

Technical Coordinating Committee

November 17, 2022 – 12:45 P.M.

Virtual Meeting via Zoom or In-Person at Land of Sky Regional Council

Login: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83264486259>

Meeting ID: 83264486259

Call-In: (312)626-6799

Agenda

1. **WELCOME AND HOUSEKEEPING (5 min)**

 - A. Welcome and Introductions, Approval of Agenda Autumn Radcliff
2. **PUBLIC COMMENT**

3. **CONSENT AGENDA**

 - A. October, 2022 Minutes Autumn Radcliff
4. **BUSINESS (5-10 min)**

 - A. Amendments to the 2020-2029 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) MPO Staff
 - B. 2023 Meeting Schedule MPO Staff
- >>BREAK FOR MPO BOARD TO JOIN THE MEETING<<**
5. **WELCOME AND HOUSEKEEPING (5 min)**

 - B. Welcome and Introductions, Approval of Agenda Larry Harris
 - C. Ethics Statement for MPO Board Members Larry Harris
6. **INFORMATIONAL ITEMS (15-25 min)**

 - A. City of Asheville Close the GAP Plan Lucy Crown, City of Asheville
 - B. P 7.0 Update MPO Staff
7. **REGULAR UPDATES (15 min)**

 - A. NCDOT Division 13 and 14 updates Tim Anderson/Wanda Austin or Designee
 - B. Transportation Planning Branch Daniel Sellers
 - C. FHWA/FTA Updates Bill Marley
 - D. Subcommittee/Workgroup Reports, Staff Updates, and Housekeeping MPO Staff
 - E. Legislative Updates MPO Staff
8. **ANNOUNCEMENTS, NEWS, SPECIAL UPDATES (5 min)**

9. **TOPICS FOR NEXT MEETING**

10. **PUBLIC COMMENT**

11. **ADJOURNMENT**

FRENCH BROAD RIVER

METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

Staff Report & Recommendations

Item 3:

Consent Agenda

Item 3A: October, 2022 TCC Minutes

FRENCH BROAD RIVER

METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

Staff Report & Recommendations

Item 3A:

October, 2022 Minutes

French Broad River Metropolitan Planning Organization

Minutes from the TCC Hybrid Meeting on October 13, 2022

ATTENDANCE:

In-person and remote via Zoom:

Autumn Radcliff	William High	Tristan Winkler
Kaitland Finkle	Jane Pies (minutes)	Hannah Bagli
Stephen Williams	Janna Bianculli	Lucy Crown
Daniel Sellers	Matthew Cable	Jessica Trotman
Stephen Sparks	Troy Wilson	Scott Adams
Jessica Morriss	Harry Buckner	Daniel Metcalf
Erica Anderson	Bill Marley	Angela Reece
Hannah Cook	Logan DiGiacomo	Jessica Trotman

WELCOME AND HOUSEKEEPING

Autumn Radcliff called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone at 11:02 AM. A roll call followed, and quorum was established to conduct the business before the meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Autumn Radcliff opened the floor for public comments. No public comments were received.

CONSENT AGENDA

Janna Bianculli moved to accept the consent agenda consisting of approval of the minutes from the September 2022 meeting, the TAC agenda, the Letter of Support for the Ecusta Trail NSFLTP Grant Application, the Letter of Support for the Above the Mud Reconnecting Communities Planning Grant Application and an Amendment to the FY 2023 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP), as well as the August 2022 minutes. Jessica Morris seconded the motion which passed unanimously upon a roll call vote.

FRENCH BROAD RIVER

METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

Staff Report & Recommendations

BUSINESS

5310 Call for Projects

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.

Funding Available

FY 2022's Section 5310 Allocation	
FY 2022 FTA Section 5310 Funds Available to Asheville UZA	\$511,257

FRENCH BROAD RIVER

METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

Staff Report & Recommendations

Section 5310 Admin at 10%	\$51,125
Remaining Section 5310 after Admin	\$460,132

Application and Project Selection Timeline

2022 Call for Projects Application Timeline	
October 31, 2022	5310 and JARC Call for Projects opens
December 15, 2022	5310 and JARC applications due to FBRMPO
January 2023 (early month)	FBRMPO Prioritization Subcommittee meets to review 5310 and JARC applications
January 2023 (mid month)	TCC approves 5310 and JARC project selection
January 2023 (end of month)	MPO Board votes on 5310 and JARC project selection
February 2023	MPO Board approves TIP Amendments for 5310 and JARC Projects

Scott Adams presented on the JARC Call for Projects.

Janna Bianculli moved to recommend approval of the 5310 Call for Projects opening. William High seconded the motion which passed unanimously upon a roll call vote.

Job Access Reverse Commute (JARC) Call 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?

FRENCH BROAD RIVER

METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

Staff Report & Recommendations

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.

Funding Available

FY 2022's Section 5307 (JARC) Allocation	
Regional JARC - FY 2022 at 10% of FTA 5307 Amount allocated to Asheville Urbanized Area	\$408,394

Application and Project Selection Timeline

2022 Call for Projects Application Timeline	
October 31, 2022	5310 and JARC Call for Projects opens
December 15, 2022	5310 and JARC applications due to FBRMPO
January 2023 (early month)	FBRMPO Prioritization Subcommittee meets to review 5310 and JARC applications

