a program of Land of Sky

FRENCH BROAD RIVER

METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

MPO Governing Board

March 16, 2023 – 1:00 P.M., Hybrid Meeting, In-Person at Land of Sky Regional Council or Via Zoom

Login: https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83455778548
Meeting ID: 83455778548
Call-In: (312)626-6799

Agenda

1. **WELCOME AND HOUSEKEEPING (10 min)**
   - A. **Welcome and Introductions, Approval of Agenda** — Anthony Sutton
   - B. **Ethics Statement for MPO Board Members** — Anthony Sutton

2. **PUBLIC COMMENT**

3. **CONSENT AGENDA** — Anthony Sutton
   - A. **February, 2023 Board Minutes**
   - B. **Amendment to the FY 2023 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)**
   - C. **Resolution of Support- Transportation Demand Management (TDM) Program**

4. **BUSINESS (60-75 min)**
   - A. **Draft 2024-2033 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP): Henderson Projects** — MPO Staff
   - B. **Draft 2024-2033 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP): Buncombe Projects** — MPO Staff
   - C. **FY 2024 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)** — MPO Staff
   - D. **Amendments to the 2020-2029 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)** — MPO Staff

5. **INFORMATIONAL ITEMS (20-30 min)**
   - A. **Passenger Rail Update** — NCDOT Staff

6. **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

7. **ANNOUNCEMENTS, NEWS, SPECIAL UPDATES (5 min)**
8. **TOPICS FOR NEXT MEETING**
9. **PUBLIC COMMENT**
10. **ADJOURNMENT**

a program of Land of Sky

FRENCH BROAD RIVER

METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

Technical Coordinating Committee

Item 3:

Consent Agenda

Item 3A: February, 2023 Meeting Minutes
Item 3B: Modification to the FY 2023 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)
Item 3C: Resolution of Support- Transportation Demand Management (TDM) Program

FRENCH BROAD RIVER
METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

Staff Report & Recommendations

Item 3A:

February, 2023 Meeting Minutes

Provided here: https://frenchbroadrivermpo.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/03/2023_2_16__MPO.DRAFT_.Board_.Minutes.pdf

FRENCH BROAD RIVER
METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

Staff Report & Recommendations

Item 3B:

Modification to the FY 2023 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)

A modification to the FY 2023 UPWP is being executed to provide funding for the Regional Greenway Forum, expected to be held in the late summer of 2023. The MPO plans to provide funding for the venue and some meeting materials.

UPDATE: The special study for a Buncombe County Multimodal Master Plan (Buncombe County) will be removed from the FY 2023 UPWP. It is programmed in the FY 2024 UPWP.

III-C-6	**Public Involvement**	Work to involve the public at all stages of the transportation planning process, including long-range and more immediate transportation planning efforts; coordinate the Citizens Advisory Committee to advise on public participation efforts at the MPO and work on amending and updating the MPO's Public Involvement Plan, as needed. Continue to utilize remote meeting accessibility as an option, even if in-person meetings become safe and accessible again. Organize and develop a Regional Greenway Forum to help promote local planning and projects as well as the Hellbender Trail- venue and meetings materials.

Title	Study Sponsor	Managing Entity	Summary
Buncombe County Multimodal Plan	Buncombe County	Buncombe County	Provide a multimodal master plan for Buncombe County to examine bicycle and pedestrian needs, potential bicycle and pedestrian capital projects, planning projects, and other changes.

FRENCH BROAD RIVER
METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

Staff Report & Recommendations

Item 3C:

Resolution of Support- Transportation Demand Management (TDM) Program

RESOLUTION TO STRATEGICALLY SET ASIDE STBDGA FUNDING TO SUPPORT REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION DEMAND MANAGEMENT PROGRAM FOR FY 2024

WHEREAS, the NCDOT has made a grant program available to provide for Transportation Demand Programs which promote alternative transportation options to the single occupant vehicle, including carpooling, vanpooling, telecommuting, transit, bicycle, flexible work hours, compressed workweeks and parking policies/pricing structures; and

WHEREAS, NCDOT grant funds up to 50% of expenses associated with a TDM Program; and

WHEREAS, the French Broad River MPO adopted a Transportation Demand Management Plan in 2013 which recommended establishing a regional TDM Program and previously voted to set aside $53,507 in STBDGA funds to match the NCDOT grant for the for FY 2023 of the regional TDM Program; and

WHEREAS, $54,000 of STBDGA funds are requested to provide the match for the available NCDOT TDM grant for FY 2024; and

WHEREAS, the Prioritization Subcommittee requested that the French Broad River MPO strategically set-aside STBDGA funds for the Regional Transportation Demand Management Program, to match NCDOT TDM grant for three years, due to the fact that the TDM program would benefit the region as a whole and not just a single jurisdiction; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of the French Broad River MPO to strategically set-aside STBDGA funds for the Regional Transportation Demand Management Program, in the amount equal to the Transportation Demand Management grant funding made available by the NCDOT each year, not to exceed $75,000 per year.

FRENCH BROAD RIVER
METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

Staff Report & Recommendations

ADOPTED this the 16th day of March, 2023

Anthony Sutton, FBRMPO Board Chair

Attest: Tristan Winkler, Director
French Broad River MPO

FRENCH BROAD RIVER
METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

Staff Report & Recommendations

Item 4A:

Draft 2024-2033 TIP/STIP: Project Swap

The Draft 2024-2033 State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) was developed in reaction to rising construction costs for transportation projects. Instead of programming new projects through P 6.0 (the usual process), the Board of Transportation and Prioritization Workgroup stopped the P 6.0 process in 2021 and worked to develop a process to determine what projects would remain on the STIP for the 2024-2033 iteration and which projects would be removed and required to recompete in future rounds of prioritization.

The process developed for the Draft 2024-2033 STIP included the following steps:

1) Prioritize projects by which round of prioritization a project was funded in (i.e., prioritize projects that have been funded in the STIP for longer) as well as the points received until available funding is exhausted.
2) Enable projects to be swapped in and out so long as the following rules are followed:
    a. MPO/RPO and Division must agree to any swaps by March 17, 2023
    b. A project(s) being swapped in must not exceed 110% of the cost of the project(s) being swapped out
    c. Projects changing funding tier must follow the typical prioritization rules for cascading projects:

		PROJECT OUT		
		Statewide Mobility	**Regional Impact**	**Division Needs**
PROJECT IN	**Statewide Mobility**	Eligible	Eligible	Eligible
	Regional Impact	X	Eligible	Eligible
	Division Needs	X	X	Eligible

The initial Draft 2024-2033 STIP was released in April, 2022. Since that time, the NC General Assembly approved a bill, later signed by the Governor, that allowed for the transfer of Sales Tax revenues into the Highway Trust Fund and Highway Fund, adding additional funding and enabling more projects to be added back to the STIP. The revised Draft 2024-2033 STIP was released in August, 2022.

