

Staff Report & Recommendations

Item 3A:

September, 2022 TCC Minutes

French Broad River Metropolitan Planning Organization

Minutes from the TCC Hybrid Meeting on September 8, 2022

ATTENDANCE:

In-person and remote via Zoom:

William High	Scott Adams	Tristan Winkler
Brendan Merithew	Jane Pies (minutes)	Hannah Bagli
Stephen Williams	Vicki Eastland	Jodi Ferguson
Daniel Sellers	Matthew Cable	Jessica Trotman
Stephen Sparks	Troy Wilson	Steve Cannon
Kevin Moore	Harry Buckner	Chris Medlin
Eric Rufa	Hannah Cook	Matt Baker
Tyler Morrow	Logan DiGiacomo	Elise Bielen
Bucky Galloway	Matt Manley	Eddie McFalls

WELCOME AND HOUSEKEEPING

Vice Chair, William High called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone at 11:08 AM. A roll call followed, and NO quorum was established.

PUBLIC COMMENT

William High opened the floor for public comments. No public comments were received.

CONSENT AGENDA

Item moved to next month's agenda.

BUSINESS

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

WNC Passenger Rail Study

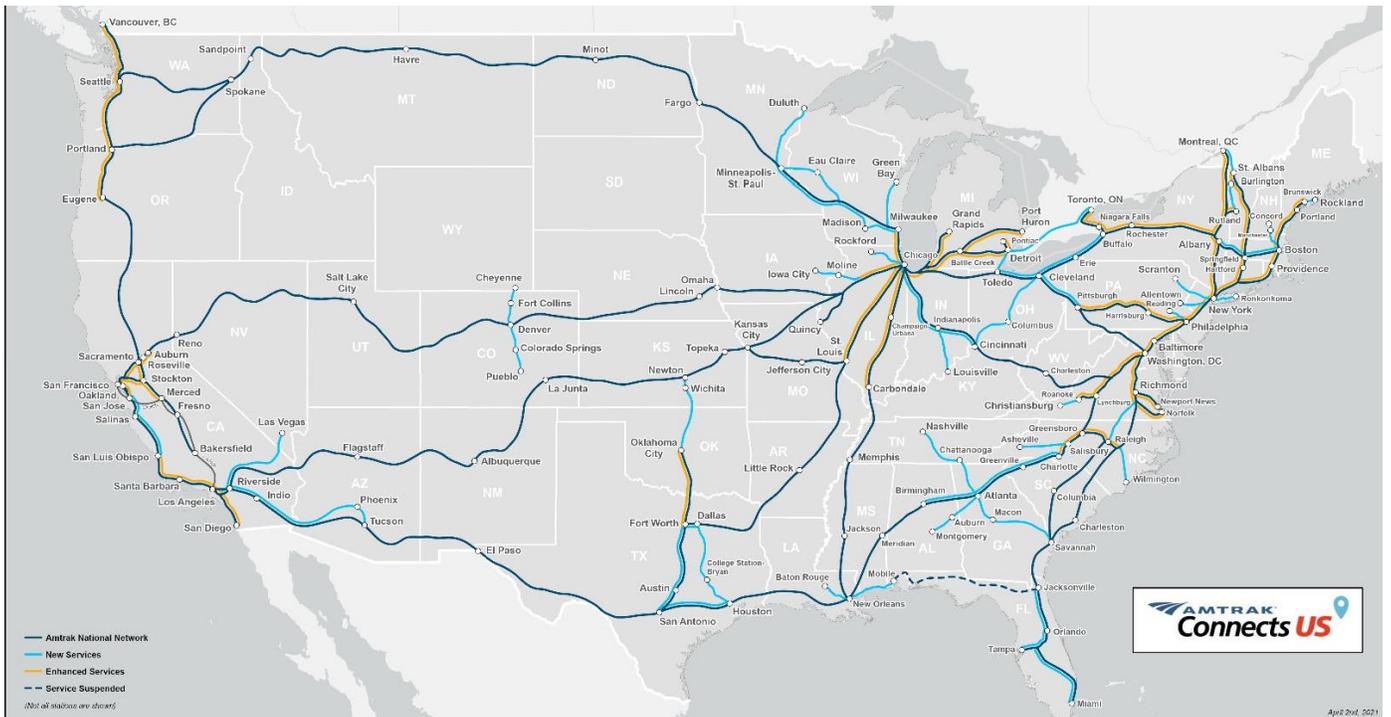
The NCDOT Rail Division has started work on a study to look at the feasibility of reintroducing passenger rail to Western North Carolina and potentially take advantage of additional rail funding being made available through the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA.)