FRENCH BROAD RIVER

METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

Staff Report & Recommendations

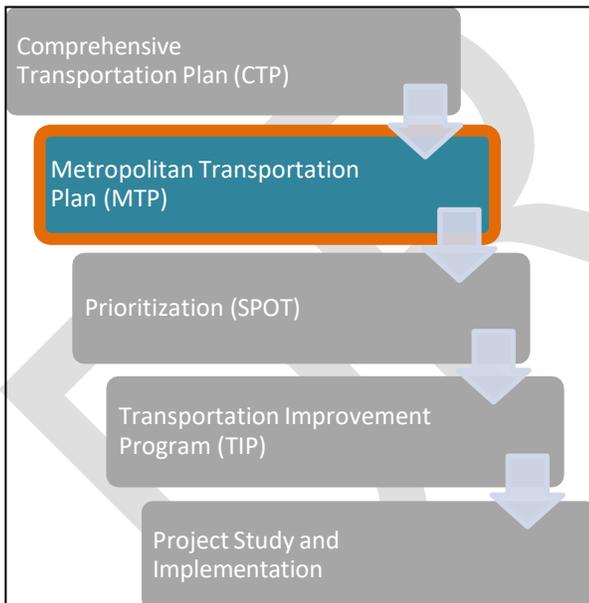
January 2023 (mid month)	TCC approves 5310 and JARC project selection
January 2023 (end of month)	MPO Board votes on 5310 and JARC project selection
February 2023	MPO Board approves TIP Amendments for 5310 and JARC projects

Jessica Morriss moved to recommend approval the Job Access Reverse Commute (JARC) Call for Projects. Janna Bianculli seconded the motion which passed upon a roll call vote.

Amendments to the 2045 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP)

Very Brief Overview

The Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) is a federally-required planning document that MPOs are required to update and maintain to reflect planned transportation investments in the region over the next twenty-five years. The MTP is required to be fiscally constrained, meaning that projects in the MTP have to be reasonably expected to work within projected revenues. The French Broad River MPO is required to update its MTP every five years with the last update completed in September 2020. NOTE: an amendment was made in June 2021.



Amendment Summary

- 1) Amendments to the Transportation Analysis Zones in the region's Travel Demand Model, requested by NCDOT, necessitated by HE-0001
- 2) Modification to the Proposed Cross-Section for U-6159 (US 276 in Haywood County)
- 3) Addition of the College/Patton Bike Lane project in Downtown Asheville

FRENCH BROAD RIVER

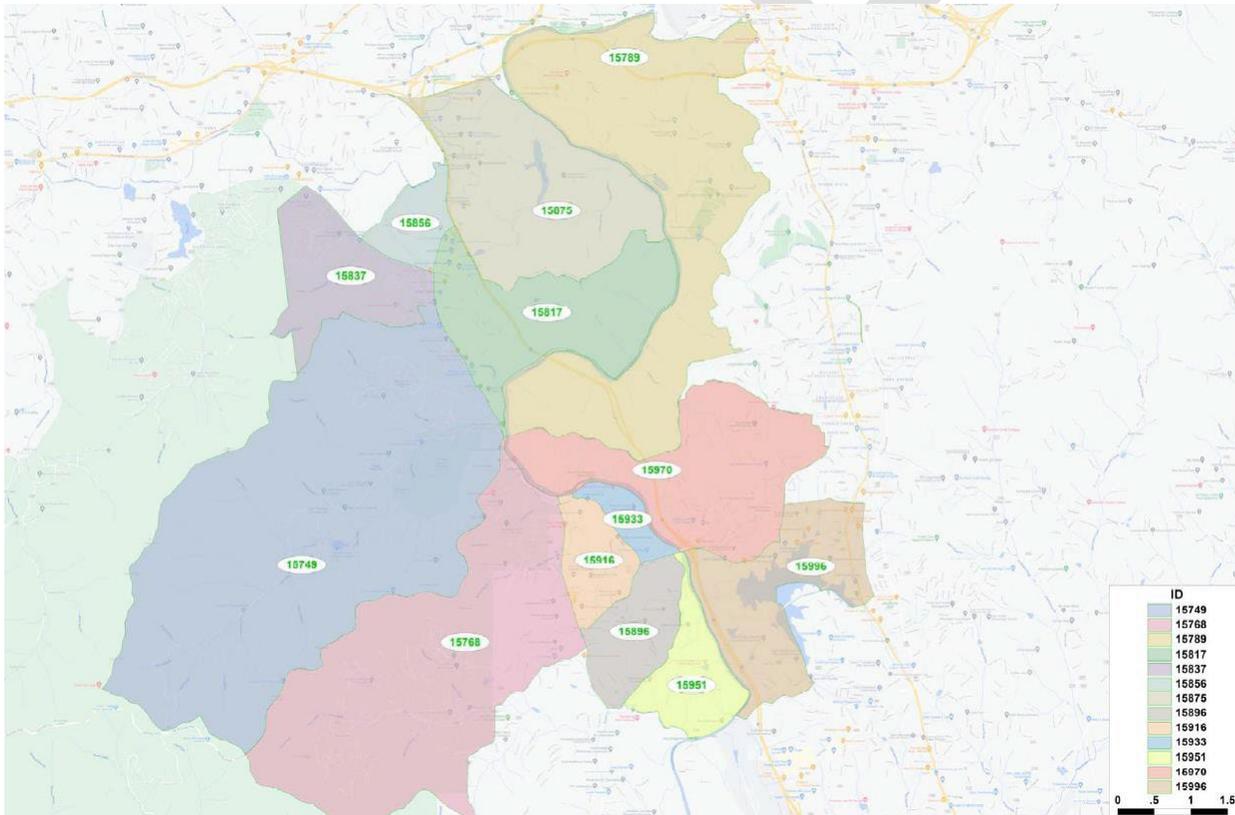
METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

Staff Report & Recommendations

Amendments to the Transportation Analysis Zones

The MPO, with NCDOT, develops and maintains the five-county (Buncombe, Haywood, Henderson, Madison, and Transylvania) region's Travel Demand Model which helps to forecast future traffic volumes through socio-economic projections. The MPO adopted the most recent projections in 2020 with the adoption of the MTP, but NCDOT has requested an amendment to adopt changes deemed necessary due to the changes to site accessibility and plans for the around the HE-0001 and Project Ranger area. The proposed changes would maintain the same overall projected growth in population and employment for the five-county region but would split a TAZ in southern Buncombe County to create a new TAZ, 652 (mapped as 15789 below.)

