press <sam.spencer@mail.house.gov>

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Adams Advocates for Huntersville in Letter to General Assembly Leadership

Washington, D.C. – Yesterday Congresswoman Alma Adams (NC-12) and Senator Natasha Marcus (NC-SD-41) sent a letter to the leadership of the North Carolina General Assembly asking for their support for the Town of Huntersville in the state budget. Adams' letter requests equitable funding for the town in the final American Rescue Plan Act budget; Governor Roy Cooper's proposed budget already includes the funding.

"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," wrote Rep. Adams and Sen. Marcus. "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 17th largest city, do not have time to wait."

A copy of the letter is available here, and below.

Dear President Pro Tempore Berger and Speaker Moore,

We write today in support of the Town of Huntersville's request to receive

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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 17th largest city, do not have time to wait.

Sincerely,

Congresswoman Alma S. Adams, Ph.D. North Carolina's 12th Congressional District

Natasha Marcus North Carolina State Senator, District 41

Congresswoman Alma Adams represents North Carolina's 12th Congressional District (Huntersville) and serves as Vice Chair of the House Committee on Agriculture. Additionally, she serves on the House Financial Services Committee and the House Education & Labor Committee, where she serves as Chair of the Workforce Protections Subcommittee.

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