Eddie McFalls, PE, of the NCDOT Rail Division provided an update on the study and potential next steps for bringing back passenger rail to WNC.

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Amtrak Proposed Future Connections, Including Asheville

Information only. No action required.

I-2513 (I-26 Connector) Update

Project Background: I-2513 is actually a series of interstate and related roadway improvements that are in various stages of TIP/STIP development.

I-2513A (now split into AA, AB, AC)- Funding Committed,

I-2513AA- Reconstruct Pavement from Sand Hill Road to Monte Vista Road (\$31.7 Million)

I-2513AB- I-26/I-40 AND I-40/US 19/23 (SMOKEY PARK HIGHWAY) INTERCHANGES. CONSTRUCT THE FOLLOWING IMPROVEMENTS: WIDEN I-40 EASTBOUND TO I-26 EASTBOUND RAMP, WIDEN I-26 WESTBOUND BETWEEN I-40 RAMPS, CONSTRUCT NEW I-40 WESTBOUND TO US 19/23 (SMOKEY PARK HIGHWAY) (\$23.6 Million)

I-2513C- NORTH OF I-40 TO SR 3548 (HAYWOOD ROAD). WIDEN TO SIX LANE FREEWAY. (\$220.8 Million)

Right-of-Way: 2023

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I-2513B- Funding Committed, Widening with New Bridges over the French Broad River from Haywood Road to Broadway Street (\$686.6 Millions)

Right-of-Way: 2024

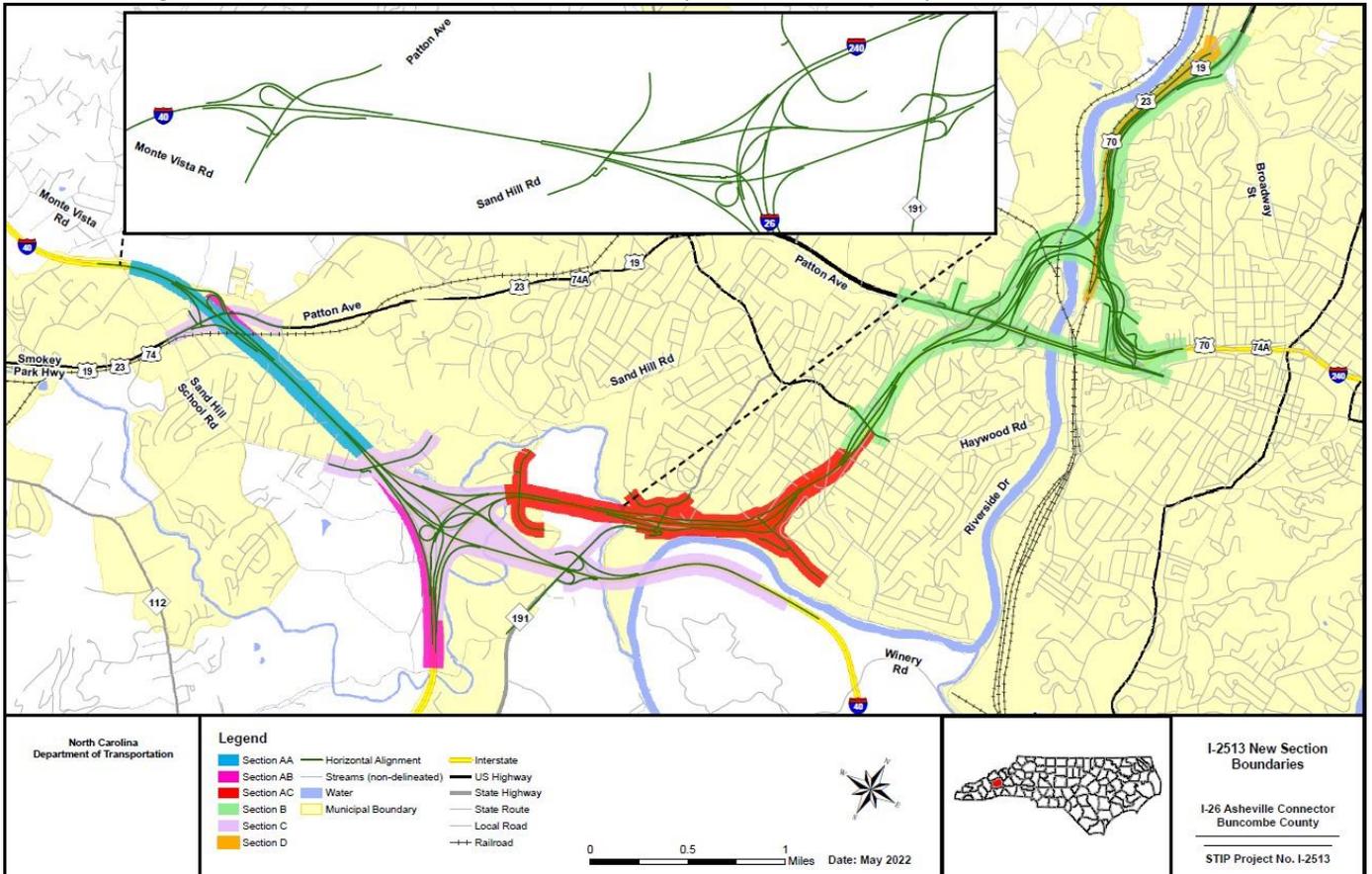
I-2513C- Funding NOT Committed, Final Interchange Improvements to I-26/I-40/I-240 FUNDING

