

Prioritization Subcommittee

Meeting Agenda

October 5, 2022

9:00 AM

Meeting to be held at Land of Sky Regional Council or via

Zoom: <https://zoom.us/j/91373453789>

Voting Members on the Committee: Jessica Morris (City of Asheville, Vice-Chair), Larry Harris (Black Mountain), William High (Buncombe County), Autumn Radcliff (Henderson County), Anthony Sutton (Town of Waynesville), Elizabeth Teague (Town of Waynesville, Chair), Jerry Vehaun (Town of Woodfin)

1. Welcome and Introductions	Elizabeth Teague
2. Public Comment	Elizabeth Teague
3. Approval of September, 2022 Meeting Minutes	Elizabeth Teague
4. Business	
A. LAPP Funding Update	MPO Staff
B. Transit Calls for Projects	MPO Staff
C. FY 2024 Planning Call for Projects	MPO Staff
5. News, Events, Updates	Elizabeth Teague
6. Public Comment	Elizabeth Teague
7. Adjournment	Elizabeth Teague

Item 3

September, 2022 Prioritization Subcommittee Minutes

French Broad River MPO Prioritization Subcommittee Meeting Minutes September 7, 2022

ATTENDANCE

Voting Members

- Elizabeth Teague, Town of Waynesville
- Autumn Radcliff, Henderson County
- Larry B. Harris, Town of Black Mountain
- Jerry Vehaun, Town of Woodfin
- William High, Buncombe County
- Anthony Sutton, Town of Waynesville

Non-Voting Members

- Tristan Winkler, FBRMPO
- Scott Adams, FBRMPO
- Hannah Bagli, FBRMPO
- Jane Pies (Minutes)
- Janna Bianculli, Apple Country
- Steve Williams, NCDOT Div 14
- Troy Wilson, NCDOT Div 14
- Daniel Sellers, NCDOT TPD
- Brendan Shanahan, City of Hendersonville
- Stephan Sparks, NCDOT Div 14
- Daniel Cobb, Town of Mills River
- Kim Roney, City of Asheville
- Bill Marley, FHWA
- Logan DiGiacomo, FBRMPO
- David Wasserman, NCDOT
- Hannah Cook, NCDOT Div 13
- George Webb

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Chair, Elizabeth Teague started the meeting at 9:00 a.m. with introductions. A quorum was announced, and roll was called.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Elizabeth Teague opened the floor for public comments. George Webb pointed out a spelling error in the minutes from the August 2022 meeting.

APPROVAL OF AUGUST 2022 MINUTES AND AGENDA

Jerry Vehaun moved to approve the agenda and the August 2022 minutes. Larry Harris seconded the motion, which passed unanimously upon a roll call vote.

BUSINESS

LAPP FUNDING UPDATE:

-Cost Estimates Received

The MPO received updates on most programmed projects, but not all. Several projects are still outstanding.

MPO staff will continue to request additional funding with full breakdown to be provided at the next meeting.