TAZ	2015 Population	2015 Employment	2045 Population	2045 Employment
652	0	0	761	4025



FRENCH BROAD RIVER

METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

Staff Report & Recommendations

Modification to U-6159

MPO staff coordinated with the Town of Waynesville and Haywood County to recommend a new cross-section for U-6159, a project that is funded in both the 2020-2029 and 2024-2033 (State) Transportation Improvement Program. The new cross-section would line-up with recommendations in the Draft Haywood County Greenway Master Plan and provide bicycle accommodations in-line with the FHWA Bikeway Selection Guide and updated NCDOT guidance, based on roadway volumes and vehicle speeds. These cross-sections are intended to provide a general idea of the outcome of planned improvement projects and do not reflect the most up-to-date designs and should not be used to determine potential right-of-way impacts.

U-6159 Information

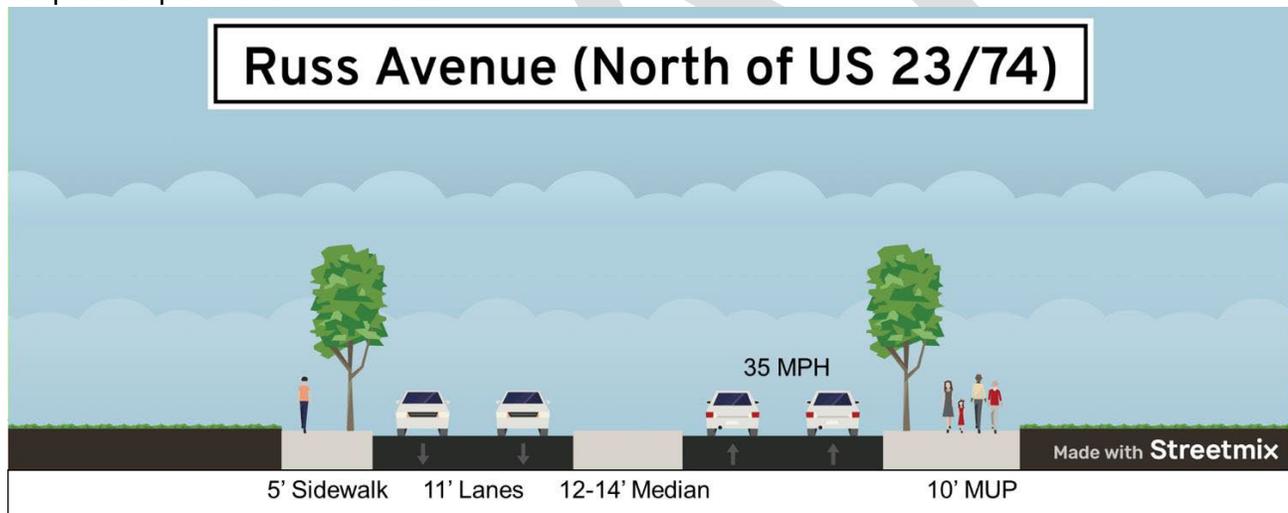
Route: US 276 (Russ Avenue)

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:

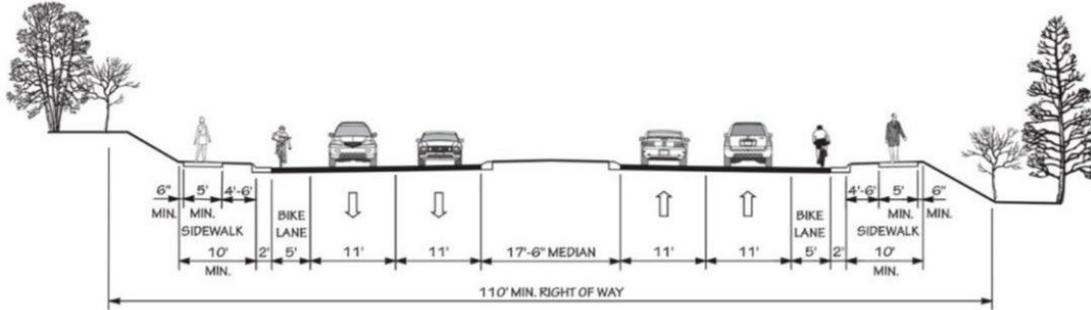


FRENCH BROAD RIVER

METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

Staff Report & Recommendations

Current MTP Cross-Section:



Anticipated Cross-Section

Addition of the College/Patton Bike Lane Project

The City of Asheville plans to add bike lanes to College Street and Patton Avenue in Downtown Asheville between Spruce Street and Pritchard Park and Biltmore Avenue and Pritchard Park, respectively. As part of adding bike lanes, each road will have one vehicular travel lane removed. Both College Street and Patton Avenue are considered major regional roads that impact regional mobility and are reflected in the region's travel demand model. Making this amendment will change the model's number of vehicular travel lanes to provide better traffic forecasts

To note: this project does not have any federal funds programmed so the approval of this amendment does not impact plans for this project's construction.

More information on this project is available here: <https://www.ashevillenc.gov/projects/college-patton-bike-lane-project/>

Lucy Crown moved to recommend accepting the Amendments to the 2045 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP). Kaitland Finkle seconded the motion which passed unanimously upon a roll call vote.

Call for Planning Projects

The French Broad River MPO will be holding a call for planning projects. The call for projects will open on Friday, October 28th with applications due on **Friday, December 16th**. Local governments and NCDOT may apply. Successful projects will be programmed in the FY 2024 Unified Planning Work Program.

For this call for projects, no specific funding amounts are being designated. Projects will be selected at the discretion of the Prioritization Subcommittee, TCC, and Board. A 20% local match is required for all projects (local match may not come from in-kind or (most) federal sources.)

