

FRENCH BROAD RIVER

METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

Prioritization Subcommittee Meeting Agenda

February 4, 2020 – 9:00 A.M.

Agenda

1. **WELCOME AND HOUSEKEEPING (5 min)**
 - A. **Welcome and Introductions, Approval of Agenda** Josh O'Conner
 - B. **January 7, 2020 Minutes** Josh O'Conner
2. **PUBLIC COMMENT**
3. **BUSINESS (60-90 min)**
 - A. **Draft SPOT Project List** MPO Staff
 - B. **2045 Model Outputs** Daniel Sellers
 - C. **MTP Project Selection & Update** MPO Staff
4. **ANNOUNCEMENTS, NEWS, SPECIAL UPDATES (3 min)**
5. **TOPICS FOR NEXT MEETING? (3 min)**
6. **PUBLIC COMMENT 2**
7. **ADJOURNMENT**

**French Broad River MPO
Prioritization Subcommittee
Meeting Minutes
January 7, 2020**

ATTENDING

Voting Members

-Josh O’Conner, Buncombe County–
Chair
-Julie Mayfield, City of Asheville
-Autumn Radcliff, Henderson County
-Brian Burgess, Town of Mills River
-Elizabeth Teague, Town of
Waynesville
-Jerry Vehaun, Town of Woodfin

Non-Voting

-Tristan Winkler, FBRMPO
-Nick Kroncke, FBRMPO
-Spencer McDonald, NCDOT
-Janna Peterson, Henderson County
-Steve Williams, NCDOT
-Hannah Cook, NCDOT
-George Webb, Citizens Advisory
Committee
-David Wasserman, NCDOT

I. Welcome and Housekeeping

I-A // Welcome and Introductions, Approval of Agenda

Prioritization Chair, Josh O’Conner, presided calling meeting to order at 9:05am. Members gave their introduction. The Agenda was approved.

I-B // November 5, 2019 Minutes

The minutes from the previous meeting were reviewed. Jerry Vehaun made a motion to pass the minutes as presented. Autumn Radcliff seconded. All approved.

II. Public Comment

None at this time.

III. Business

III-A // Land Use Study

Tristan Winkler gave an overview of the land use study that was presented to the TCC and Board in November. There were three scenarios presented to the TCC and Board including Business As Usual, Efficient Growth and WalkUPS. Discussion took place around the scenarios and feedback on ways to more clearly present the outputs. The group mentioned looking at adopting two scenarios, adopting business as usual while working towards the WalkUps scenario and then officially adopting WalkUps that scenario at a later time.

Elizabeth Teague made a motion to adopt the Business As Usual scenario while having the WalkUp scenarios as a backup. Julie Mayfield seconded. All approved.

Elizabeth Teague made a motion to ask MPO staff to show the difference between scenarios with environmental constraints and roadways imposed on the TAZs. Julie Mayfield seconded. All approved.

III-B // MTP Updates and Discussion

Tristan Winkler provided an overview of the holiday events that MPO staff went out to. Provided was a summary of goals ranking received from the public. Tristan then discussed fiscal revenue and summarized that it is expected to keep up with inflation but not increase, both at the state and the federal level. It is assumed that traditional revenue sources are general declining due to gas tax decreases but with the assumption that legislative action will stabilize transportation funding through the general fund transfers. The different funding tiers were split into the SPOT categories of statewide, regional and division needs. It was briefly discussed if the subcommittee is satisfied with these forecasts or if they desired a different approach.

Brian Burgess made a motion to approve the draft financial plan. Julie Mayfield seconded. All approved.

Tristan also asked the group for direction on project selection for the MTP. The draft list of projects were provided to the group. Tristan asked if the group would prefer to have projects in SPOT receive higher preference in the MTP or if they should be considered separately. Janna Peterson mentioned not taking projects back to the local level to avoid confusion. Josh O'Conner made mention to have the ability to review projects in the MTP as projects get "built out", particularly giving communities the ability to remove projects from the pipeline if they are not in support of it. Tristan clarified that staff are looking at all the projects in the region, considering the best ones and programming them until funding is out. Janna Peterson made mention of looking at Highway and Bike/Ped projects differently. Josh O'Conner asked about assumptions made in the MTP, and made mention to include a section that clarifies at time of programming that assumptions are made and that the desires of a project may change by the time the project is funded. Tristan clarified that projects have to be tied to an identified funding source in the MTP.

