OVERVIEW: Section 34.12C of S.L. 2017-57 authorizes the Department of Transportation (DOT) to enter into agreements with local governments, allowing the local government to fund preliminary engineering for projects not currently programmed in the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), but that were programmed in the immediately preceding TIP. This section became effective July 1, 2017.

CURRENT LAW: Under current G.S. 136-66.8, DOT is authorized to enter into agreements with local governments to expedite projects in the TIP by using local funds, with DOT reimbursing the local government when the project is funded by State and federal sources.

BILL ANALYSIS: Section 34.12C of S.L. 2017-57 authorizes DOT to enter into agreements with local governments to fund preliminary engineering for projects not currently programmed in the TIP, but that were programmed in the immediately preceding TIP. The unit of local government is required to fund 100% of the preliminary engineering cost at its current price. The local government will be reimbursed only when the project is funded by State and federal sources. The section also requires a report each year to the Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on any agreements funded pursuant to this authorization.

EFFECTIVE DATE: This section became effective July 1, 2017.