FRENCH BROAD RIVER

METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

Staff Report & Recommendations

Eligible Uses

- Transportation Master Plan, Corridor Studies, Access/Mobility Studies, Inventories of Existing Routes, and Right of Way Investigations
- Future population, Employment, and Economic Growth Studies
- Traffic studies such as circulation plans, traffic count programs, intersection analysis, and small area studies
- Bicycle and Pedestrian planning such as bicycle parking, sidewalk/bicycle lane master plans and trail and greenway plans
- Economic Impact Studies for Transportation Investments
- GIS data development/mapping applications
- Transportation related health impact assessments
- Environmental Justice Analysis

- Conceptual/Scoping Studies and Limited Engineering Design (specifically up to 15 percent “line and grade” design per NCDOT guidance), also known as “Preliminary Plans” or “Functional Roadway” plans

Not Eligible:

- Surveying
- Property Acquisition
- Site Preparations
- Environmental Planning/NEPA Analysis
- Transit Operations and Management
- Construction Projects

All successful projects will be subject to federal requirements and those required by the MPO’s Lead Planning Agency, the Land of Sky Regional Council.

Application materials will be sent to the MPO TCC and Board following the October meeting.

Tristan Winkler presented on the Call for Planning Projects.

Jessica Morriss moved to recommend approval of the Call for Planning Projects. William High seconded the motion which carried upon a roll call vote.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

Made x Mountains Program

Bradley Spiegel with Mountain BizWorks will provide an overview on the Made x Mountains program that plans to be engaging with local governments and community stakeholders to develop plans to strengthen the bonds between communities and outdoor recreation opportunities. Per the Made x Mountains’ website:

Made By Mountains is here to celebrate and build a stronger sense of pride in our region around the extraordinary outdoor recreation industry that these mountains have made, the mountain towns and cities that were literally built from the mountains, and the exceptional people who have made their lives here. We are building a shared narrative that will help people from the Smokies to the Blue Ridge, High Country to the Foothills all tell a collective story of how these mountains have made them who they are today.

And we want to invite others to have these mountains make them, too, so that we can recruit, retain, and grow companies and people who appreciate all these mountains have to offer, and who will continue to care for and steward them for generations to come.

This is a collective effort, powered by people from every part of the outdoor economy. With support from the [Appalachian Regional Commission](#), this brand was developed by the [Growing Outdoors Partnership](#), a collaborative of 18 different organizations ranging from outdoor industry to economic development to local and state government and academia.

Three core organizations – the [Outdoor Gear Builders of WNC](#), [Mountain BizWorks](#), and the [NC Outdoor Recreation Industry Office](#) – collaborated with industry leaders and key figures from across Western North Carolina to develop and launch this program. We worked with the outdoor-focused marketing and design company [Outpost](#) to bring the brand to life and tapped Graham Averill, a local who writes for publications like Outside and Blue Ridge Outdoors, to craft our anthem and [Tommy Penick](#) to create our movie. And we are thankful and fortunate to have leading lights from across Western North Carolina join us to share their [Made By Mountains stories](#).

Now, the future of this work is in the hands of the community. Dozens of partners have been involved in bringing the brand to life, and we are always looking for more companies, communities, and people who are passionate about the mountains of Western North Carolina, and want to tell their own stories, and help spread the word of how WNC is Made By Mountains.

Information only. No action required.

I-4700 Presentation: Blue Ridge Parkway Bridge

The I-4700 project is the widening of I-26 from I-40 to NC 280 (Airport Road.) A major part of the project is going to be the removal of the Blue Ridge Parkway Bridge over I-26 with a new bridge going in nearby.

Nathan Moneyham, Division Construction Engineer for NCDOT Division 13, provided a presentation on the process that is planned for the bridge replacement. Below is a link to the presentation.

<https://frenchbroadrivermpo.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/10/I-4700-Update-October-2022.pdf>

Information only. No action required.

REGULAR UPDATES

Division 13 Updates: <https://frenchbroadrivermpo.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/10/D13-Construction-October-2022-combined.pdf>

Division 14 Updates: https://frenchbroadrivermpo.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/10/102022_Div14_FBRMPO-Const_Update-combined.pdf

NCDOT Transportation Planning Division: Updates provided

Committee & Workgroup Updates:

Prioritization Subcommittee- met October 5th; next meeting November 2nd

Transit Operators' Workgroup- next meeting TBD

5307 Subrecipient Workgroup- next meeting TBD

Citizens' Advisory Committee- met June 24th; next meeting TBD

Hellbender Trail Stakeholder Group- last meeting October 6th; next meeting TBD

FHWA/FTA: Updates provided

PUBLIC COMMENT

Autumn Radcliff opened the second public comment period. No public comments were received.

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Radcliff adjourned the meeting at 12:17.

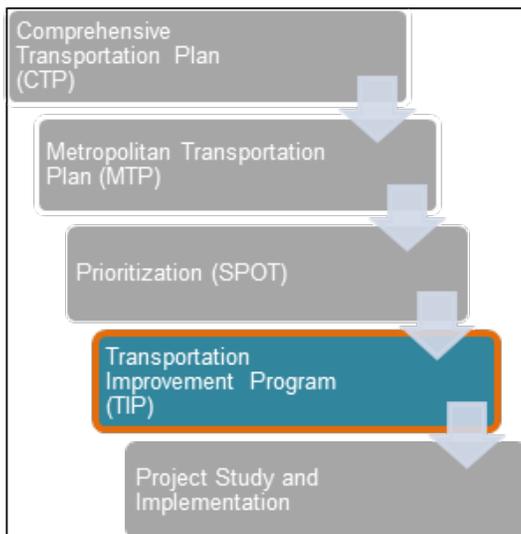
FRENCH BROAD RIVER

METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

Staff Report & Recommendations

Item 4A:

Amendments to the 2020-2029 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)



What is the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)?

The Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) is our region's document that reflects planned transportation investments over a ten-year period. The TIP describes each project, a schedule for implementation, funding sources, and estimated costs. Current items are for modification of existing projects. No new projects or amendments are included for August, 2022.

Modifications Summary

The modifications to the TIP largely include updating costs and schedules for LAPP projects that require TIP amendments in order to move forward. EB-5547A/B is moving forward with a modified scope to include more on-street facilities and less multi-use path. EB-5830 (Lexington Avenue) is being removed from the TIP in order to provide additional funding to the City of Asheville's EB-5831 (Coxe Avenue); additional funding is also being moved to EB-5822 (North RAD Greenway.) Other amendments include modifications at the request of NCDOT.