Project Status in the French Broad River MPO:

FRENCH BROAD RIVER
METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

Staff Report & Recommendations

Statewide Mobility

Projects In		Projects Out	
TIP ID	**Project**	**Project**	**TIP ID**
I-2513B	I-26 Connector (Haywood to Broadway)	I-26 Connector (I-26/I-40/I-240 Interchange Final Improvements)	I-2513C
I-4759	Liberty Road (New Interchange on I-40)	I-26/US 64 Interchange	I-4400BA
I-2513AA	I-26 Connector (I-40 Improvements & Maintenance)		

Regional Impact

Projects In		Projects Out	
TIP ID	**Project**	**Project**	**TIP ID**
I-2513AB	I-26 Connector (Partial I-26/I-40/I-240 Interchange Improvements)	NC 191 (Brevard Road) Widening	U-3403B
I-2513AC	I-26 Connector (Widening from I-40 to Haywood)	NC 63 (New Leicester Highway) Access Management	U-5972
U-5783	US 64 Improvements (Laurel Park)	NC 63 (New Leicester Highway) and US 19 (Patton Avenue) Intersection Improvements	U-5971B
U-6049	South Main Street Bridge Widening (Hendersonville)	NC 280 (Boylston Highway) Access Management	U-6124
U-2801A	US 25A (Sweeten Creek Road) Widening	US 25 (Weaverville Highway) and New Stock Road Intersection Improvements	U-5973
A-0010AA	Future I-26 Widening		

Division Needs (Division 13)

Projects In		Projects Out	
TIP ID	**Project**	**Project**	**TIP ID**
I-4409	I-40/Blue Ridge Road New Interchange	N Louisiana Avenue Improvements (Patton to Emma)	U-6162
I-2513D	NC 251 (Riverside Drive) Improvements (Hill Street to Broadway)	Riceville Road Improvements	U-5837
U-5834	Mills Gap Road Widening	NC 81 (Swannanoa River Road) Improvements (S Tunnel to Tunnel)	U-6046
U-6163	Mills Gap Road @ Cane Creek Road Intersection Improvements		
U-4739	Amboy/Meadow Road Improvements		
U-6047	Sand Hill/Sardis Road Widening		
EB-5919	McDowell/Choctaw Pedestrian Improvements		
EB-5822	North RAD Greenway		
EB-5965	Deaverview Road Sidewalks		
U-5832	NC 81 (Swannanoa River Road) Improvements (Biltmore to S Tunnel)		

FRENCH BROAD RIVER
METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

Staff Report & Recommendations

Division Needs (Division 14)

Projects In		Projects Out	
TIP ID	**Project**	**Project**	**TIP ID**
R-2588B	NC 191 Widening (NC 280 to Mountain Road)	US 23/74 Improvements (Balsam View to Old Balsam)	U-6172
U-5839	US 276 (Russ Avenue) Improvements (Main Street to US 23/74)		
U-5888	N Main @ Walnut Intersection Improvements		
U-5886	White Street Improvements		
R-5921	US 276 (Jonathan Creek Road) Improvements		
R-5748	Kanuga Road Improvements		
EB-5860	Blythe Street Sidewalks		
EB-5963	Grove Street Sidewalks		
U-4712	South Main Street Widening (Hyatt Creek to US 276 (Pigeon St))		
U-6158	US 276 @ Crymes Cove Road Intersection Improvements		
U-6159	US 276 (Russ Avenue) Access Management (US 23/74 to US 19 (Dellwood Road))		
U-6048	US 19/23 Improvements (Chestnut Mountain to Wiggins Road)		

MPO Process Since the Release of the Draft TIP

MPO staff has convened meetings with County and Municipal groups to discuss potential project swaps. These meetings included staff of Buncombe County & Municipalities, Haywood County & Municipalities, and the Henderson Transportation Advisory Committee.

Proposed Swaps

Only one swap has been officially proposed, coming from Henderson County and approved by their Transportation Advisory Committee:

<u>Project to Swap In:</u>
TIP ID: I-4400BA
Description: Improvements to the I-26/US 64 Interchange
Current Funding Tier: Statewide Mobility
Cost: $29,500,000

<u>Project to Swap Out:</u>
TIP ID: R-5748
Description: Modernization of Kanuga Road from Church Street to Little River Road
Current Funding Tier: Division Needs (14)
Cost: $52,200,000

FRENCH BROAD RIVER
METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

Staff Report & Recommendations

Public Survey

MPO staff developed an online survey for prioritization considerations, in coordination with NCDOT and the Citizens Advisory Committee. The full report is below.

Action Required

2023

2024-2033 Draft TIP Survey Data

FRENCH BROAD RIVER MPO

February 2023

SURVEY BACKGROUND

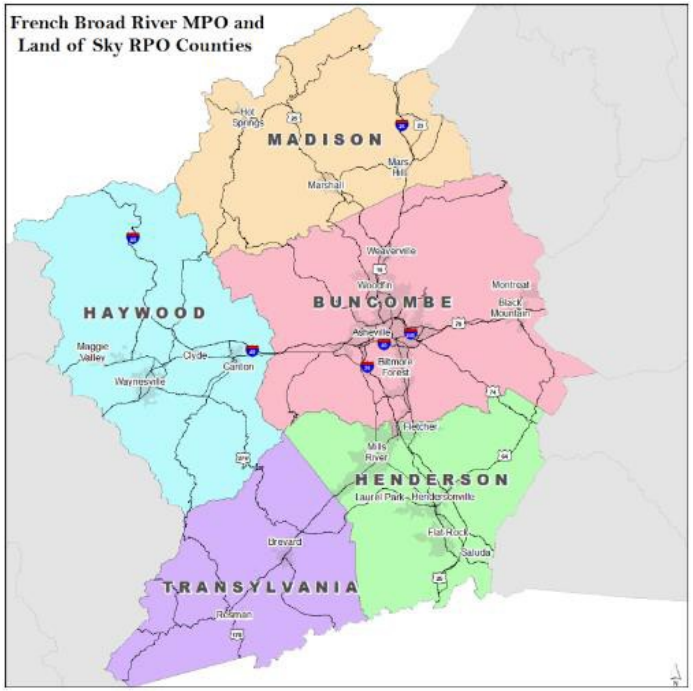
The State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) identifies transportation projects that will receive funding within a 10-year window. NCDOT's Draft 2024-2033 STIP was released on August 4th, 2022.

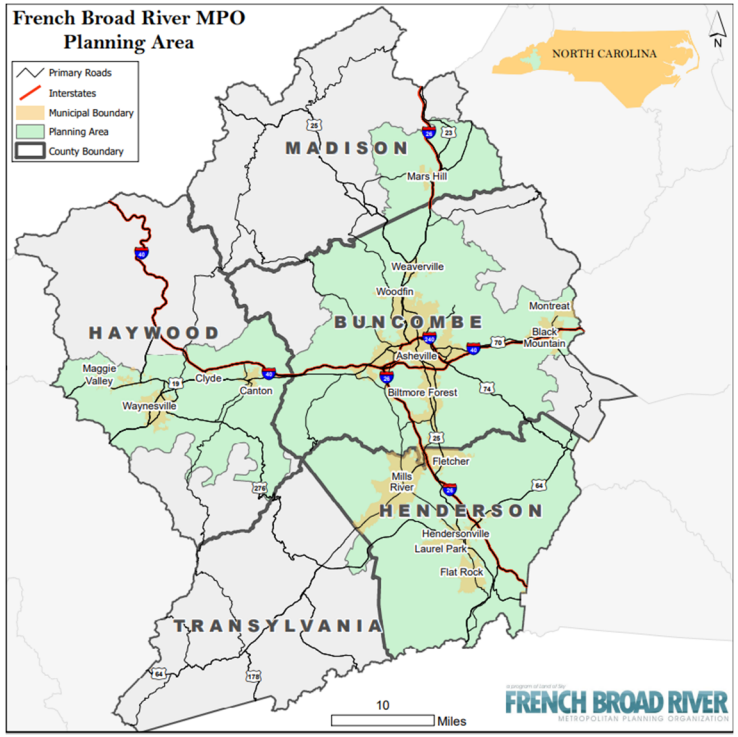
The Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) is a subsection of the STIP. It covers the transportation projects that fall under the French Broad River Metropolitan Planning Organization's (FBRMPO) planning area in Buncombe, Haywood, Henderson, Madison, and Transylvania Counties.