In summary: Take the P6.0 projects, include them in the MTP, and for leftover funding apply to highest scoring MTP projects until funding is depleted.

III-C // STBGDA and TAPDA Call for Projects

Tristan gave a recap of the November discussion of moving from a two-year to a five-year window for STBGDA. This would allow \$25,000,000 as compared to \$2,310,000 from a five-year to two-year window. David Wasserman with the NCDOT STIP Unit spoke with the group and was encouraging municipalities to program all phases of projects. He advocated that by doing this and programming it all at once, it allows DOT and the MPO to plan better for projects. David made



mention of cost increases that occur and how to handle those; giving different options; option 1) program future DA funds for the increased as experienced; option 2) put a set-aside when programming dollar for cost-increases; option 3) cash-flow projects by having multiple funding for projects all at once. Elizabeth Teague asked about how to know what all the phases are going to cost. David clarified it is done by using the best educated guess up front and whatever studies have been done to that point. Julie made mention of the concern of having a very large project cost up-front, and that smaller local municipalities, will likely have trouble committing 20% up front. There were concerns raised about programming all at once. David clarified that the funding can be payed off in phases but the municipality still has to "commit" to the project. Discussion took place of how this process would work and play out, and if it has successfully worked in other regions. Tristan clarified that the call for projects will be for the five-year total of \$25,000,000 and was asking the group for clarification on if all phases should be programmed in that five-years or not. Elizabeth asked if the applicants can decide what phases they want to submit to based on what phases the municipality desires. It was asked whether there can be a maximum cap on feasibility studies before municipalities have to commit to all phases. It was noted that feasibility studies are not included in this call for projects.

In summary: there will be a five-year STBGDA and TAPDA call for projects, beginning with the 2020 call for projects, with no requirement funding all phases of engineering, right-of-way and construction.

Elizabeth Teague made a motion to allow applicants to apply for any phase (PE,ROW,CST) but it needs to be noted in the application process how they plan to fund the entire project. Julie Mayfield seconded. All approved.

David made additional mention of the fiscal forecast for future rounds of SPOT and it was noted there will be significantly less funding for P6.0 as compared to previous rounds.

III-D // Regional Transit Study RFQ

Tristan informed the group that the RFQ will be out relatively soon after local municipalities sign off on the resolution of support. The consolidation piece of the study is not guaranteed at this time.

IV. Announcement, News, Special Updates - None.

V. Topics for Next Meeting – Draft SPOT Project List
Next Meeting: **February 4 at 9am.**

VI. Public Comment 2 - No public comment at this time.

VII. Adjournment - The meeting was adjourned at 11:05 A.M.



Item 3A:

Draft SPOT Project List

MPO staff assembled a Draft SPOT Project list from meetings with local government staff as well as the Henderson TAC. Projects that are submitted in the SPOT process will be under consideration for funding for the 2023-2032 Transportation Improvement Program. This list of projects will go before the TCC and Board in February, go out for public comment in February, and go back to the TCC and Board for final approval in March.

New Submittals- Highway

Buncombe County			
Route	From	To	Improvement
US 25 (Hendersonville Road)	I-40	Overlook Road	Access Management
US 25 (Hendersonville Road)	NC 146 (Long Shoals Road)	NC 280 (Airport Road)	Access Management
US 25 (Merrimon Avenue)		I-240	Road Diet
Blue Ridge Road	I-40	NC 9	Modernization
US 70	Blue Ridge Road	NC 9	Road Diet
US 25A (Biltmore Avenue)	Hilliard Avenue	All Souls Crescent	Roadway Upgrade
US 25 (McDowell Street & Southside Avenue)	Biltmore Avenue	All Souls Crescent	Roadway Upgrade
US 70 (Tunnel Road)/US 74A (South Tunnel Road)	The Tunnel	NC 81 (Swannanoa River Road)	Access Management
US 23A (Haywood Road)	State Street, N Louisiana Avenue		Multiple Intersection Improvements
Woodfin Street	N Louisiana Avenue		Intersection Improvement
US 25A (Sweeten Creek Road)	I-40	US 25 (Biltmore Avenue)	Roadway Upgrade
US 70 (Tunnel Road)/US 74A (South Tunnel Road)	I-240	Blue Ridge Parkway	Access Management
US 25/US 19/23B (Weaverville Highway)	Elkwood Avenue	Reems Creek Road	Access Management