A full table of the proposed modifications to the 2020-2029 Transportation Improvement Program is below.

Action: Recommend Approval of the Modifications to the 2020-2029 Transportation Improvement Program



FBRMPO November Amendments/Modifications

TIP/STIP No.	Jurisdiction/Project Name/Limits	Category	Amendment Description	Funding Type	Current Phase	Funding Amt	FY
EB-5547B	BLACK MOUNTAIN RIVERWALK GREENWAY (Black Mountain Ave - Into the Oak Trail)	Non-Highway (Bike & Ped)	Reduce PE by \$13,000; Reduce ROW by \$104,000; Reduce construction by \$857,000 & move to fy 24	BGDA	Engineering	\$147,200	2023
				Local Match	Engineering	\$36,800	2023
				BGDA	Right-of-Way	\$16,000	2023
				Local Match	Right-of-Way	\$4,000	2023
				BGDA	Construction	\$1,412,800	2024
				Local Match	Construction	\$353,200	2024
EB-5822	North RAD Greenway (Hill St - US 19/23/70 at Broadway)	Non-Highway (Bike & Ped)	Add preliminary engineering funding	Local Match	Engineering	\$120,000	2023
				TAANY	Engineering	\$480,000	2023
				Local Match	Right-of-Way	\$26,000	2023
				TAANY	Right-of-Way	\$103,000	2023
				BGDA	Construction	\$1,000,000	2025
				Local Match	Construction	\$800,000	2025
				TAANY	Construction	\$2,200,000	2025
EB-5830	Buncombe County Lexington Ave - Improve bicycle & pedestrian infrastructure (Patton Ave - Southside Ave)	Non-Highway (Bike & Ped)	Remove from TIP; Move funding to EB-5831	BGDA	Engineering	\$0	2022
				Local Match	Engineering	\$0	2022



FBRMPO November Amendments/Modifications

TIP/STIP No.	Jurisdiction/Project Name/Limits	Category	Amendment Description	Funding Type	Current Phase	Funding Amt	FY
B-5953	SR 1002 (OLD LEICESTER HWY) - Replace Bridge over French Broad & Southern Railroad	Bridge Project	PROJECT TO BE FUNDED UNDER STATE BRIDGE PROGRAM.	HFB	Right-of-Way	\$250,000	2023
				HFB	Right-of-Way	\$500,000	2024
				HFB	Construction	\$2,719,000	2024
				HFB	Right-of-Way	\$250,000	2025
				HFB	Construction	\$8,109,000	2025
				HFB	Construction	\$6,380,000	2026
				HFB	Construction	\$2,972,000	2027
B-5982	US 74 - Replace bridge over Southern railroad	Bridge Project	PROJECT TO BE FUNDED UNDER STATE BRIDGE PROGRAM.	HFB	Construction	\$1,940,000	2024
				HFB	Construction	\$5,548,000	2025
				HFB	Construction	\$3,212,000	2026
EB-5547A	BLACK MOUNTAIN RIVERWALK GREENWAY (Black Mountain Ave - Sutton Ave)		Increase PE by \$96,000; Reduce ROW by \$43,000; Increase Construction by \$479,000; Schedule Needs Revision	BGDA	Engineering	\$231,851	2023
				Local Match	Engineering	\$57,962	2023
				BGDA	Right-of-Way	\$32,000	2023
				Local Match	Right-of-Way	\$8,000	2023
				BGDA	Construction	\$1,151,200	2024
				Local Match	Construction	\$287,800	2024



FBRMPO November Amendments/Modifications

TIP/STIP No.	Jurisdiction/Project Name/Limits	Category	Amendment Description	Funding Type	Current Phase	Funding Amt	FY
EB-5831	Coxe Ave - Improve bicycle & pedestrian infrastructure (Patton Ave - Short Coxe Ave)	Non-Highway (Bike & Ped)	Increase funding for preliminary engineering; Funds added from EB-5830 (to be removed from TIP)	BGDA	Engineering	\$720,000	2023
				Local Match	Engineering	\$180,000	2023
				BGDA	Right-of-Way	\$240,000	2024
				Local Match	Right-of-Way	\$60,000	2024
				BGDA	Construction	\$624,000	2025
				BGDANY	Construction	\$3,776,000	2025
				Local Match	Construction	\$944,000	2025
				Local Match	Construction	\$156,000	2025
				BGDA	Construction	\$624,000	2026
				BGDANY	Construction	\$3,776,000	2026
				Local Match	Construction	\$156,000	2026
Local Match	Construction	\$944,000	2026				
EB-5926	US 19 (SOCO ROAD) - Construct bicycle & pedestrian improvements (US 276 - Fie Top Rd)	Non-Highway (Bike & Ped)	Increase federal construction funding by \$80,000	BGANY	Right-of-Way	\$14,000	2022
				Local Match	Right-of-Way	\$4,000	2022
				BGANY	Construction	\$1,506,000	2023
				Local Match	Construction	\$376,500	2023
HB-0024	SR 1876 (MAX THOMPSON ROAD) - Replace bridge over East Fork Pigeon River	Bridge Project	ADD PROJECT AT THE REQUEST OF STRUCTURES MANAGEMENT UNIT.	BGOFF	Right-of-Way	\$80,000	2024
				BGOFF	Utilities	\$80,000	2024
				BGOFF	Construction	\$1,600,000	2025



FBRMPO November Amendments/Modifications

TIP/STIP No.	Jurisdiction/Project Name/Limits	Category	Amendment Description	Funding Type	Current Phase	Funding Amt	FY
HL-0012	US 70 - Construct Pedestrian improvements + right turn lane on I-240 Eastbound off-ramp	Highway & Intersection	TO ALLOW ADDITIONAL TIME FOR PRELIMINARY ENGINEERING, DELAY CONSTRUCTION FROM FY 22 TO FY 23.	BGDA S(M)	Construction Construction	\$668,000 \$1,012,000	2023 2023
HS-2014Q	UPGRADE SIGNAL SYSTEM AT 33 INTERSECTIONS ALONG US 64 AND US 25 BUSINESS.	Highway & Intersection	ADD PROJECT BREAK AT THE REQUEST OF THE TRANSPORTATION MOBILITY AND SAFETY DIVISION.	HSIP	Construction	\$225,000	2023
HS-2014R	INSTALL LONG LIFE PAVEMENT MARKINGS ALONG VARIOUS PRIMARY AND SECONDARY ROUTES.	Highway & Intersection	ADD PROJECT BREAK AT THE REQUEST OF THE TRANSPORTATION MOBILITY AND SAFETY DIVISION.	HSIP	Construction	\$1,225,000	2023