-BL-0008 Engineering Funding

BL-0008

Information

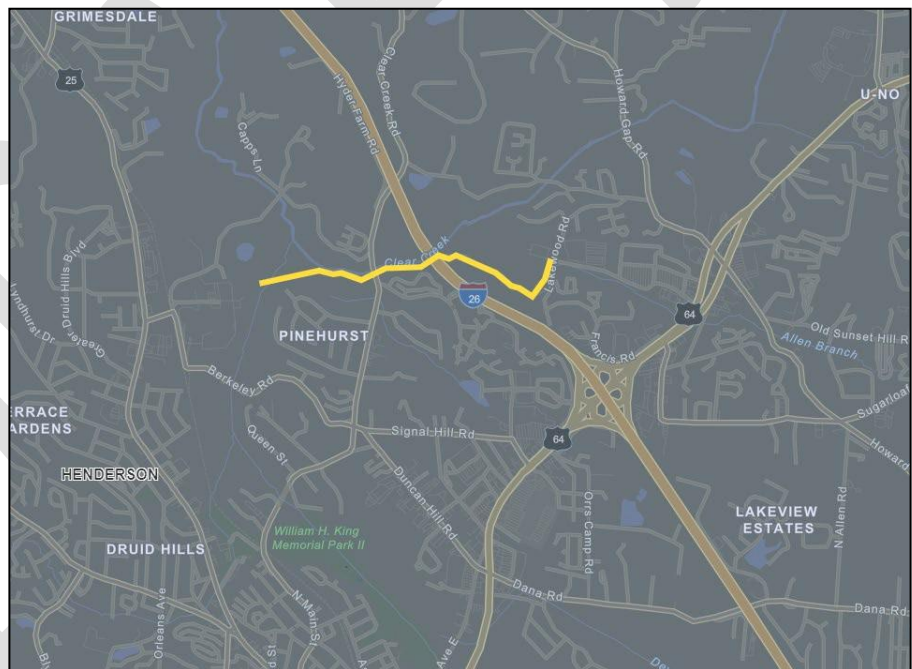
Project Name:
Clear Creek
Greenway

Managing Entity: City of
Hendersonville

Project Limits:
Oklawaha
Greenway/Ber
keley Mills Park
to Lakewood
Road

Project Type:
Multi-Use Path

Call for Projects Awarded 2020



At the last
Prioritization

meeting, the

subcommittee tabled a request from the City of Hendersonville for additional funding for all phases with the intent of reaching out to all project managers for cost and schedule information. However, tabling the request put the PE contract on-hold between the City and a firm to begin preliminary engineering (PE.)

After coordinating with City of Hendersonville staff, we are bringing back this item with only PE funding in order to keep this stage of the project on-schedule.

	Total	Federal (80%)	Local (20%)
Initial PE Estimate	\$303,500	\$242,800	\$60,700
Updated PE Estimate	\$761,998	\$609,598	\$152,400

Discussion occurred about the need to see where **all** projects are in terms of cost overages before allocating additional funds to individual projects. Brendan Shanahan, with City of Hendersonville noted that it may be possible to cover the Preliminary Engineering charges for this project with right-of-way funds. He also discussed working with NCDOT to break up tasks to potentially avoid the need for additional funding.

Autumn Radcliff moved to go back and look at Right-of-Way funds to see if they can be used to cover the Preliminary Engineering cost increases. Larry Harris seconded the motion. Elizabeth Teague amends the motion to include encouraging Hendersonville to work with NCDOT to phase in engineering to hamper spending. Approved unanimously upon a roll call vote.

-EB-5790 Funding Changes

EB-5790 is a LAPP project managed by the City of Asheville to help tie together various greenways around the City, including the Wilma Dykeman Greenway, the Nasty Branch Greenway, and the Beaucatcher Greenway. The project has run into cost overruns.

In coordination with the City of Asheville, the MPO recommended deleting EB-5919 (a nearby pedestrian project that was awarded funds in P 3.0) and transferring the \$277,000 in federal funds to EB-5790. NCDOT approved the action and the TIP will be amended this month to reflect the change.

Tristan Winkler shared that we are looking for creative solutions for covering cost overruns.

Information only. No action required.

U-6159 CROSS-SECTION UPDATE:

As part of the Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP), the MPO is required to illustrate planned changes to facilities. During the development of the Haywood County Greenway Master Plan and in coordination with the FHWA Bikeway Selection.

U-6159 Information

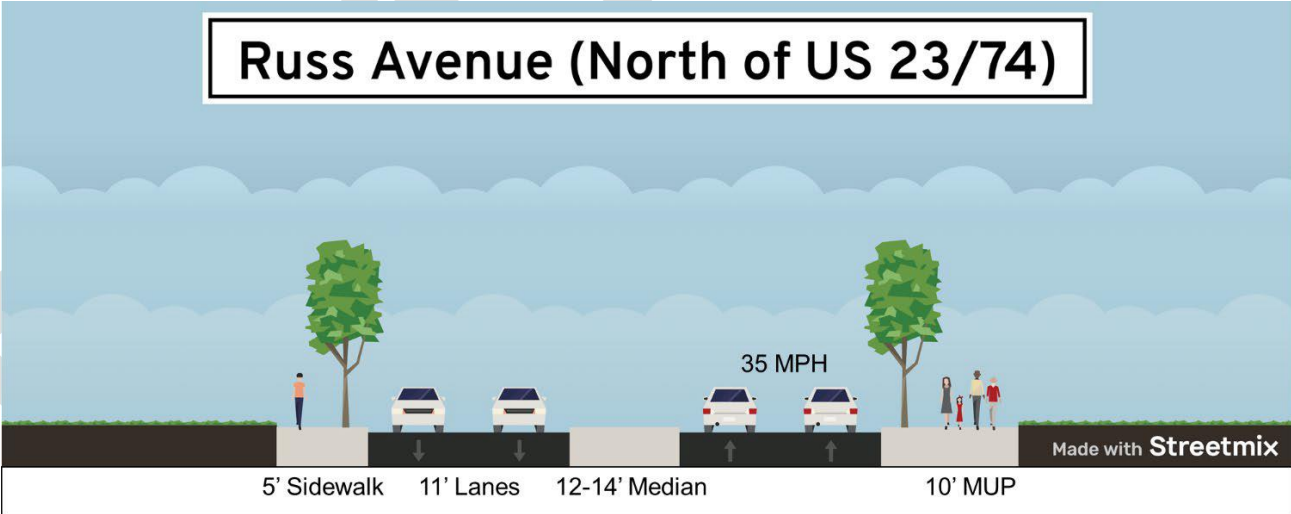
Route: US 276 (Russ Avenue)