Unlike the release of previous draft TIPs, there are no new projects to be discussed but, instead, several projects have been proposed to be **"Subject to Reprioritization"** in order to right-size NCDOT's budget. This means that a significant number of projects will be **removed from the 10-year TIP** and will be required to be re-prioritized in future years with new projects. At this time, no projects in Madison or Transylvania Counties subject to reprioritization.

The French Broad River MPO opened a public survey to help gauge public opinion on which projects are a priority and which ones aren't. The survey, developed using Survey Monkey, was broken into 12 sections: an introductory section, 10 sections focused on projects in the region divided by county, and a concluding section. Each project section gave users the option to choose if a project was a priority to them or not, as well as leave a comment to further explain their response, if desired.

The survey received 356 responses across the region. The results in this packet are preliminary and may be updated for the MPO TCC and Board at a later date, but the results still aim to be indicative of the public's perceived need for the projects being considered.

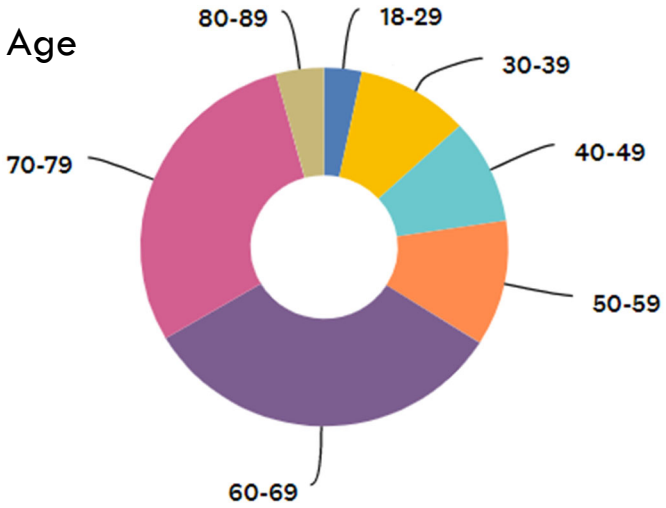