Haywood County			
Route	From	To	Improvement
US 19/23	Chestnut Mountain Road	NC 215	Roadway Upgrade
New Clyde Highway	NC 215	Midway Crossings Drive	Access Management
Brown Avenue	Hazelview Drive	Boyd Avenue	Modernization
US 19 (Dellwood Road)	US 276 (Russ Avenue)	US 276 (Jonathan Creek Road)	Access Management

Henderson County			
Route	From	To	Improvement
White Pine Drive & Hebron Road	US 64	Hebron Road	Modernization
US 25B (Asheville Highway)	North Main Street	-	Intersection Improvement
Fanning Bridge Road	US 25	NC 280	Modernization
Blythe Street	US 64	NC 191	Modernization
Butler Bridge Road	US 25	NC 280	Modernization
Thompson St/Signal Hill Rd/Berkley Rd	US 64 (Four Seasons Blvd)	US 25B (Asheville Highway)	Modernization
Duncan Hill Road	US 64 (Four Seasons Blvd)	North Main Street	Modernization

Madison County			
Route	From	To	Improvement
Bruce Road	North Main Street	Bailey Street	Modernization

New Submittals- Bike/Ped

Buncombe County			
Route	From	To	Improvement
Bent Creek Greenway	Hominy Creek Greenway	French Broad River Greenway	Multi-Use Path
Bent Creek Greenway	WNC Farmer's Market	Asheville Outlets	Multi-Use Path
Bent Creek Greenway	French Broad River	Lake Julian	Multi-Use Path
Reems Creek Greenway	Quarry Road	Mill Park	Multi-Use Path
Fonta Flora Trail			
North Blue Ridge Road	US 70	Fortune Street	Sidewalks
Coxe Avenue	Patton Avenue	Short Coxe	Pedestrian Improvements
Lexington Avenue	Patton Avenue	Southside	Pedestrian Improvements



Reed Creek Greenway	Magnolia Avenue	Cherry Street	Multi-Use Path
Riverside Drive	Hill Street	I-240	Improve Rail Crossing for Bicyclists

Haywood County			
Route	From	To	Improvement
Champion Drive	North Canton Road	Thickety Road	Bike Lanes
Richland Creek Greenway			Multi-Use Path
Allen's Creek Road	Lickstone Road	Piney Mountain Road	Sidewalks
Old Clyde Highway	Blackwell Drive	Greenberry Street	Sidewalks

Henderson County			
Route	From	To	Improvement
Allen Branch Greenway	US 64	I-26	Multi-Use Path
NC 280	French Broad River	NC 191	Multi-Use Path
Fanning Bridge Road	US 25	Underwood Road	Sidewalks
Oklawaha Greenway Extension	Jackson Park	Blue Ridge Community College	Multi-Use Path
Brooklyn Avenue	NC 225	US 176	Sidewalks
US 64	Orrs Camp Road	Howard Gap Road	Sidewalks
(HOLD)			

Madison County			
Route	From	To	Improvement
Bailey Street	Bearwood Drive	Forest Street	Sidewalks
Banjo Branch Greenway	Hickory Drive	Banjo Branch Road	Multi-Use Path

New Submittals- Transit

Haywood County	
Project	Sponsor
One expansion vehicle, transit station upgrade, and four transit shelters	Haywood Transit (Mountain Projects)
New Maintenance Facility, Transit Station Upgrade, Expansion Vehicles	City of Asheville
Two expansion vehicles, Facility Upgrades	Madison County



Carryover Projects

Projects that are either in the Developmental portion of the TIP (funded for right-of-way in FY 2026 or later) or are considered a “Sibling” of a project in the TIP are automatically resubmitted into the next round of prioritization, unless requested otherwise. Carryover projects do not count towards the MPO’s 25 submittals for each mode.