From: US 23/74 (Smokey Mountains Expressway)

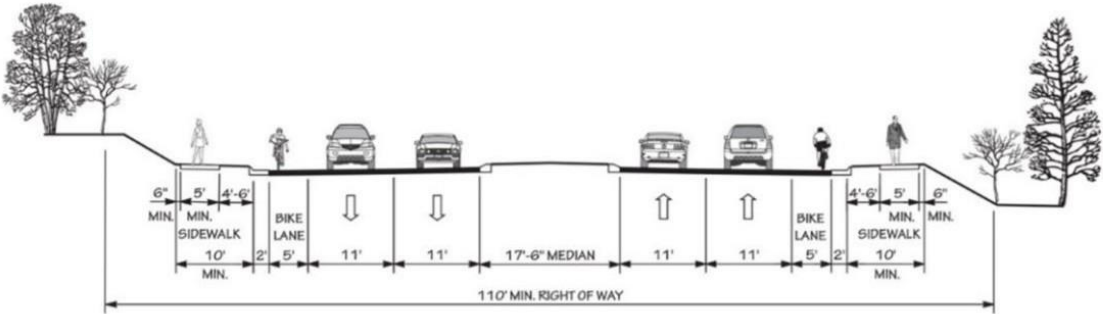
To: US 19 (Dellwood Road)

Improvement Type: Access Management

Jurisdictions Impacted: Haywood County, Town of Waynesville Proposed Updated Cross-Section:

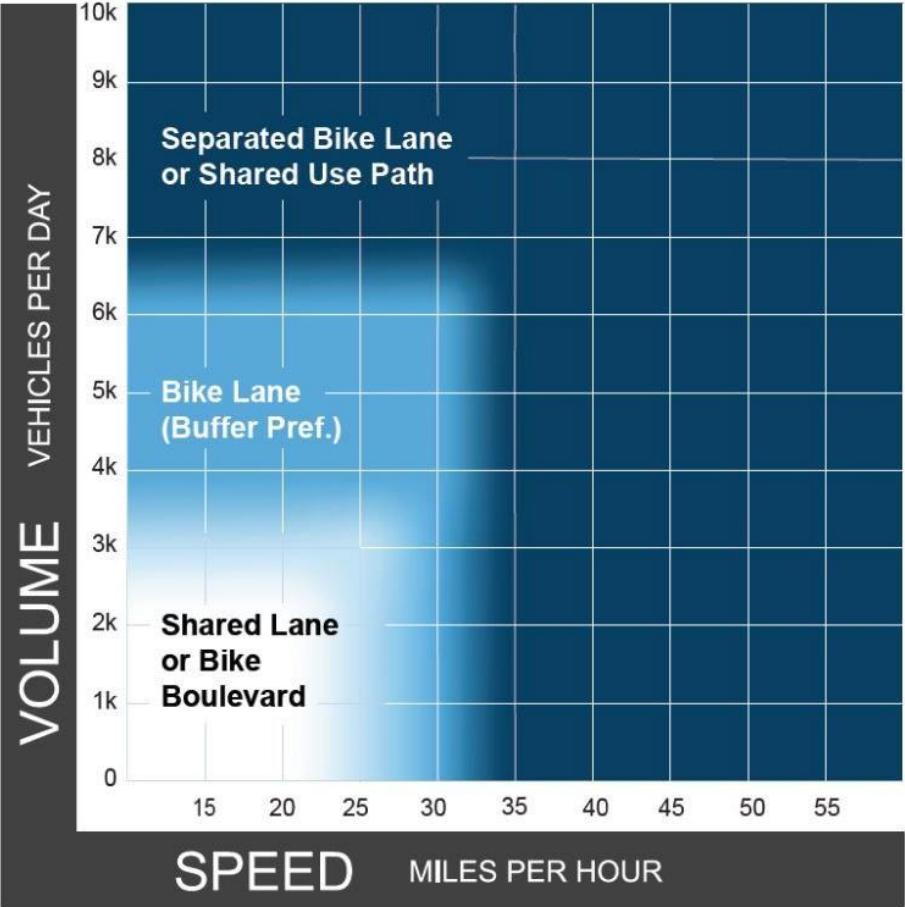


Current MTP Cross-Section:



Anticipated Cross-Section

Additional Information:



Elizabeth Teague made motion to approve the revised cross-section. Anthony Sutton seconded the motion. Approved unanimously upon a roll call vote.

FY 2024 UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM (UPWP):

What is a UPWP?

The UPWP is a federally mandated document for MPOs to produce that serves the MPO's budget. This includes line items of work for MPO staff, planning work planned by the region's designated recipient for FTA 5303 Metropolitan Planning Funds (City of Asheville), as well as studies being carried out using federal planning funds, and any programmatic support or planning being funded by FTA 5307 Support.

Why are We Talking About It Today?

The Draft FY 2024 UPWP is due in January.

Tasks to complete to develop the UPWP:

- Determine Special Studies for FY 2024 (if any)
- Determine Transit 5303 Tasks (City of Asheville)
- Determine MPO Staff Tasks (MPO)

In general, the development of the UPWP has been a very internal process in the past.

Considerations for developing the FY 2024 UPWP:

- Hold a workshop for MPO members to provide feedback on what they'd like to see developed/emphasized
- Send out a poll to MPO members on what they'd like to see developed/emphasized
- Consider Regional Initiatives:
 - Regional Managed Lane Study
 - Regional Transit Implementation Plan
 - Regional Transportation Resilience Plan
 - Travel Demand Model Update
 - Greenway Branding

-Consider Upgrading Tools

-Whatever Else- feedback is welcome!

Tristan Winkler shared that it is time to start the FY 24 budget. The draft of the FY 24 UPWP is due in January. Tristan would like to see a more collaborative process among committee members and other MPO members with staff in developing the UPWP. Feedback is also encouraged. Discussion occurred about the possibility of developing a small virtual workshop or survey to see what the MPO would like to emphasize or minimize, by the end of the year. We can start to more strategically focus our resources and make the TIP more useful and helpful.

Information only. No action required.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Elizabeth Teague opened the floor for public comment. No comments were heard.

ADJOURNMENT

Elizabeth Teague called for a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:49 AM.

Jerry Vehaun moved to adjourn the meeting. Larry Harris seconded, and the vote carried unanimously.

Item 4A

LAPP Funding Update

Background: MPO staff requested updated estimates in August, 2022 for each of the LAPP projects funded through the MPO. The final estimates were provided last week with some projects noting additional cost increases are likely but are unknown at this time.

