VIA E-MAIL TRANSMISSION

Board of Commissioners for the County of Mecklenburg, North Carolina 600 E. 4th Street Charlotte, NC 28202

Re: Request for Public Hearing at Board of Commissioner's May 15, 2018 Meeting to Approve Tax-Exempt Bond Financing for Southminster, Inc.

Ladies and Gentlemen:

On behalf of Southminster, Inc. (the "Borrower"), I am writing to request that the Board of Commissioners (the "Board") for the County of Mecklenburg, North Carolina (the "County") host a public hearing at its May 15, 2018 meeting and approve, in accordance with Section 147(f) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Code"), the Borrower's financing of certain projects with the proposed issuance of tax-exempt bonds (the "Bonds").

As you know, Section 147(f) of the Code requires all private activity bonds, such as the Bonds, to be approved by (1) the governmental unit issuing the bonds or on behalf of which such bonds are being issued (in this case, Public Finance Authority, a unit of government and a body corporate and politic of the State of Wisconsin) and (2) each governmental unit having jurisdiction over the area in which the facilities being financed with the bonds are located (in this case, the County).

Accordingly, the Borrower is requesting the Board to hold a public hearing and approve the proposed bond issue in order to comply with the public hearing and approval requirements of Section 147(f) of the Code. Such approval by the Board does not in any way make the County responsible or liable for the Bonds, which is a fact that will be set forth clearly in the resolution of the Board approving such financing. Hosting the public hearing and approving the issuance of the Bonds would merely be a ministerial act to help the Borrower comply with the provisions of the Code in order to use the proceeds of tax-exempt bonds. A preliminary draft of the Board's public hearing proceedings and approval resolution is attached to this letter.

Womble Bond Dickinson (US) LLP, as bond counsel, will cause the required notice of public hearing to be published in <u>The Charlotte Observer</u> as "a newspaper of general circulation available to residents of" the County at least 14 days before the public hearing. A draft of the notice of public hearing is attached to this letter.

As described in the notice, the principal amount of the Bonds will not exceed \$150,000,000 and will be used to finance the various capital projects described therein.

I hope this letter provides you the information you need in order to hold the public hearing at the Board's May 15, 2018, meeting, but please call me if you have any questions. I am happy to answer any questions about the Borrower, the projects or the Bonds. Womble Bond Dickinson (US) LLP, as bond counsel, will be present at your May 15, 2018, meeting should you have any questions at that time.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,

David F. Lacy

President & CEO