Carryover Projects in the FBRMPO for P 6.0 Include:

Route	From	To	Improvement	County
I-40	I-240	US 74A	Interchange Improvement	Buncombe
I-40	Porter’s Cove Road	-	Interchange Improvement	Buncombe
I-26	US 25	US 64	Widening	Henderson
I-40	Wiggins Road	Monte Vista Road	Widening	Buncombe
I-40	US 74	NC 215	Widening	Haywood
I-40	NC 215	Exit 37 (Wiggins Road)	Widening	Haywood
Future I-26	US 25	SR 2207	Modernization	Buncombe
Future I-26	SR 2207	South of SR 2148	Modernization	Buncombe
US 19	Fie Top Road	Blue Ridge Parkway	Modernization	Haywood
NC 191	US 25	Mountain Road	Widening	Henderson
NC 191	NC 280	Ledbetter Road	Widening	Buncombe, Henderson



Item 3B:

2045 Travel Demand Model Outputs

Daniel Sellers with the NCDOT Transportation Planning Division will provide information on the travel demand model outputs, based on the preferred growth scenario.



Item 3C:

MTP Project Selection

As part of the MTP planning process, and in accordance with the MTP’s financial plan, MPO staff has split up potential projects taken from the CTP, local plans, and the workshop done in October and divided them among the tiers of SPOT the financial plan in based on. For project selection, the steering committee will be asked to determine priority projects in the Statewide Mobility Tier (Interstates and US 23/74), Regional Impact projects (US and NC routes, as well as anything from Statewide the committee would like to “cascade”), Division Needs projects (secondary roads and anything as well as anything from the Statewide or Regional tiers requested to “cascade”), and Bike/Ped projects.

To assist with the exercise, MPO staff will provide “scores” for projects in each tier based on priorities identified in the October workshop.

Projects have also been broken up based on where they are in the planning process:

Project Classification	Funding Status	Prioritization Status	MTP Status
Committed	Project is Fully Funded	Does Not Need to Go In Prioritization- Already Funded	Required to be in the MTP
Developmental	Project is Not Funded but is in the TIP	Automatically resubmitted to Prioritization	Required to be in the MTP
Sibling	Project is Not Funded; a different, adjoining project under the same environmental document is	Automatically resubmitted to Prioritization	Required to be *referenced* in the MTP
SPOT	Project is Not Funded	Project Plans to be Entered Into SPOT	No MTP Requirements
Other CTP or Proposed	Project is Not Funded	Project is Not Planned to be Entered Into SPOT	No MTP Requirements



Statewide Mobility Highway Projects

At the October workshop, participants prioritized the following goals for Statewide Mobility projects:

Goal	Votes	% of Votes
Safety	9	27.3%
Congestion	7	21.2%
Freight	6	18.2%
Environment	6	18.2%
Equity	4	12.1%
Multimodal	1	3.0%

MPO staff will present on how projects have been *preliminarily* scored for Sibling, SPOT, and Other CTP projects to help determine regional priorities at this tier.

Committed Projects

TIP ID	Route	From	To	Cost	Improvement	County
I-4400 B	I-26	US 25	NC 280	\$82,152,000	Widening	Henderson
I-4700	I-26	NC 280	I-40	\$62,468,000	Widening	Buncombe
I-4759	I-40@Liberty Road	-	-	\$41,722,000	Construct New Interchange	Buncombe
I-4409	I-40@Blue Ridge Road	-	-	\$13,250,000	Construct New Interchange	Buncombe
I-2513 B	I-26	Haywood Rd	Broadway	\$644,505,000	Widening	Buncombe
I-2513 C	I-26@I-40/I-240	-	-	\$217,602,000	Improve Interchange	Buncombe



Developmental Projects (in the TIP, but not Committed)

TIP ID	Route	From	To	Cost	Improvement	County
I-6018	I-240/US 74 Alt	-	-	\$35,100,000	Interchange Improvement	Buncombe
I-6021	I-40@Porter's Cove Road	-	-	\$7,200,000	Interchange Improvement	Buncombe
I-4400A	I-26	US 25	US 64	\$80,000,000	Widening	Henderson
I-6054C	I-40	Wiggins Road	Monte Vista Road	\$102,900,000	Widening	Buncombe

Sibling Projects (referenced in the TIP because an adjoining project is in the TIP, automatically in SPOT)