NOT COMMITTED

I-2513D- Funding Committed, Improvements to Riverside Drive from Hill Street to Broadway Street (\$31.5 Million)

Right-of-Way: 2024

Kevin Moore, PE, the project manager at NCDOT provided an update on the project’s timeline, recent changes in designs, and the “betterments” that were developed between the City of Asheville and NCDOT.



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Locally Administered Project Program (LAPP) Update

Tristan Winkler provided a presentation on two topics related to the Locally Administered Project Program:

- 1) Current Finances- MPO staff recently requested a full breakdown of updated project schedules and cost estimates at the request of the Prioritization Subcommittee to determine potential near-term requests for additional funding as well as projects whose timelines may change. MPO staff will provide an update.
- 2) NCDOT LAPP Workgroup(s)- NCDOT is currently leading an effort to determine potential policy changes to enable more efficient and successful delivery of LAPP projects. MPO staff is taking part in the workgroup along with City of Asheville Capital Projects staff. MPO staff will provide a short update.

About the Locally Administered Projects Program (LAPP)

LAPP funding through the MPO is currently the largest source of funds for bicycle and pedestrian projects in the region. The program is made up of Surface Transportation Block Grant- Direct Allotment (STBGDA), Transportation Alternatives Program- Direct Allotment (TAPDA), and Carbon Reduction Program funds through FHWA. All of these programs have different eligibilities and requirements but have funding programmed through the MPO. The current list of projects funded through this program include (note: this list does not include recently approved projects.)