FBRMPO November Amendments/Modifications

TIP/STIP No.	Jurisdiction/Project Name/Limits	Category	Amendment Description	Funding Type	Current Phase	Funding Amt	FY
I-5889B	I-40 - Rehabilitate Pavement & Preserve Bridges (Mile Marker 45.25 - Mile Marker 50)		TO ALLOW ADDITIONAL TIME FOR PRELIMINARY	NHPIM	Construction	\$204,000	2023
			ENGINEERING, DELAY	NHPIM	Construction	\$11,220,000	2024
			CONSTRUCTION FROM FY 22	NHPIM	Construction	\$7,600,000	2025
			TO FY 23.	NHPIM	Construction	\$1,385,000	2026
R-5793	Various. Division 13 program to upgrade intersections to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) using Transportation Alternatives (TA) funds.	Highway & Intersection	ADD FUNDING IN FY 23 NOT PREVIOUSLY	S	Construction	\$200,000	2022
			PROGRAMMED.	TA	Construction	\$800,000	2022
				S	Construction	\$200,000	2023
				TA	Construction	\$800,000	2023
R-5794	Various. Division 14 program to upgrade intersections to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) using Transportation Alternatives (TA) funds.	Highway & Intersection	ADD FUNDING IN FY 23 NOT PREVIOUSLY	S	Construction	\$200,000	2022
			PROGRAMMED.	TA	Construction	\$800,000	2022
				S	Construction	\$200,000	2023
				TA	Construction	\$800,000	2023

FRENCH BROAD RIVER

METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

Staff Report & Recommendations

Item 4B:

2023 Meeting Schedule

The 2023 meeting schedule is on the following page. The TCC meetings are scheduled the same as previous years- 2nd Thursdays at 11:00 AM. The exceptions are:

- No meetings in July
- No meetings in December
- Joint meeting in November on the 3rd Thursday

One change being proposed is for Board meetings. Those meetings are currently held on the 4th Thursdays at 1:00 PM. It is being proposed to move those to the 3rd Thursday at 1:00 PM.

Action: Recommend Approval of the 2023 Meeting Schedule

a program of Land of Sky

FRENCH BROAD RIVER

METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

Public Meetings Schedule

*Agendas, Materials, & Minutes are located on the FBRMPO website
frenchbroadrivermpo.org*

Prioritization Subcommittee	TCC Subcommittee	Board (TAC)
January 4 th , 2023 9:00 am	January 12 th , 2023 11:00 am	January 19 th , 2023 1:00 pm
February 1 st , 2023 9:00 am	February 9 th , 2023 11:00 am	February 16 th , 2023 1:00 pm
March 1 st , 2023 9:00 am	March 9 th , 2023 11:00 am	March 16 th , 2023 1:00 pm
April 5 th , 2023 9:00 am	April 13 th , 2023 11:00 am	April 20 th , 2023 1:00 pm
May 3 rd , 2022 9:00 am	May 11 th , 2023 11:00 am	May 18 th , 2023 1:00 pm
June 7 th , 2022 9:00 am	June 15 th , 2023 11:00 am	June 22 nd , 2023 1:00 pm
July 5 th , 2022 9:00 am	NO MEETING	-----
August 2 nd , 2022 9:00 am	August 10 th , 2023 11:00 am	August 17 th , 2023 1:00 pm
September 6 th , 2022 9:00 am	September 14 th , 2023 11:00 am	September 21 st , 2023 1:00 pm
October 4 th , 2022 9:00 am	October 12 th , 2023 11:00 am	October 19 th , 2023 1:00 pm
November 1 st , 2022 9:00 am	November 16 th , 2023 1:00 pm <i>**Joint w/ Board Meeting</i>	
December 6 th , 2022 9:00 am	NO MEETING	NO MEETING

FRENCH BROAD RIVER

METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

Staff Report & Recommendations

Item 6A:

City of Asheville Close the GAP Plan

The City of Asheville recently completed and adopted its Close the GAP Plan. GAP = Greenways, ADA, and Pedestrian. This plan was developed to help the City identify and prioritize improvements to its pedestrian and greenway network as well as improvements to provide more ADA accessibility and address non-compliant barriers.

The project was funded with \$140,000 in MPO planning funds via a previous Call for Projects.

The final plan is available here: https://issuu.com/trafficpd/docs/close_the_gap_-_final_plan_appendix_277d639b17df64

No Action Required

FRENCH BROAD RIVER

METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

Staff Report & Recommendations

Item 6B:

P 7.0 Update

MPO staff will provide an update on the P 7.0 workgroup. The Prioritization Workgroup, now the P 7.0 Workgroup is made up of representatives from NCDOT, MPOs, RPOs, the League of Municipalities, Metro Mayors, NC Rural Center, and others, to make recommendations to the Board of Transportation on the use of weights and measures to determine project scores.

Consensus Points:

Workgroup Meeting Calendar- the workgroup is planning to meet twice a month through May, 2023 with one virtual meeting on the fourth Tuesday focusing on informational items and one in-person meeting on the second Tuesday focusing on consensus points.

P7 Schedule- see attached. The planning organizations primarily advocated for longer windows for local input points. Two months were initially proposed for each window- that was pushed to three, though that also resulted in shortening the initially proposed submittal window.

COVID Impacts to Safety Data- five years of safety data is used in the prioritization process. The workgroup was asked about whether or not the inclusion of data from 2020 was appropriate due to the somewhat anomalous decrease in crashes but increase in fatalities. The workgroup agreed that the 2020 data should be used.