TIP ID	Route	From	To	Cost	Improvement	County
I-6054A	I-40	US 74	NC 215	\$60,500,000	Widening	Haywood
I-6054B	I-40	NC 215	Exit 37 (Wiggins Road)	\$169,500,000	Widening	Haywood
A-0010AB	Future I-26	US 25	SR 2207	\$72,500,000	Modernization	Buncombe
A-0010AC	Future I-26	SR 2207	South of SR 2148	\$27,500,000	Modernization	Buncombe

Projects Being Entered in SPOT (not in the TIP, but up for consideration)

(NONE)



Other CTP or Proposed Projects (Unfunded, Not Currently Being Considered for Funding)

Route	From	To	Cost	Improvement	County
I-240	Charlotte Street			Interchange Improvement	Buncombe
I-26	Brookside Camp Road			New Interchange	Henderson
I-26	Clear Creek Road			New Interchange	Henderson
I-40	NC 191	Porters Cove Road	\$238,800,000	Widening	Buncombe
US 23/74 (Great Smokey Mountains Expressway)	I-40	US 276 (Russ Avenue)	\$105,500,000	Widening	Haywood
I-240	Merrimon Avenue		\$26,986,000	Interchange Improvement	Buncombe
I-40	Porters Cove Road	NC 9		Widening	Buncombe
US 23/74 (Great Smokey Mountain Expressway)	US 276 (Russ Avenue)	Blue Ridge Parkway		Widening	Haywood



Regional Impact Projects

Committed

TIP ID	Route	From	To	Cost	Improvement	County
I-2513A	I-26	I-40	Haywood Road	\$163,690,000	Widening	Buncombe
A-0010A A	Future I-26	Broadway	US 25	\$116,900,000	Widening	Buncombe
U-5782	US 25@WT Weaver Blvd	-	-	\$1,795,000	Intersection Improvement	Buncombe
U-5783	US 64	Blythe Street	White Pine Drive	\$17,870,000	Widening	Henderson
U-6049	NC 225	South Main	US 176	\$4,633,000	Bridge Widening	Henderson
U-6124	NC 280	NC 191	NC 191	\$9,600,000	Access Management	Henderson
U-3403B	NC 191	Ledbetter Road	Blue Ridge Parkway	\$13,464,000	Widening	Buncombe
U-5781	US 25@Edgewood Rd	-	-	\$1,003,000	Intersection Improvement	Buncombe
U-2801A	US 25A	US 25	Rock Hill Road	\$39,000,000	Widening	Buncombe
U-5972	NC 63	US 19/23	Newfound Road	\$28,400,000	Access Management	Buncombe
U-5971	US 19 (Patton Avenue)	NC 63	-	\$2,700,000	Intersection Improvement	Buncombe
U-5973	US 25	New Stock Road	-	\$1,300,000	Intersection Improvement	Buncombe
AV-5735 I-4400C	Runway Construction I-26	- US 25	- NC 280	\$300,000	Runway Construction Widening	Buncombe Henderson



Developmental Projects (in the TIP, but not Committed)

TIP ID	Route	From	To	Cost	Improvement	County
U-6160	US 19	Fie Top Road	Blue Ridge Parkway	\$26,600,000	Modernization	Haywood

Sibling Projects (referenced in the TIP because an adjoining project is in the TIP, automatically in SPOT)

TIP ID	Route	From	To	Cost	Improvement	County
R-2588A	NC 191	US 25	Mountain Road	\$35,800,000	Widening	Henderson
U-3403A	NC 191	NC 280	Ledbetter Road	\$26,700,000	Widening	Buncombe, Henderson



Projects Being Entered in SPOT (not in the TIP, but up for consideration)