Project	TIP ID	Sponsor	Route	From	To
NC 251 (Riverside Drive)/Beaverdam Creek Greenway	EB-5774	Buncombe County	NC 251 (Riverside Drive)	Broadway	Elk Mountain Road
Hominy Creek Greenway	EB-5824	Buncombe County	Hominy Creek Greenway	Hominy Valley Park	Enka High School
Reems Creek Greenway	EB-5821	Buncombe County	Reems Creek Greenway	Edge of Weaverville	Karpen Soccer Fields
Bent Creek Greenway	EB-5823	Buncombe County	Bent Creek Greenway	Hominy Creek River Park	WNC Farmer's Market

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Project	TIP ID	Sponsor	Route	From	To
Coxe Avenue Complete Streets	EB-5831	City of Asheville	Coxe Avenue	Patton Avenue	Short Coxe Avenue
North RAD Greenway	EB-5822	City of Asheville	(Riverside Drive)	Hill Street	US 19/23/70 at Broadway
Nasty Branch Greenway	U-5019A	City of Asheville	Nasty Branch (Formerly Town Branch) Greenway	Dr. Wesley Grant Sr. Southside Center	McDowell/Southside Intersection
French Broad River West Greenway	U-5019B	City of Asheville	French Broad River West	French Broad River Park	Haywood Road
NC 63 (New Leicester Highway) Sidewalks Project	U-5190	City of Asheville	NC 63	Patton Avenue	City Limits
New Haw Creek Road Sidewalks	EB-5947	City of Asheville	New Haw Creek Road	Beverly Road	Bell Road
Johnston Boulevard Sidewalks	EB-5944	City of Asheville	Johnston Boulevard	Patton Avenue	Iona Circle
Onteora Boulevard Sidewalks	EB-5948	City of Asheville	Onteora Boulevard	Lincoln Avenue	Raleigh Road
Greenway Connectors	EB-5790	City of Asheville	Various on-street bicycle and pedestrian connections between planned greenways in the East of the Riverway District	-	-
School Zone Safety	BL-0006	City of Asheville	Various (primarily within school zones)	-	-
Lexington Avenue Complete Streets	EB-5830	City of Asheville	Lexington Avenue	Patton Avenue	Southside Avenue
Biltmore Ave at White Fawn Drive Signal	HL-0014	City of Asheville	(Biltmore Avenue)	White Fawn Drive	-
Clear Creek Greenway	BL-0008	City of Hendersonville	Clear Creek Greenway	Berkeley Mills Park	Lakewood Road

Project	TIP ID	Sponsor	Route	From	To
Ecusta Trail Phase I	BL-0007A	Henderson County	Ecusta Multi-Use Path	Kanuga Road	US 64/Battle Creek Road
Haywood Road Resurfacing	HL-0003	NCDOT Division 13	US 19/23 Business (Haywood Road)	Patton Avenue	Ridgelawn Drive
Charlotte Street Ramp	HL-0012	NCDOT Division 13	US 70 (Charlotte Street) at I-240	-	-
Broadway Sidewalks	BL-0005	NCDOT Division 13	Broadway Avenue/NC 251	US 19/23 Northbound Exit Ramp	Riverside Drive
Riverwalk Greenway Section B	EB-5547A	Town of Black Mountain	Riverwalk Greenway Section A	Black Mountain Avenue	Flat Creek
Bridge Replacement	HL-0013	Town of Black Mountain	9th Street	-	-
Champion Drive Multi-Use Path	EB-5945	Town of Canton	Champion Drive	North Canton Road	Thickety Road
US 19 Bike/Ped Improvements	EB-5926	Town of Maggie Valley	Us 19 (Soco Road)	US 276	Fie Top Road
Mills River Valley Trail	EB-5946	Town of Mills River	NC 280	French Broad River	NC 191 (Haywood Road)
Riverwalk Greenway Section A	EB-5547B	Town of Black Mountain	Riverwalk Greenway Section B	Into the Oaks Trail	Black Mountain Avenue

Information only. No action required.

REGULAR UPDATES

Division 13 Updates: <https://frenchbroadrivermpo.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/08/D13-Construction-September-2022-combined.pdf>

Division 14 Updates: https://frenchbroadrivermpo.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/08/092022_Div14_FBRMPO-Const_Update-combined.pdf

NCDOT Transportation Planning Division: Updates given.

Committee & Workgroup Updates:

Prioritization Subcommittee- met August 3rd; next meeting September 7th

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 May 24th; next meeting TBD

PUBLIC COMMENT

Vice Chair High opened the second public comment period. No public comments were received.

ADJOURNMENT

Vice Chair High adjourned the meeting at 12:45PM.