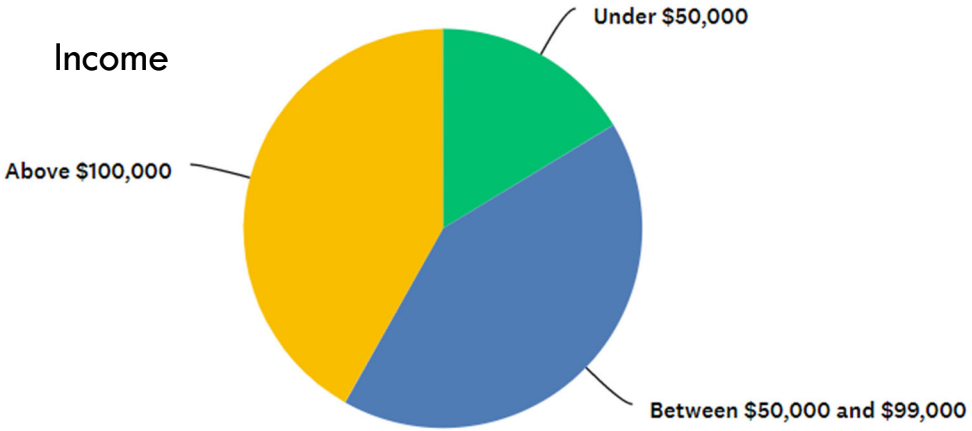


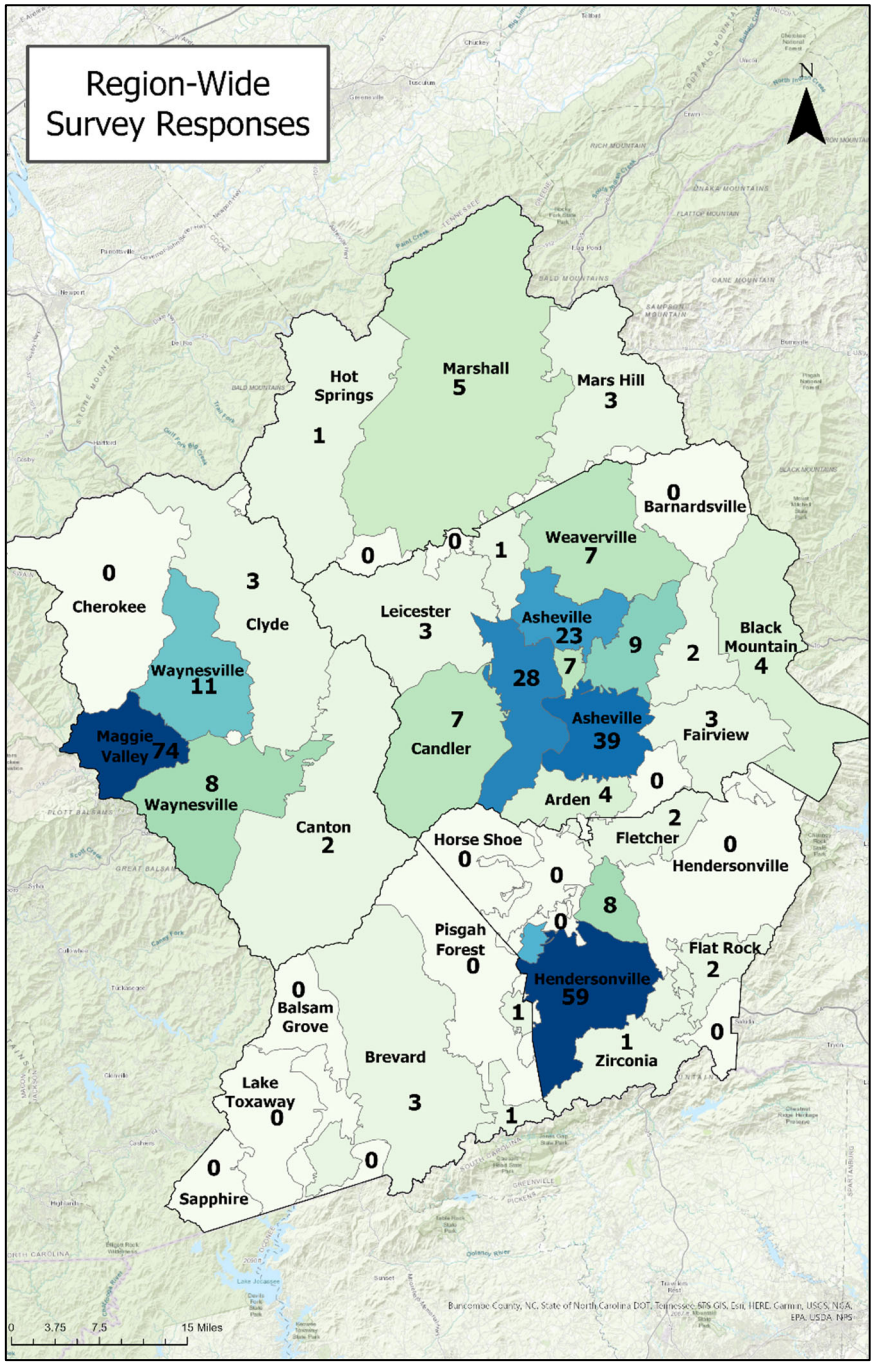
Survey Responses

356 Total Responses:

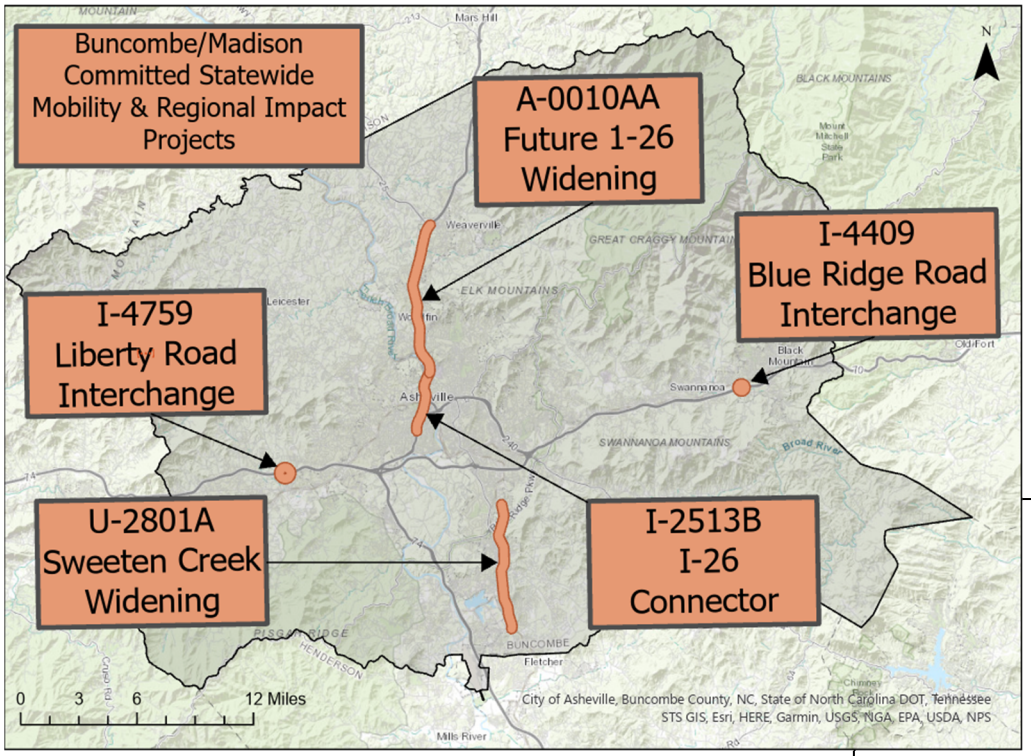
- 137 Buncombe County
- 98 Haywood County
- 90 Henderson County
- 9 Madison County
- 5 Transylvania County
- 17 Other







Buncombe County

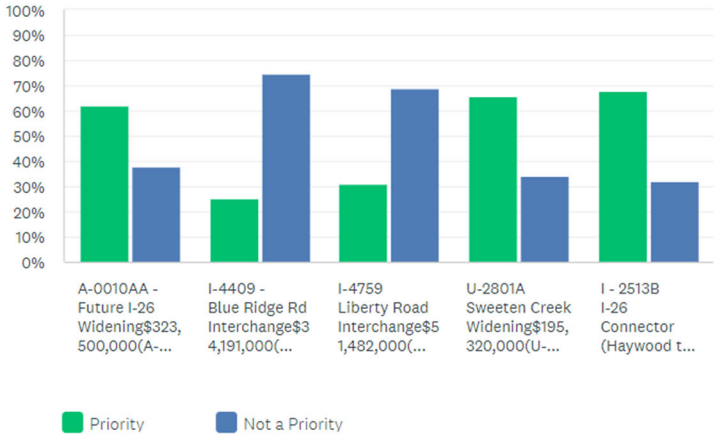


Priority:

- A-0010AA – Future I-26 Widening **(61.9% Support)**
- U 2801A – Sweeten Creek Widening **(65.65% Support)**
- I-2513B – I-26 Connector Project **(67.72% Support)**

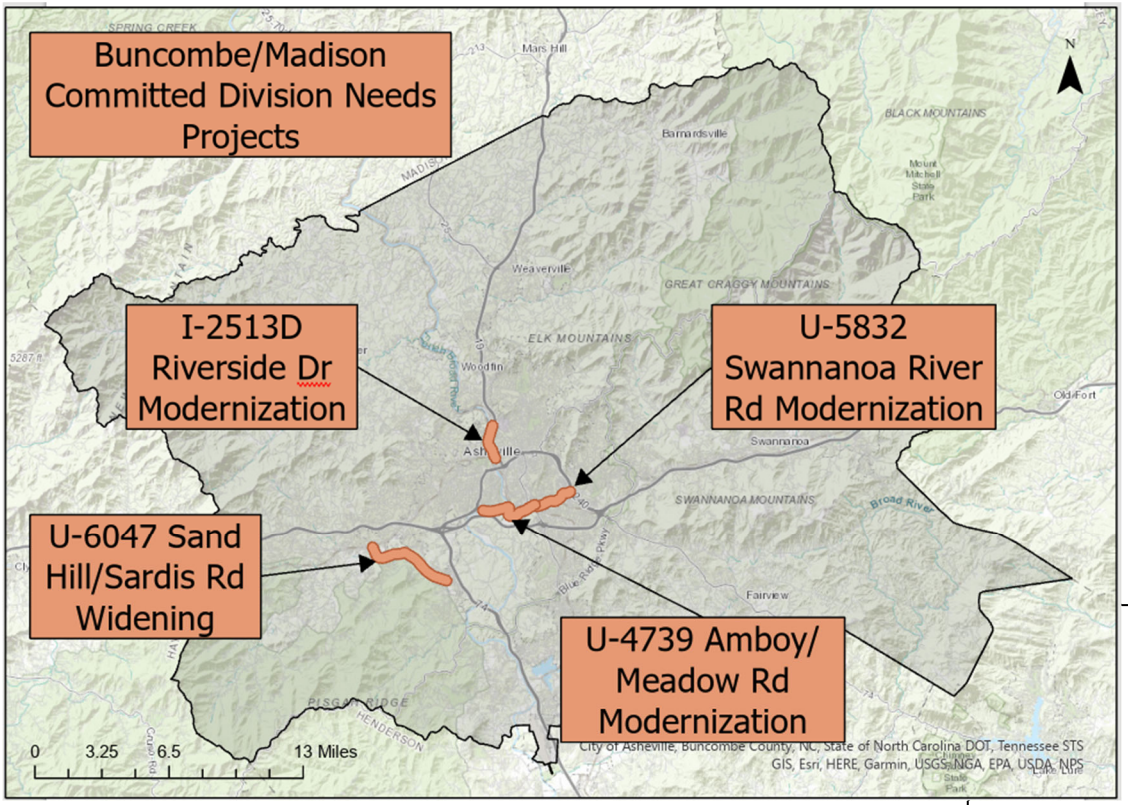
Not a Priority:

- I-4409 – Blue Ridge Rd Interchange **(74.56% Oppose)**
- I-4759 Liberty Road Interchange **(68.75% Oppose)**



	PRIORITY	NOT A PRIORITY	TOTAL
A-0010AA - Future I-26 Widening$323,500,000(A-0010AA)**Please note that many of the improvements that were originally in the project U-5973 have been incorporated into this project	61.90% 78	38.10% 48	126
I-4409 - Blue Ridge Rd Interchange$34,191,000(I-4409)	25.44% 29	74.56% 85	114
I-4759 Liberty Road Interchange$51,482,000(I-4759)	31.25% 35	68.75% 77	112
U-2801A Sweeten Creek Widening$195,320,000(U-2801A)	65.65% 86	34.35% 45	131
I - 2513B I-26 Connector (Haywood to Broadway)$884,301,000(I-2513B)	67.72% 86	32.28% 41	127

