



Five Minute Statement, Member Day, Transportation and Infrastructure Committee

Rep. Tim Moore, Wednesday, May 14, 2025

Thank you Chairman Graves, Ranking Member Larsen, and Members of the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee for hosting this Member Day.

The Charlotte-Gastonia metro is one of the fastest growing areas in the country. As Western North Carolina continues to grow, so do the demands on local infrastructure. That's why the first bill I introduced was H.R. 1333 to designate U.S. Highway 74 as a future interstate. This segment would stretch from I-26 in Columbus, North Carolina to I-85 in Kings Mountain, North Carolina.

For many of my constituents, US 74 is a heavily traveled route for commuting, commerce, and daily life. Upgrading US 74 to future interstate status will bring long-overdue improvements. This designation will open this corridor for new economic development, attract businesses, and create more opportunities for Western North Carolina.

The future interstate designation will allow the North Carolina Department of Transportation to place corresponding signs along the corridor that runs through Polk, Rutherford, Cleveland, and Gaston counties and will ensure the road is brought up to interstate standards.

Currently, Rutherford County does not have an interstate within its county lines. This designation is expected to boost economic opportunity in each county while improving regional connectivity.

I look forward to working with the Members of the committee to bring needed infrastructure improvements to western North Carolina.

Beyond infrastructure improvements, disaster relief remains the top issue for Western North Carolina. Less than a year ago, communities across the Southeast were devastated by Hurricane Helene. Debris still litters the ground in Western North Carolina.

This debris poses a wildfire risk, and we've already had a few wildfires in Polk County this year.

I wanted to reiterate that I am prepared to work with the Members of this committee to advance legislation that seeks action on this issue and ensures debris cleanup is completed before next year's wildfire season.

Finally, I wanted to finish off by commending the committee and the administration's efforts in working to empower states with disaster response. I look forward to working closely with Members to ensure we can get this reform bill to the finish line.

With that, I yield back my time.