COVID Impacts to Volume Data- volume data used in prioritization is generally collected across the state over two years- half the state's count locations are done in odd years, the other half in even years. The volume data available for P7 will be 2018, 2019, and 2021 (2022 data will not be ready in time for P7.) The general options were to utilize 2018 & 2019 (recommended by the traffic survey unit) or 2018 & 2021. Other variations were discussed. This item was discussed over three meetings and the workgroup agreed to use 2018 & 2019 data.

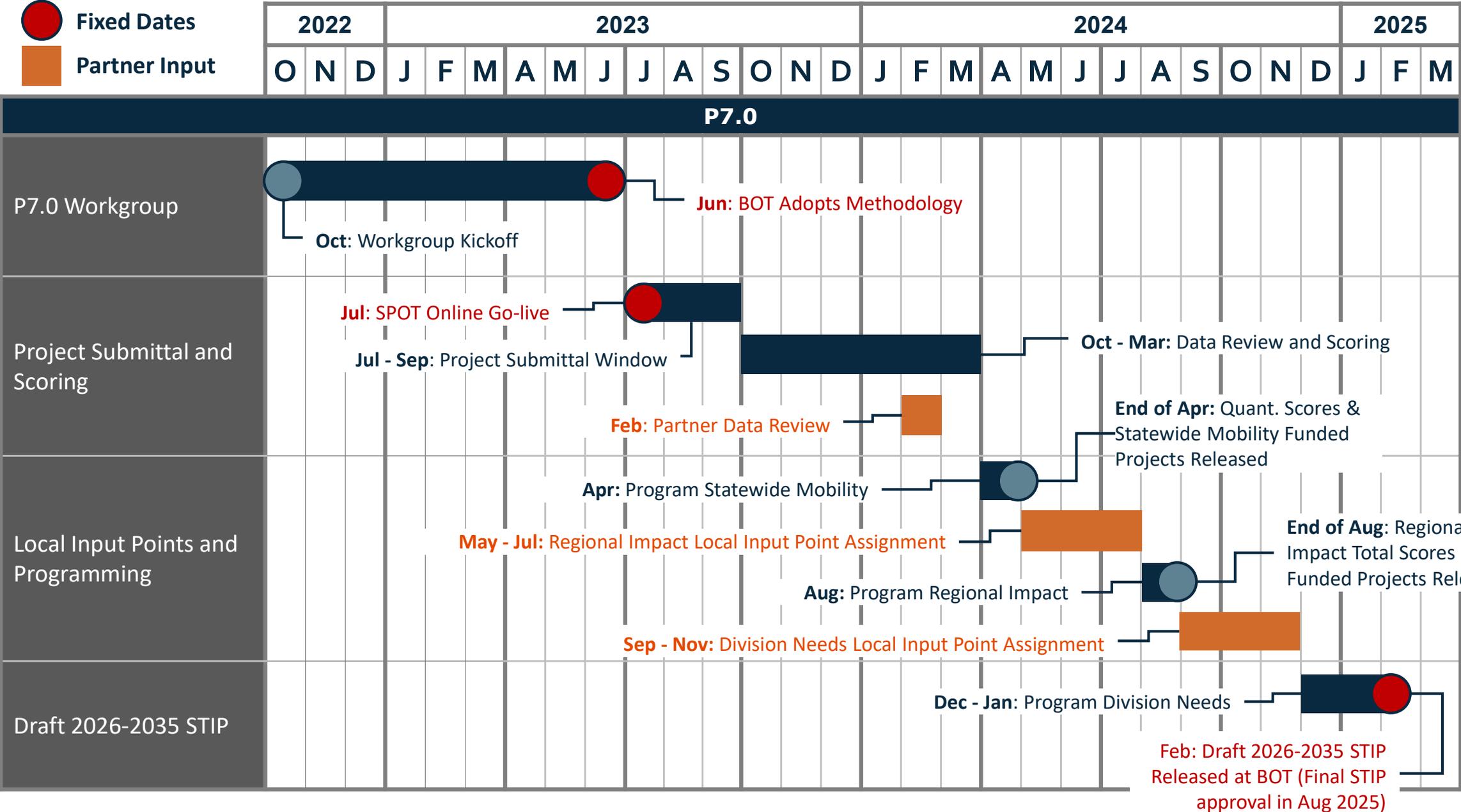
Rail Modernization SIT- the Rail Unit requested an additional SIT for Rail Modernization projects to provide the ability to better evaluate projects making operational improvements to rail infrastructure that are not adding capacity. The request to add the SIT was needed to be done sooner rather than later due to SPOT Online! deadlines but more information on potential weights and measures will come back to the workgroup in the near future. The workgroup agreed to add the rail modernization SIT.

No Action Required

P7 Schedule

Updated October 11, 2022

- Fixed Dates
- Partner Input



FRENCH BROAD RIVER

METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

Staff Report & Recommendations

Item 7A:

Division Project Updates

Division 13 Updates: https://frenchbroadrivermpo.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/11/Nov_Div13.pdf

Division 14 Updates: https://frenchbroadrivermpo.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/10/102022_Div14_FBRMPO-Const_Update-combined.pdf

Item 7B:

TPD Updates

Newsletter Attached.

Item 7C:

FHWA/FTA Updates

NCDOT TPD NEWS



TPD Statewide Initiatives

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

National Electric Vehicle Infrastructure program

North Carolina will receive an estimated \$109 million over five years from the Federal Highway Administration for the development of electric vehicle charging stations as part of the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law. These funds are being delivered through the National Electric Vehicle Infrastructure, or NEVI, program. A large portion of these funds will be used for the installation of Level 3 charging infrastructure along the state’s Alternative Fuel Corridors. These major highways and interstates will have electric charging stations installed every 50 miles. Funding in future years will be focused on community-based public electric vehicle charging and other critical infrastructure needs.

