

NCDOT TPD NEWS



NCDOT Transportation Planning Division (TPD) Newsletter

March 2022

TPD Statewide Initiatives

Below is a list of current initiatives being undertaken by NCDOT.

NCAMPO Annual Conference Information

The NCAMPO Conference is back for the first time since 2019 and registration is now open! The 2022 Conference, which will take place at the Wilmington Convention Center on April 20-22, aims to reimagine transportation for a safe, healthy, and resilient post-pandemic North Carolina. Presentation topics will span all modes and include transportation innovation, transportation funding, big data, regional policy and growth, virtual engagement, and much more. In addition to plenary and technical breakout sessions, this year's conference offers a wide range of mobile tour opportunities from a bike ride through historic downtown to a tour of the North Carolina Port of Wilmington.

For more information and registration please follow this link:
<https://www.ncampo.org/ncampo-state-conference/>

2022 NC Traffic Safety Conference

Register today for the N.C. Traffic Safety Conference scheduled in person for Aug. 16-18, in Raleigh. Join hundreds of North Carolina traffic safety professionals working to eliminate traffic deaths and serious injuries.

The conference aims to improve traffic safety and foster collaboration among engineers, planners, educators, emergency responders, law enforcement, community organizations, public health professionals and the judicial system. The conference will focus on traffic safety education, programming, and enforcement.

Statewide Planning

The Transportation Planning Division is contracting a new **Freight Plan**. Vision and Goals are the first order of business, so watch for any announcements about opportunities to in the upcoming months.

We are also in final drafts of our new annual **Resiliency Report**. Expected at the end of March.

We have selected a consultant to develop a **Clean Transportation Plan**.

“Connecting people, products and places safely and efficiently with customer focus, accountability and environmental sensitivity to enhance the economy and vitality of North Carolina...”

- NCDOT Mission Statement

Safety News

Nominations are now open for the North Carolina Traffic Safety Awards. Anyone can nominate an organization or individual for the Awards. Examples of nominees could include:

- A colleague dedicated to making NC roads safer
- Someone who goes above and beyond to keep families safe while traveling; or
- An innovative program that deserves recognition.

Nomination categories include:

- Advocate Award
- Collaboration
- Educator Award
- Designed for Safety Award
- Judicial Partner Award
- Law Enforcement Award

Nominations are due by March 30.

“Everyone, I’m supposed to write fantasy worlds — not live in them”

– Brandon Sanderson

Traffic Forecasts

HE-0001; new interchange on I-26, delivered 6/29/2021

HB-0005; Replace bridges on I-40 over Coleman Mtn Rd, delivered 10/27/2021

I-2513; I-26 Connector, Underway

U-5832; NC 81 Swannanoa River Rd, delivered 1/17/2022

U-6158; intersection improvements at US 276 and Raccoon Rd, delivered 5/20/2021

Other studies:

Black Mountain Road Diet, B-5982 (Bridge on US 74 over Southern Railroad), BR-0145 (Bridge on NC 208 over Laurel Shelton Creek,) and BR-0157 (Bridge on US 19W over Cane River)

Contact Us

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Transportation Infrastructure Resiliency Fund

The NC Emergency Management has released their call for projects for the Transportation Infrastructure Resiliency Fund Grants. The deadline for applications is March 31, 2022. Projects can be 100% funded with no cost share and are paid on a reimbursement basis. Below are the types of projects that the money can be used. Funds can be use for:

1. Projects that update and prepare transportation infrastructure for storms, mudslides, and flooding events taking projections of future risk into consideration.
2. Risk assessments for critical transportation routes, building on existing and future reports such as the I-95 and I-40 Flood Resilience Feasibility Study.
3. Creating community-informed flood risk and vulnerability assessments that identify resilience gaps and project opportunities for transportation routes in North Carolina to help maintain vital transportation functions following flooding events.

NCDOT Overall News

Tethered Drones on IMAP Trucks

The statewide IMAP program and the Unmanned Aircraft System program recently helped develop and deploy the operation of tethered drones from select IMAP vehicles. This helps responders assess incidents, provide situational awareness to the Statewide Transportation Operations Center (STOC) and Traffic Management centers (TMCs) and assist with overall traffic management of the incidents. The deployment of this technology was realized as a result of a federal innovation grant received in 2020.

Traditionally, traffic operations staff views video feeds at the STOC/TMC through traffic cameras or they receive reports from responders in the field. Tethered drones safely offer another method to provide more information in real time, with higher quality video, and for long periods of time. This instant information can provide a safer environment for those on scene or approaching an incident and allow the centers to better manage traffic and share more accurate traveler information to the public.

The Rail Report

NCDOT started publishing a monthly rail report at the beginning of the year. You can email lnorman@ncdot.gov to be added to the mailing list.

NCDOT Cash Report

NCDOT Cash Watch Number Report for March 4, 2022, reached \$2,341,910,940 in Unreserved Cash roughly split 60/40 between the Highway Fund and the Highway Trust Fund.