Route	From	To	Improvement	County
US 25 (Hendersonville Road)	I-40	Overlook Road	Access Management	Buncombe
US 25 (Hendersonville Road)	NC 146 (Long Shoals Road)	NC 280 (Airport Road)	Access Management	Buncombe
US 25 (Merrimon Avenue)	Wembley Road	I-240	Road Diet	Buncombe
US 70	Blue Ridge Road	NC 9	Road Diet	Buncombe
US 25A (Biltmore Avenue)	Hilliard Avenue	All Souls Crescent	Roadway Upgrade	Buncombe
US 25 (McDowell Street & Southside Avenue)	Biltmore Avenue	All Souls Crescent	Roadway Upgrade	Buncombe
US 70 (Tunnel Road)/US 74A (South Tunnel Road)	The Tunnel	NC 81 (Swannanoa River Road)	Access Management	Buncombe
US 23A (Haywood Road)	State Street, N Louisiana Avenue		Multiple Intersection Improvements	Buncombe
US 25A (Sweeten Creek Road)	I-40	US 25 (Biltmore Avenue)	Roadway Upgrade	Buncombe
US 70 (Tunnel Road)/US 74A (South Tunnel Road)	I-240	Blue Ridge Parkway	Access Management	Buncombe
US 25/US 19/23B (Weaverville Highway)	Elkwood Avenue	Reems Creek Road	Access Management	Buncombe
US 19/23	Chestnut Mountain Road	NC 215	Roadway Upgrade	Haywood
New Clyde Highway	NC 215	Midway Crossings Drive	Access Management	Haywood
US 19 (Dellwood Road)	US 276 (Russ Avenue)	US 276 (Jonathan Creek Road)	Access Management	Haywood
US 25B (Asheville Highway)	North Main Street	-	Intersection Improvement	Henderson



Other CTP or Proposed Projects (Unfunded, Not Currently Being Considered for Funding)

Route	From	To	Improvement	County
US 19/23 (Smokey Park Highway)	I-40	NC 151	Access Management	Buncombe
US 25 (Hendersonville Road)	Rock Hill Road		Intersection Improvement	Buncombe
US 19/23 (Smokey Park Highway)	Haywood Road	I-40	Access Management	Buncombe
US 25B (Biltmore Avenue)	I-40	Southside Avenue	Roadway Upgrade	Buncombe
US 25B (Asheville Highway)	NC 191		Intersection Improvement	Henderson
US 19/23A (Haywood Road)	Craven Street	US 19/23	Roadway Upgrade	Buncombe
NC 280	I-26	US 25	Access Management	Buncombe
US 25A	I-40	Rock Hill Road	Access Management	Buncombe
US 64	Howard Gap Road	Fruitland Road	Access Management	Henderson
US 64	Fruitland Road	Gilliam Road	Modernization	Henderson
US 176	Shepherd Street	NC 225	Access Management	Henderson
US 74A (Fairview Road)	NC 81	Cedar Street	Access Management	Buncombe
NC 280	I-26	French Broad River	Access Management	Buncombe
US 70	I-40	Charlotte Street	Access Management	Buncombe
US 25B (Asheville Highway)	NC 191	I-26	Access Management	Henderson
US 64	South Rugby Road	Banner Farm Road	Widening	Henderson
NC 151	US 19/23	Queen Road	Widening	Buncombe
US 19/23 (North Main Street)	Weaver Boulevard	Monticello Road	Modernization	Buncombe



Route	From	To	Improvement	County
US 23B (Old Asheville Highway)	US 19/23/74	East Street	Access Management	Haywood
NC 146 (Long Shoals Road)	Clayton Road	Brevard Road	Widening	Buncombe, Henderson
NC 191	Clayton Road		Intersection Improvement	Buncombe
NC 225	US 176	Erkwood Drive	Modernization	Henderson
US 74A (Charlotte Highway)	I-40	June Syles Road	Access Management	Buncombe
NC 251	Future I-26	Old Burnsville Hill Road	Widening	Buncombe
NC 225	West Blue Ridge Road	Little River Road	Modernization	Henderson
NC 225	Morton Lane	Boyd Drive	Access Management	Henderson
NC 191	US 25	Mountain Road	Widening	Henderson
NC 191	NC 280	Ledbetter Road	Widening	Buncombe, Henderson
NC 110	US 19/23	Henderon Cove Road	Modernization	Haywood
NC 215	US 19/23	Stamey Cove Road	Modernization	Haywood
NC 280	NC 191	Transylvania County Line	Access Management	Henderson
NC 151	Queen Road	Upper Gladys Fork Road	Modernization	Buncombe
NC 213	I-26	US 25/70	Modernization	Madison
US 19	Fie Top Road	Blue Ridge Parkway	Modernization	Haywood
NC 215	Fiberville Road	Champion Drive	Intersection Improvement	Haywood

Plan for Project Selection:

	Statewide	Regional	Division	Bike/Ped
February	Discussion	Discussion	-	-
March	Final List	Final List	Discussion	Discussion
April	-	-	Final List	Final List
May	DRAFT MTP PROJECT LIST			

