



North Carolina General Assembly
House Of Representatives

REPRESENTATIVE BRENDEN JONES
DEPUTY MAJORITY LEADER
48TH DISTRICT

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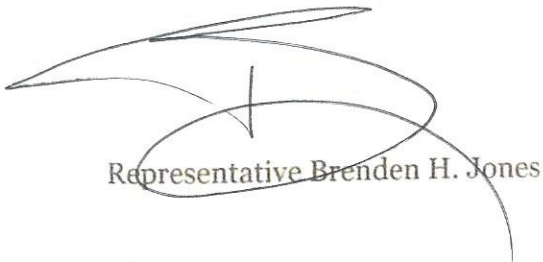
To whom it may concern,

As the State Representative of Columbus County and native resident of Tabor City, I have received ample concern from the community surrounding the proposed roundabout and 701/904 by-pass which would be located in Tabor City. The most common of the concerns voiced to me is the potentially destructive consequences this project would have on local businesses in this area. In further pursuit of understanding this issue, I had the pleasure of inviting Secretary Boyette down to Tabor City, to show him firsthand the potential problems that this project would create in the community.

Given the concerns of the citizens and my duty as a public servant to this great state, I strongly urge you to repeal R-59-52 as the potential consequences for this project outweigh its change for positive gain.

If you would like to discuss this matter further, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Thank you for your time,



Representative Brenden H. Jones



Columbus County

ADMINISTRATION

TELEPHONE
910-640-6630



TELEFAX
910-640-1654

September 19, 2022

To whom it may concern,

I currently serve Columbus County's 5th District as County Commissioner. It has been brought to our attention, the concerns expressed by the community in regards to the proposed roundabouts and 701/904 bypass cutting through Tabor City.

These developments jeopardize public safety as well as pose a threat to the health of local businesses in the town. As county commissioner, it is my responsibility to safeguard my community and protect the economic interests of District 5.

Given the concerns of the public and myself, I implore you to repeal R-59-52 for the sake of the public good of our community.

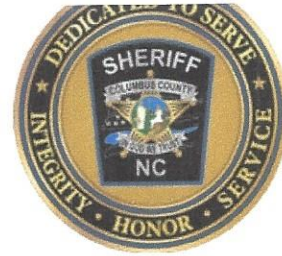
Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brent Watts", is written over a horizontal line.

Brent Watts
County Commissioner



Sheriff Jody Greene
PO Box 280
805 Washington Street
Whiteville, NC 28472
www.columbuscountysheriff.com



September 16, 2022,

To whom it may concern,

I would like to express my concerns about the suggested round about in the Tabor City area. I have had conversations with many of the business owners and citizens involved in this matter. In all the conversations I heard the same concerns and questions from all and I agree with those concerns. There was an issue in that area years ago but since NCDOT has created a merge lane from NC410 onto Hwy 701 the congestion has been remedied. I do not see a need for any other remedy at this time as what I have witnessed in the area is a good and fair flow of traffic, even in the summer months during beach traffic. It is my belief that a round about would complicate the flow of traffic and compromise the local businesses in the area. I do not believe the benefits will outweigh the cost of this project and I also believe this will cost the citizens and business owners by causing a burden or hardship for them. There maybe a need for this in the future, but currently this would cause more harm than good to this small town. If anyone has any questions or concerns, please feel free to reach out to me.

Sincerely,

S. Jody Greene

S. Jody Greene

Sheriff

Columbus County Sheriff's Office

jgreene@columbussheriff.com

DALE'S SEAFOOD

September 15th, 2022
Dale's Seafood
100 U.S. 701 Bypass
Tabor City, N.C. 28472

To whom it may concern,

It has been brought to our attention that a round-about has been proposed for the intersection on 701, which is directly adjacent to our business. We are family owned and operated, and have been a community staple for 37 years and counting. The proposed round-about would greatly affect the very thing that our business needs to thrive: the traffic.

In an already shaky economy, small businesses are struggling enough without adding to it. We suffered a fire in 2018 which caused us to be out of business for months. Even after insurance claims, huge loans were still taken out in order to reopen. We were barely reopened for one year before the pandemic struck and shut us down to "take-out only" – which was followed by bare-minimum seating capacities for months after this. Since then we have battled through an unprecedented staffing shortage, as well. Now, hearing of this proposal that directly affects our small business yet again, we are pleading against it. We are actively trying to recover from all of the financial blows from the last few years.

During the high season, the beach traffic is often backed up in both directions every Thursday, Friday and Saturday. However, this traffic brings in a lot of business as travelers often like to stop in and take a break. The round-about would slow down an already congested intersection, causing people to become angry and less likely to stop in, or worse, reroute away from 701 altogether. I think the new pattern would contribute to more traffic accidents overall, as well.

We are pleading for other alternatives to be considered. As we have mentioned, we have dealt with many hardships the past few years. Please consider that the revenue we desperately need in order to stay in business could be greatly impacted by this decision.

If you would like to talk with me directly, or have an questions or concerns, my phone number is (910) 625-8993.

Sincerely yours,



Sue Tyson