Cost Estimates Received

Total Increase in Federal Funding Estimated: \$7,143,767

Total Amount Approved in the FY 2022 Call for Projects: \$21,586,491

Total Amount of Unprogrammed LAPP Funding Through FY 2028: \$25,068,000

Total Amount Overprogrammed: \$3,662,258

TIP ID	Name	Managing Jurisdiction	Previous Federal Funding	Updated Federal Funding	Difference	Updated Total Funding	Phases Funded	Notes
EB-5774	Woodfin Greenways	Buncombe County	\$ 6,064,000	\$ 13,700,458	\$ 7,636,458	\$ 17,125,572	PE, ROW, CST	Additional Funding Already Approved, Not Programmed
BL-0007	Ecusta Trail- Section A	Henderson County	\$ 5,075,200	\$ 7,784,193	\$ 2,708,993	\$ 9,730,241	PE, CST	
BL-0008	Clear Creek Greenway	City of Hendersonville	\$ 1,551,200	\$ 3,482,100	\$ 1,930,900	\$ 4,352,625	PE, CST	PE increases approved on 9/22, CST increases not approved; ROW reduced to \$0
EB-5821	Reems Creek Greenway	Buncombe County	\$ 480,000	\$ 1,680,000	\$ 1,200,000	\$ 2,100,000	PE	Estimates a \$20 million project with ROW and CST
EB-5823	Bent Creek Greenway	Buncombe County	\$ 320,000	\$ 1,048,000	\$ 728,000	\$ 1,310,000	PE	Estimates an \$8 million project with ROW and CST
EB-5547A	Riverwalk Greenway Section A	Town of Black Mountain	\$ 979,200	\$ 1,510,408	\$ 531,208	\$ 1,888,010	PE, ROW, CST	
HL-0013	9th Street Bridge Replacement	Town of Black Mountain	\$ 544,000	\$ 892,000	\$ 348,000	\$ 1,115,000	PE, ROW, CST	
BL-0005	Broadway Sidewalks	NCDOT Division 13	\$ 310,400	\$ 537,026	\$ 226,626	\$ 388,000	PE, CST	
HL-0003	Haywood Road Resurfacing + Bike/Ped Improvements	NCDOT Division 13	\$ 6,057,600	\$ 6,274,400	\$ 216,800	\$ 7,843,000	PE, CST	More cost increases likely but unknown
EB-5945	Champion Drive Multi-Use Path	Town of Canton	\$ 160,000	\$ 307,200	\$ 147,200	\$ 384,000	ROW	PE "Complete", Construction Estiamted at \$1.35 million
EB-5926	US 19 Pedestrian Improvements	Town of Maggie Valley	\$ 1,440,000	\$ 1,520,000	\$ 80,000	\$ 1,900,000	PE, CST	
EB-5824	Enka Heritage Trail	Buncombe County	\$ 4,124,000	\$ 4,124,000	\$ -	\$ 5,155,000	PE, CST	Notes that Additional Funding Will be Needed
U-5190	NC 63 Sidewalks	City of Asheville	\$ 2,848,800	\$ 2,848,800	\$ -	\$ 3,561,000	ROW, CST	PE previously LAPP funded
EB-5944	Johnston Boulevard Sidewalks	City of Asheville	\$ 1,880,000	\$ 1,880,000	\$ -	\$ 2,350,000	CST	
EB-5948	Onteora Boulevard Sidewalks	City of Asheville	\$ 912,000	\$ 912,000	\$ -	\$ 1,140,000	CST	
U-5019A	Nasty Branch Greenway	City of Asheville	\$ 3,413,600	\$ 3,413,600	\$ -	\$ 4,267,000	CST	
EB-5947	New Haw Creek Road Sidewalks	City of Asheville	\$ 1,900,000	\$ 1,900,000	\$ -	\$ 3,050,000	CST	Additional Costs Covered by Asheville Bond Funds

TIP ID	Name	Managing Jurisdiction	Previous Federal Funding	Updated Federal Funding	Difference	Updated Total Funding	Phases Funded	Notes
EB-5822	North RADTIP	City of Asheville	\$ 3,543,200	\$ 3,543,200	\$ -	\$ 4,429,000	PE, ROW, CST	Notes that Additional Funding Will be Needed; Amount Unclear. This project is partially LAPP funded, partially funded with NCDOT-programmed federal funds
EB-5790	Greenway Connectors	City of Asheville	\$ 1,273,600	\$ 1,273,600	\$ -	\$ 1,592,000	PE, CST	Additional Funding Likely Needed- may come from local sources
BL-0006	School Zone Crossings	City of Asheville	\$ 600,000	\$ 600,000	\$ -	\$ 750,000	PE, CST	
HL-0012	Charlotte Street/I-240 Pedestrian Improvements	NCDOT Division 13	\$ 668,000	\$ 668,000	\$ -	\$ 1,680,000	CST	
EB-5946	Mills River Valley Trail	Town of Mills River	\$ 240,000	\$ 240,000	\$ -	\$ 300,000	PE	Much more PE required or change of project scope; total project costs estimated at more than \$16 million
HL-0014	Biltmore/White Fawn Drive Intersection Improvements	City of Asheville	\$ 412,000	\$ 412,000	\$ -	\$ 515,000	PE, ROW, CST	
EB-5830	Lexington Avenue Bike/Ped Improvements	City of Asheville	\$ 540,000	\$ 540,000	\$ -	\$ 675,000	PE	
EB-5547B	Riverwalk Greenway Section B	Town of Black Mountain	\$ 2,378,400	\$ 1,404,440	\$ (973,960)	\$ 1,755,550	PE, ROW, CST	

Item 4B:

Transit Calls for Projects

Urbanized Area Formula Grants (JARC) – Section 5307

What is this program?