Buncombe County

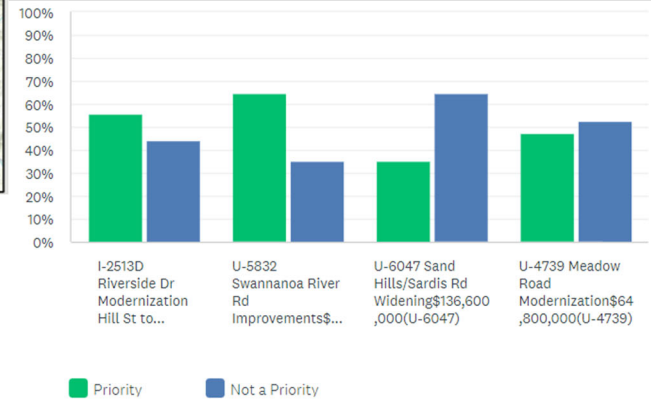


Priority:

- I-2513D – Riverside Dr Modernization **(55.75% Support)**
- U-5832 - Swannanoa River Rd Modernization **(64.66% Support)**

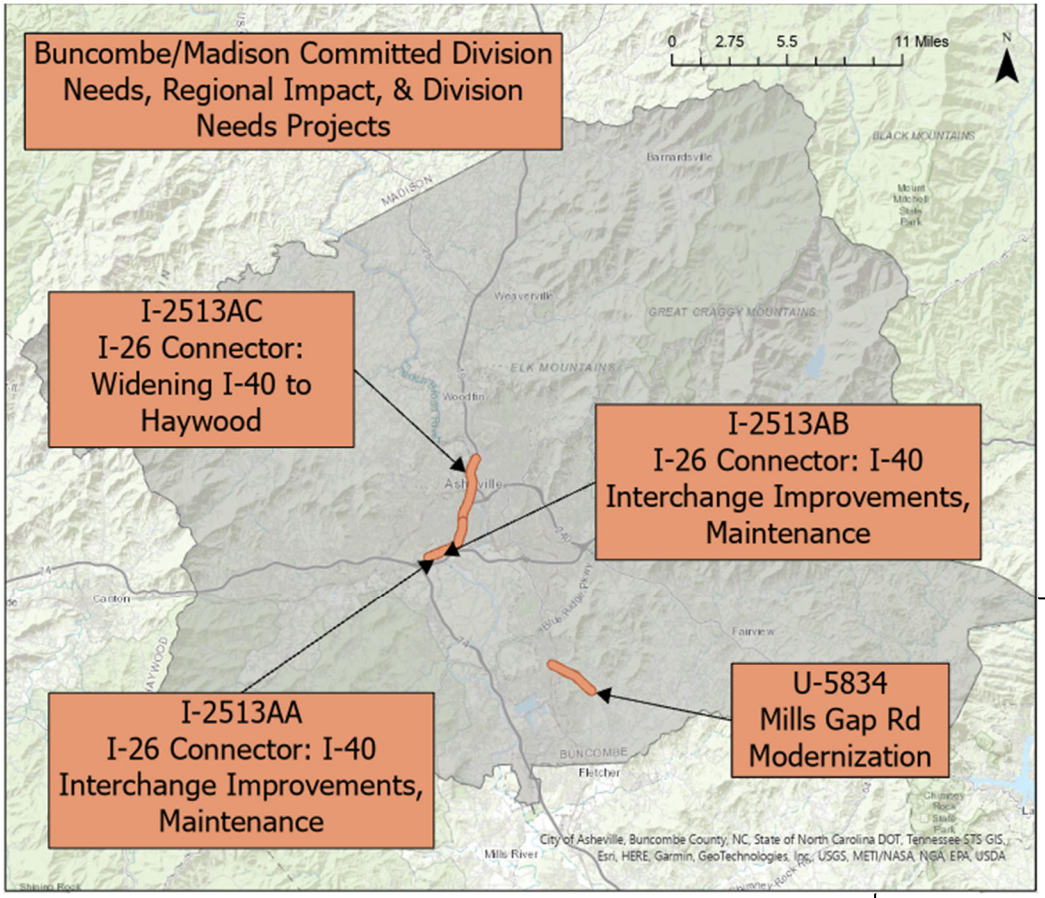
Not a Priority:

- U-6047 – Sand Hill/Hardis Rd Widening **(64.60% Oppose)**
- U-4739 Amboy/Meadow Rd Modernization **(52.73% Oppose)**



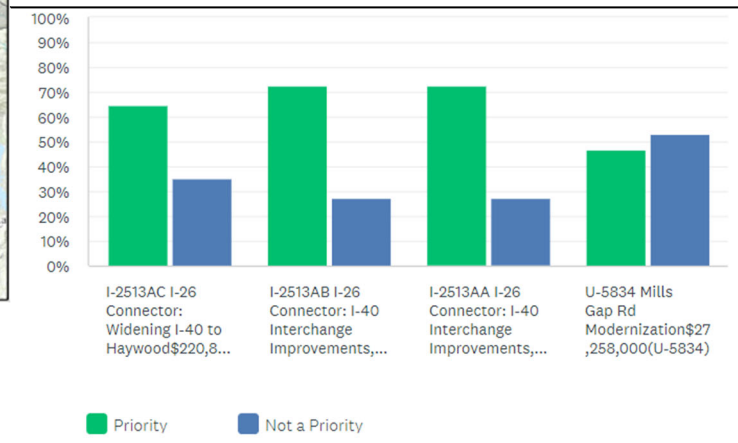
	PRIORITY	NOT A PRIORITY	TOTAL
I-2513D Riverside Dr Modernization Hill St to Broadway$42,100,000(I-2513D)	55.75% 63	44.25% 50	113
U-5832 Swannanoa River Rd Improvements$48,001,000(U-5832)	64.66% 75	35.34% 41	116
U-6047 Sand Hills/Sardis Rd Widening$136,600,000(U-6047)	35.40% 40	64.60% 73	113
U-4739 Meadow Road Modernization$64,800,000(U-4739)	47.27% 52	52.73% 58	110

Buncombe County



Priority:

- I-2513AC – I-26 Connector: Widening I-40 to Haywood (**64.96% Support)**
- I-2513AB – I-26 Connector: I-40 Interchange Improvements (**72.41% Support)**
- I2513AA – I-26 Connector: I-40 Interchange Improvements (**72.50% Support)**

