March 17, 2016

MEMORANDUM

TO: Department Heads, Chief Financial Officers

FROM: Andrew T. Heath
State Budget Director

SUBJECT: Agency Guidance on Implementation of Connect NC Bond Package

On Tuesday, North Carolina voters approved the passage of the Connect NC Bond Package, a $2 billion bond that will connect North Carolina to the 21st century through statewide investments in education, parks, safety, recreation, and water and sewer infrastructure. Investments will be made in 76 counties, and involve universities, community colleges, and multiple state agencies.

In anticipation of this bond, a cross-agency working group has already begun to coordinate project construction timelines so that we can effectively and efficiently issue the bonds and begin construction of these critical projects. The Governor greatly appreciates the contributions to this group from the Department of Administration, the Office of the State Controller, the State Treasurer, and General Assembly staff. This group is already working to schedule projects and anticipates the first bond issuance coming as early as July 2016. The Office of State Budget and Management will lead the execution of bond projects in order to ensure that the State is fully accountable to citizens and taxpayers with the use of bond proceeds.

The Governor has instructed OSBM to work with all state agencies to ensure that bond money is used as prudently and effectively as possible. Construction and renovation should be long-term, sustainable projects of such a character that they will benefit our students, teachers, guardsmen, citizens and visitors for the next several generations. These projects should include plans that will allow structures to adapt to new technologies and be conducive to future expansion as our state’s population grows.

We will provide periodic updates as project timelines are developed, and we thank you in advance for your cooperation.