The Urbanized Area Formula Funding program (49 U.S.C. 5307) makes federal resources available to urbanized areas for transit capital and operating assistance in urbanized areas and for transportation-related planning. Specifically, the **Job Access Reverse Commute (JARC)** grant program is intended to fund the development and maintenance of transportation services designed to transport welfare recipients and eligible low-income individuals to and from jobs and activities related to their employment. The FBRMPO has a local resolution to use 10% of Section 5307 funds for **Jobs Access Reverse Commute (JARC)** eligible projects.

What are eligible projects under this program?

JARC funds may be used for planning, capital or operating costs of providing access to jobs and employment training for low-income individuals. The City of Asheville, as the Designated Recipient of 5307 and JARC funds in our region, reserves the right to use up to 10 percent of the JARC funding to support program administrative costs. Eligible projects could include:

- Late-night and weekend service;
- Guaranteed ride home service;
- Shuttle service;
- Expanding fixed route public transit routes, including hours of service or coverage;
- Demand-responsive van service;
- Ridesharing and carpooling activities;
- Transit-related aspects of bicycling (e.g., adding bicycle racks to vehicles, providing secure bicycle parking at transit stations, or support for bicycle sharing programs in the vicinity of transit stations).

What is an example of a recent local JARC project?

Asheville Rides Transit (ART), the City of Asheville's bus transit system, has used JARC funding for Route 170 which connects downtown Black Mountain to downtown Asheville. The service provides 8 trips per day, Mon. - Sat., 5:30 a.m. - 9:30 p.m. The route offers service to the general public, and also connects to the Black Mountain Trailblazer deviated fixed route service provided by Buncombe County and operated by Mountain Mobility.

See next page for Enhanced Mobility of Seniors & Individuals with Disabilities – Section 5310

Enhanced Mobility of Seniors & Individuals with Disabilities – Section 5310

What is this program?

This program provides formula funding to states for the purpose of assisting private nonprofit groups in meeting the transportation needs of older adults and people with disabilities when the transportation service provided is unavailable, insufficient, or inappropriate to meeting these needs.

What are eligible projects under this program?

Traditional Section 5310 project examples include:

- buses and vans
- wheelchair lifts, ramps, and securement devices
- transit-related information technology systems, including scheduling/routing/one-call systems
- mobility management programs
- acquisition of transportation services under a contract, lease, or other arrangement

Nontraditional Section 5310 project examples include:

- travel training
- volunteer driver programs
- building an accessible path to a bus stop, including curb-cuts, sidewalks, accessible pedestrian signals or other accessible features
- improving signage, or way-finding technology
- incremental cost of providing same day service or door-to-door service
- purchasing vehicles to support new accessible taxi, rides sharing and/or vanpooling programs
- mobility management programs

What is an example of a recent local 5310 project?

Haywood Public Transit/Mountain Projects has used 5310 funding to provide transportation for human service agencies, the elderly, people with disabilities, and the general public of Haywood County. Specific services have included expanded Nutrition Access and paratransit with the service area.

Item 4C:

FY 2024 Planning Call for Projects

The MPO has made planning funds available for planning projects over the last several years through an annual call for projects. Typically the MPO has made \$200,000 available for projects requested by local governments.

These projects typically fall into two different types, despite many more eligible uses:

-Identifying Needs- these projects are typically Bicycle Master Plans, Pedestrian Master Plans, Multimodal Master Plans, or essentially plans that identify potential projects to be pursued further.

-Project Feasibility/Development- planning funds can be used to bring projects to 15% design or determine potential alignments and more detailed cost estimates.

The MPO typically holds the call for projects from October-December with projects selected in January and incorporated into the Draft UPWP.

Current Studies:

Managing Jurisdiction	Project	Status	Year Programmed
City of Asheville	Bike/Ped Counting Equipment	Expected to Wrap-Up by December	FY 2019
City of Asheville	Reed Creek Greenway Extension Study	RFQ Expected Soon	FY 2022
City of Asheville	Patton Avenue Corridor Study	RFQ Expected Soon	FY 2023
Buncombe County	Multimodal Master Plan	LGA Agreement Needed	FY 2022
Haywood County/FBRMPO	Greenway Master Plan	Expected to be Complete in November/December	FY 2022
FBRMPO	2050 Growth Projections	RFQ Expected Soon	FY 2023
Town of Black Mountain	Fonta Flora Feasibility Study	LGA Agreement Needed	FY 2023

Potential Regional Studies

- Managed Lane Study
- Hellbender Regional Trail Study Update
- Regional Transit Implementation Plan
- On-Call Grant Services
- On-Call Engineering Services

Proposed Action: Approve the Call for Projects for the FY 2024 UPWP