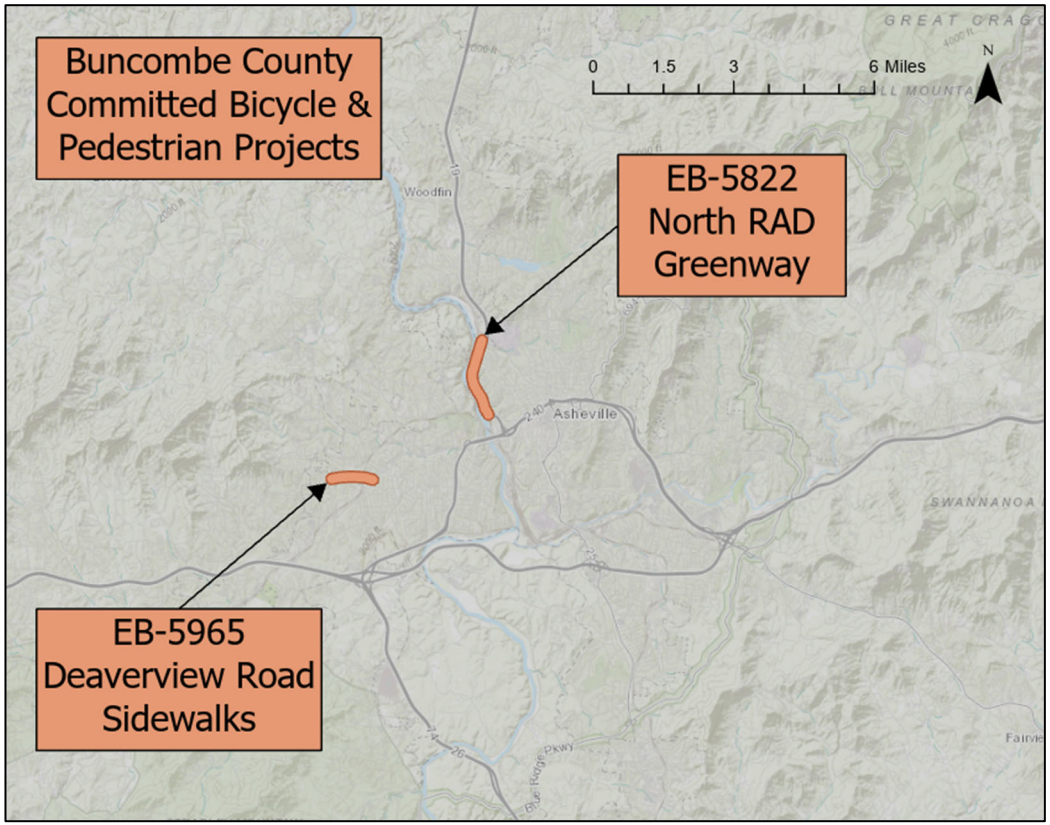


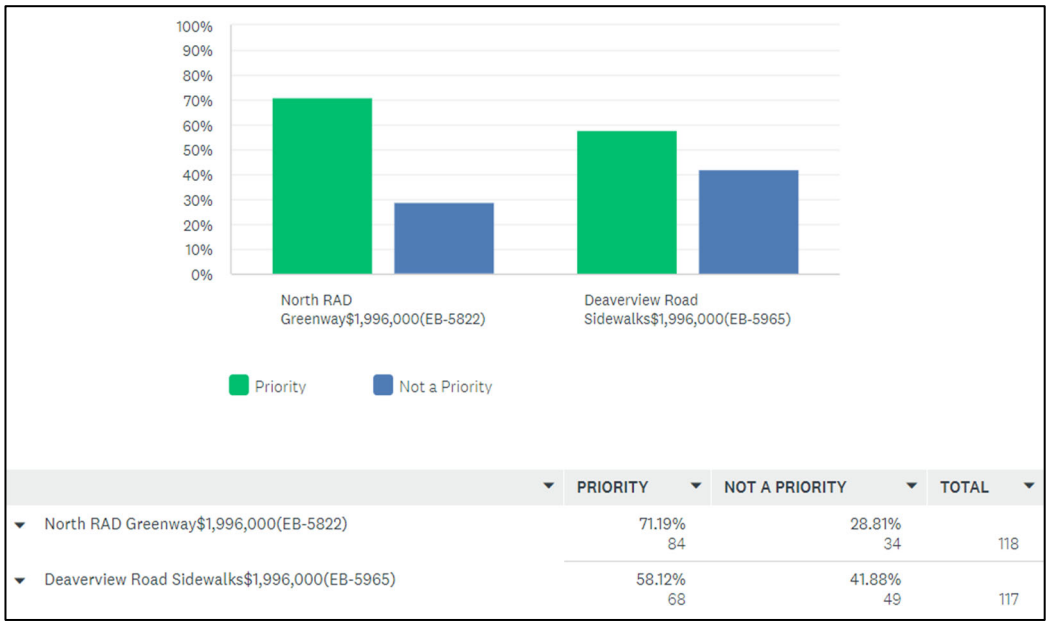
Not a Priority:

- U-5834 – Mills Gap Rd Modernization (**52.99% Oppose)**

	PRIORITY	NOT A PRIORITY	TOTAL
I-2513AC I-26 Connector: Widening I-40 to Haywood$220,820,000(I-2513AC)	64.96% 76	35.04% 41	117
I-2513AB I-26 Connector: I-40 Interchange Improvements, Maintenance $23,600,000(I-2513AB)	72.41% 84	27.59% 32	116
I-2513AA I-26 Connector: I-40 Interchange Improvements, Maintenance $31,700,000(I-2513AA)	72.50% 87	27.50% 33	120
U-5834 Mills Gap Rd Modernization$27,258,000(U-5834)	47.01% 55	52.99% 62	117

Buncombe County



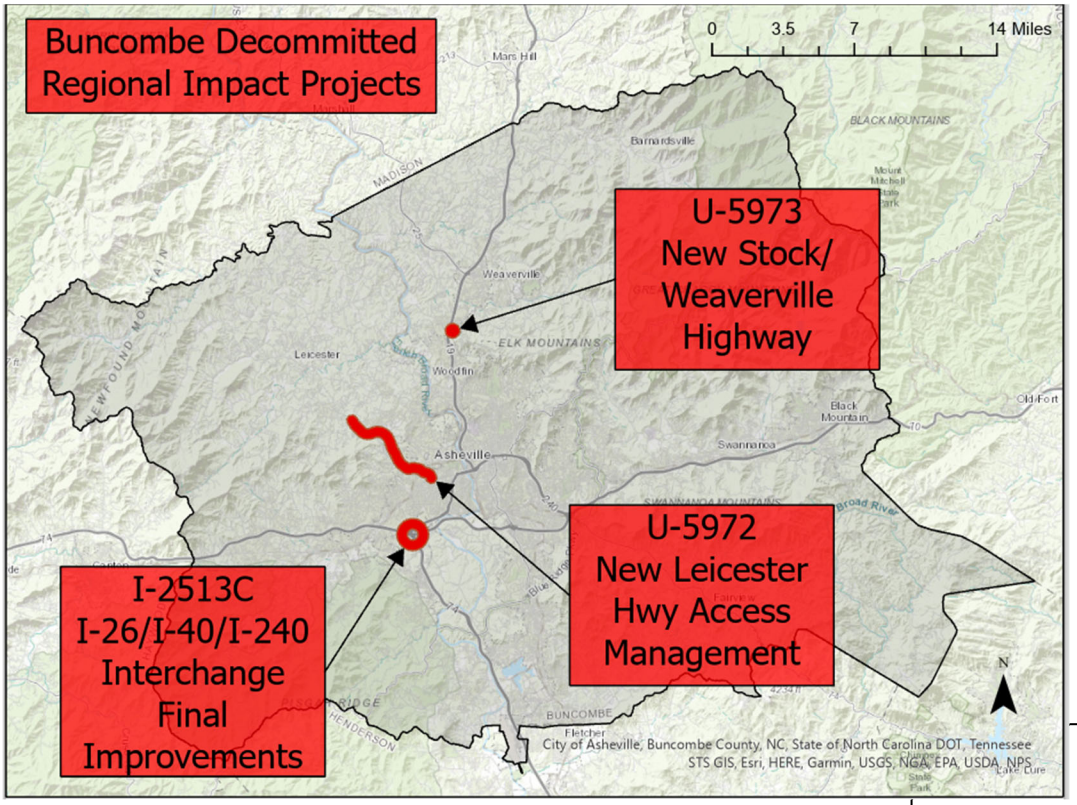


	PRIORITY	NOT A PRIORITY	TOTAL
North RAD Greenway$1,996,000(EB-5822)	71.19% 84	28.81% 34	118
Deaverview Road Sidewalks$1,996,000(EB-5965)	58.12% 68	41.88% 49	117

Priority:

- EB-5822 – North RAD Greenway **(71.19% Support)**
- EB-5965 – Deaverview Rd Sidewalks **(58.12% Support)**