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

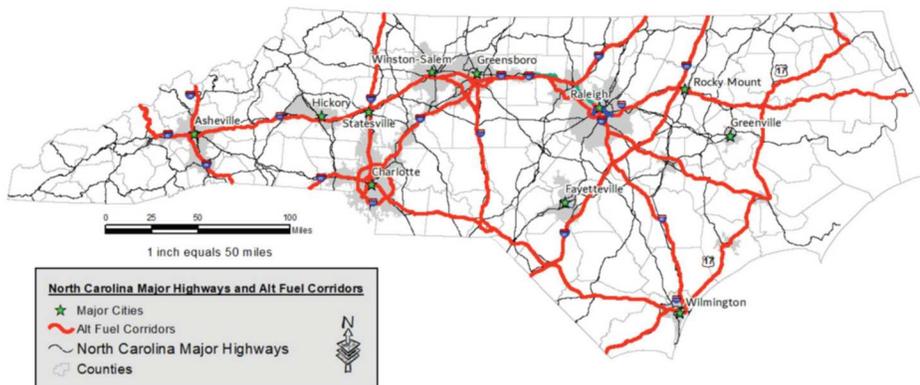
- NCDOT Mission Statement

Safety News

NC Harvest Season

The harvest season is in full swing in North Carolina, which means agricultural producers and motorists sharing state roads.

Motorists are encouraged to practice safe, responsible driving when encountering farm equipment. Don’t assume that operators can see you.



I-40 Bridge Project Starting in Haywood County

NCDOT launched a two-year project to completely replace two bridges on Interstate 40 in Haywood County. The traffic management plans to retain one lane of travel in each direction between US 276 (Exit 20) and mile marker 18. By maintaining this pattern for six months, the contractor can reduce the overall construction time needed to replace the two bridges over White Oak Road.

Traffic conditions, depending on the number of vehicles on the interstate at one time, will likely mirror conditions travelers experienced last winter when a contractor replaced the I-40 bridge over Harmon Den Road and Cold Springs Creek. “Driving through the work zone will take the least amount of time on most days,” said Chad Franklin, NCDOT Regional Intelligent Traffic Systems Engineer. “But weekends and busy days, going through Kingsport will save drivers the most time. Planning ahead, and anticipating delays, is a very important part of trip planning this winter.” The traffic pattern will remain until May 20 in order for crews to replace the bridges.

“Most times, it’s just a lot easier not to let the world know what’s wrong.”

- Chuck Palahniuk

Traffic Forecasts

HL-0003; US 19/23 BUS (Haywood Road) Road Diet, Delivered 07/28/2022

I-2513; I-26 Connector, Delivered 10/24/2022

B-5898 & B-3186: Replace Bridges at I-40 and US 74, Delivered 09/12/2022

HE-0001; new interchange on I-26, Updated 06/29/2022

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

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

Contact Us

Daniel Sellers, PE

NCDOT TPD

1 S. Wilmington St
Raleigh, NC

(919) 707-0978

dcsellers1@ncdot.gov

Visit us on the web at
www.ncdot.gov

NCDOT Overall News

NC By Train Ridership Breaks Record

The Carolinian and Piedmont trains carried 55,493 passengers in October, beating September's record of 48,488 passengers by over 14%. This is the highest month in the 32-year history of the NC By Train service. The Carolinian and Piedmont trains handled 48,488 passengers in September, which marked an increase of 32% over the average pre-pandemic monthly ridership levels from 2014 to 2019. "What a fantastic accomplishment for the traveling public," state Transportation Secretary Eric Boyette said. "We are excited to see record numbers of our citizens and visitors choose to ride NC By Train. The train offers people an easy way to travel without the stress of a drive." In addition to making its regular stops, NC By Train passengers in October were also able to make a one-day special stop in Lexington for The Barbecue Festival and a stop at the North Carolina State Fairgrounds in Raleigh during the N.C. State Fair.

Grand Opening at Midland Logistics Park

This week in Midland, NCDOT's Rail Division and Aberdeen Carolina and Western Railway, along with state and local leaders celebrated the grand opening of Midland Logistics Park in Cabarrus County.

The Midland Logistics Park is a 70-acre development anchored by the railway's Midland Transload Yard and includes three additional properties available for prospective rail customers. The Midland Transload Yard can accommodate 120 railcars for transload, storage, and distribution of raw materials and finished goods. It is expected to become a central distribution hub for the Charlotte-metropolitan area.

"This transload facility really is, part of our vision of bringing rail to more customers and more industries that need to use rail as a mode or have access to the mode where they may not have a rail support for their individual site," said Rail Director Jason Orthner.

2023 North Carolina Aviation Art Contest Now Accepting Entries

The N.C. Department of Transportation is accepting entries for its 2023 North Carolina Aviation Art Contest from students and teachers through Jan. 17. This year's theme is "Air Sports and the Environment." All North Carolina students born between Jan. 1, 2005, and Dec. 31, 2016, are eligible to submit entries in one of three age groups: junior (ages 6-9), intermediate (ages 10-13) and senior (ages 14-17).

Every entry in each age group will have a chance to compete for one of three prizes to be awarded to the student and their school. The North Carolina Museum of Art will display the top 10 winners in each age group.

NCDOT Cash Report

NCDOT Cash Watch Number Report for November 4, 2022, reached \$2,451,497,646 in Unreserved Cash roughly split 58/42 between the Highway Fund and the Highway Trust Fund.

FRENCH BROAD RIVER

METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

Staff Report & Recommendations

Item 7D:

Committee & Workgroup Updates

Prioritization Subcommittee— met November 2nd; next meeting January 4th

Transit Operators' Workgroup— next meeting being scheduled

5307 Subrecipient Workgroup- last meeting October 18th; next meeting TBD

Citizens' Advisory Committee- last meeting July; next meeting TBD

Hellbender Trail Stakeholder Group- last meeting October 6th; putting together a workgroup to develop a Regional Greenway Forum in the Spring

Recommended Actions:

Accept the reports.

FRENCH BROAD RIVER

METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

Staff Report & Recommendations

Item 7E:

Legislative Updates