Buncombe County

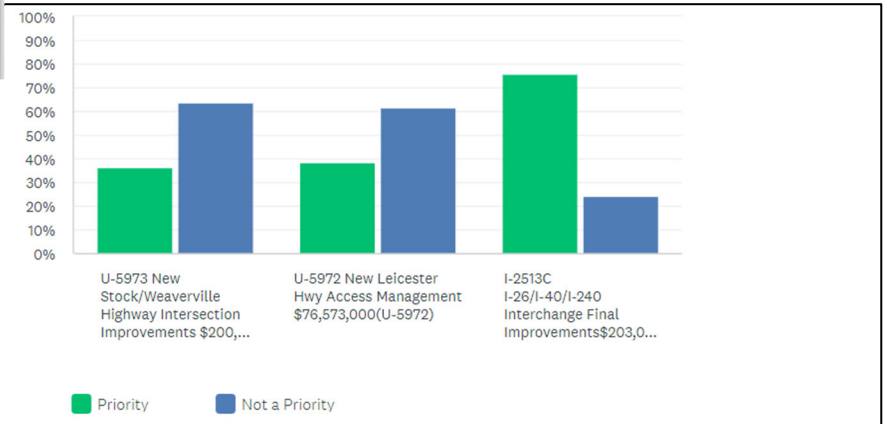


Priority:

- I-2513C – I-26/I-40/I-240 Interchange Final Improvements **(75.65% Support)**

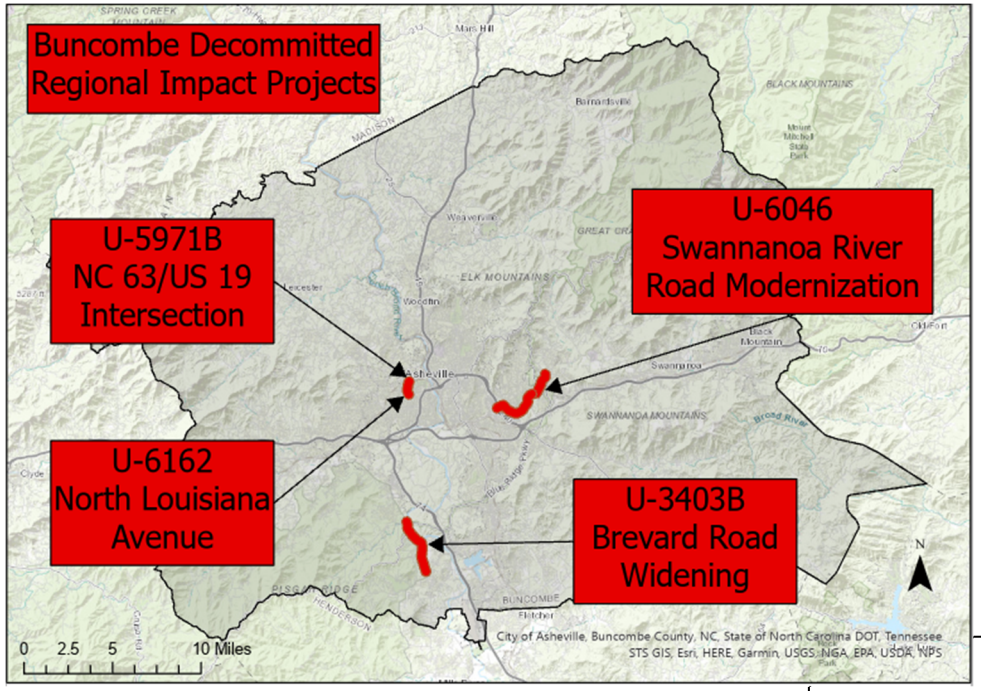
Not a Priority:

- U-5972 - New Leicester Hwy Access Management **(61.76% Oppose)**
- U-5973 – New Stock/Weaverville Highway Intersection Improvements **(63.46% Oppose)**



	PRIORITY	NOT A PRIORITY	TOTAL
U-5973 New Stock/Weaverville Highway Intersection Improvements $200,000 (U-5973) **Please note that many of the improvements that were originally in this project have been incorporated into project A-0010AA	36.54% 38	63.46% 66	104
U-5972 New Leicester Hwy Access Management $76,573,000(U-5972)	38.24% 39	61.76% 63	102
I-2513C I-26/I-40/I-240 Interchange Final Improvements$203,000,000(I-2513C)	75.65% 87	24.35% 28	115

Buncombe County

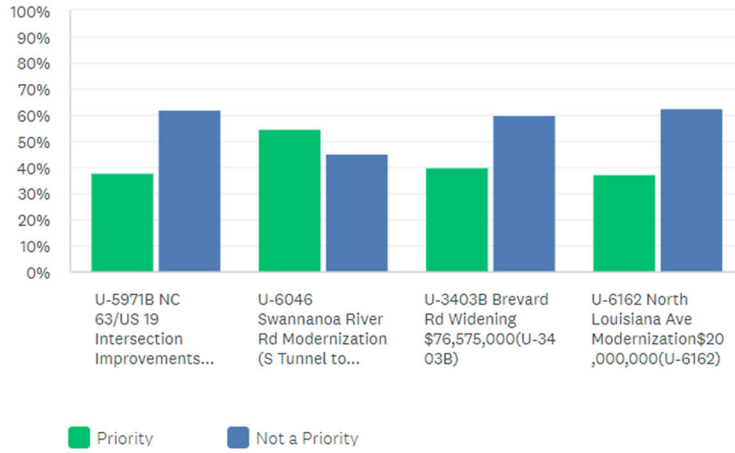


Priority:

- U-6046 Swannanoa River Rd Modernization **(54.81% Support)**

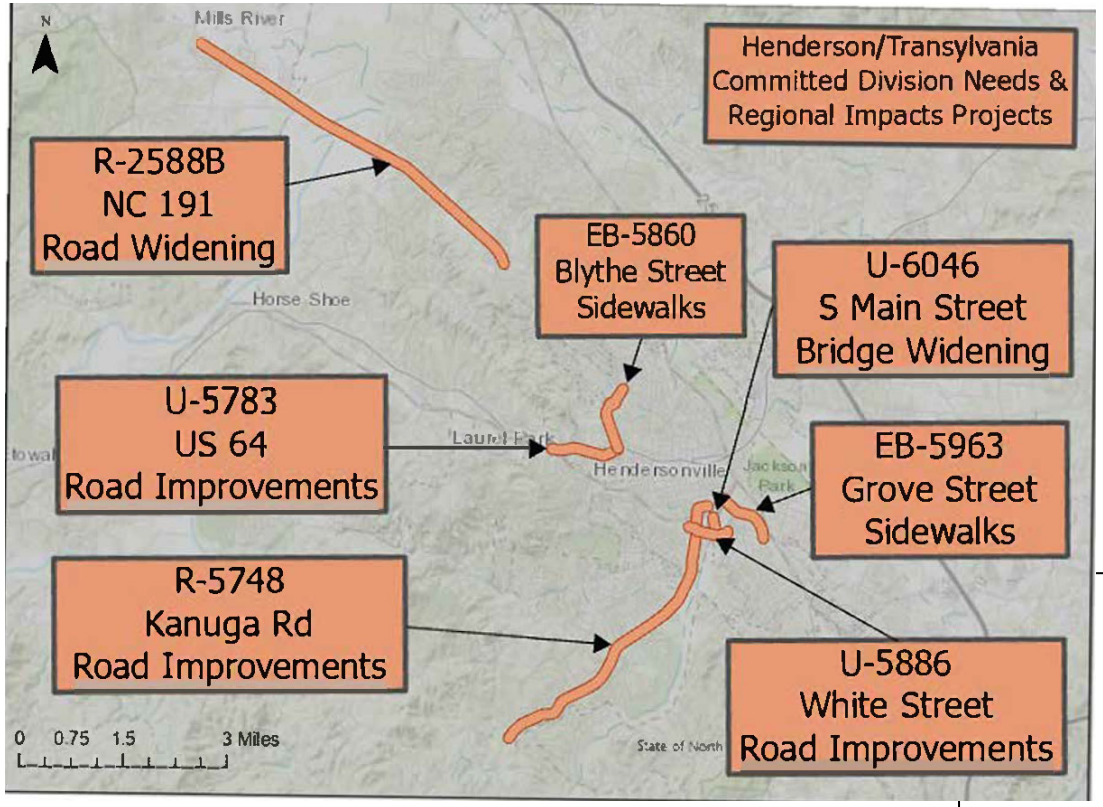
Not a Priority:

- U-5971B – NC 63/US 19 Intersection Improvements **(61.86% Oppose)**
- U-3043B - Brevard Rd Widening **(59.81% Oppose)**
- U-6162 – North Louisiana Ave Modernization **(62.63% Oppose)**



	PRIORITY	NOT A PRIORITY	TOTAL
U-5971B NC 63/US 19 Intersection Improvements $2,700,000(U-5971B)	38.14% 37	61.86% 60	97
U-6046 Swannanoa River Rd Modernization (S Tunnel to Tunnel)43,100,000(U-6046)	54.81% 57	45.19% 47	104
U-3403B Brevard Rd Widening $76,575,000(U-3403B)	40.19% 43	59.81% 64	107
U-6162 North Louisiana Ave Modernization$20,000,000(U-6162)	37.37% 37	62.63% 62	99

Henderson County

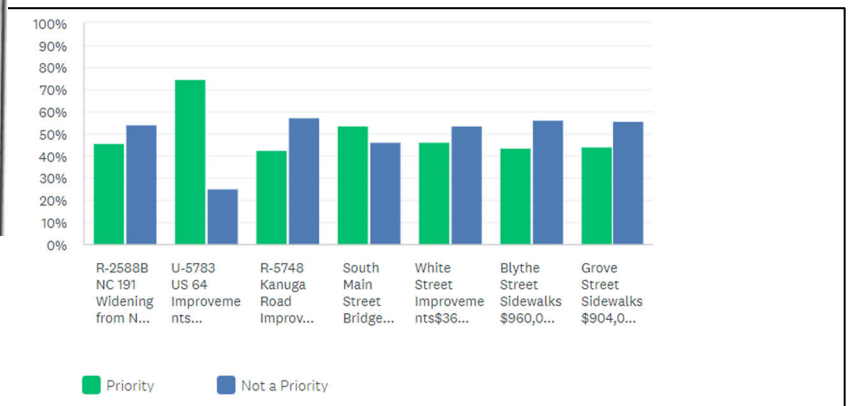


Priority:

- U-5973 - US 64 Improvements **(74.70% Support)**
- U-6046 - S Main St Bridge Widening **(53.49% Support)**

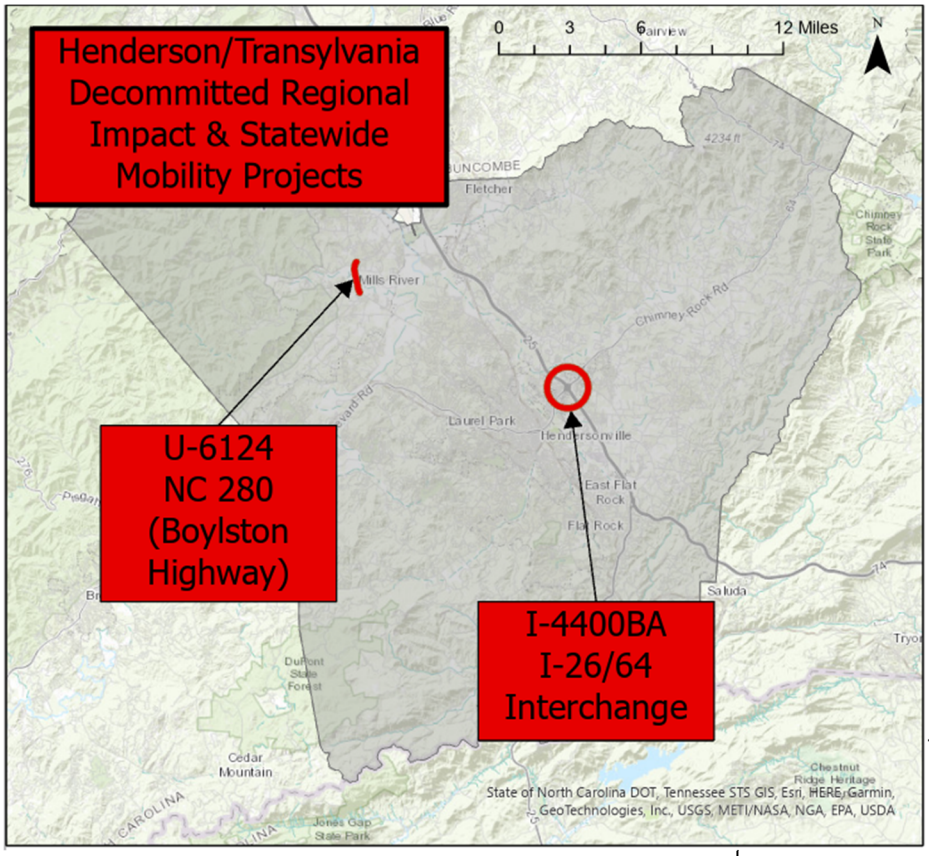
Not a Priority

- R-2588B - NC 191 Widening **(54.22% Oppose)**
- R-5748 - Kanuga Rd Improvements **(57.5% Oppose)**
- U-5886 - White St Improvements **(53.75% Oppose)**
- EB_5860 - Blythe St Sidewalks **(56.52% Oppose)**
- EB-5963 - Grove St Sidewalks **(55.84% Oppose)**

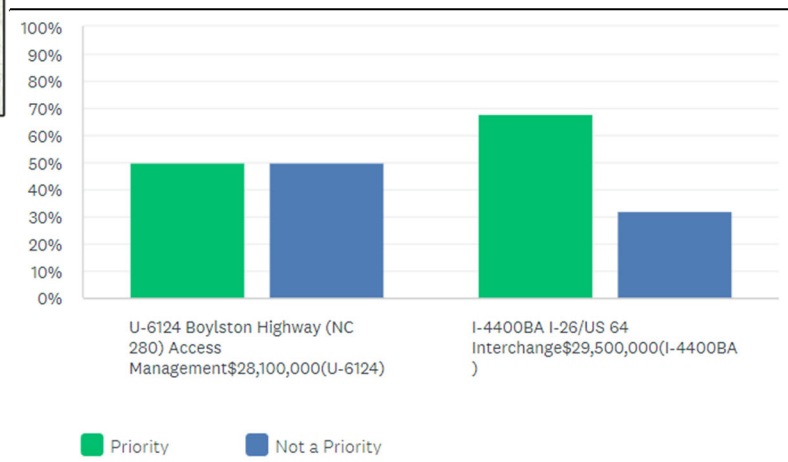


	PRIORITY	NOT A PRIORITY	TOTAL
R-2588B NC 191 Widening from NC 280 to Mountain Road$80,500,000(R-2588B)	45.78% 38	54.22% 45	83
U-5783 US 64 Improvements Laurel Park$41,500,000(U-5783)	74.70% 62	25.30% 21	83
R-5748 Kanuga Road Improvements$52,200,000(R-5748)	42.50% 34	57.50% 46	80
South Main Street Bridge Widening Hendersonville$7,800,000(U-6049)	53.49% 46	46.51% 40	86
White Street Improvements$36,500,000(U-5886)	46.25% 37	53.75% 43	80
Blythe Street Sidewalks$960,000(EB-5860)	43.75% 35	56.25% 45	80
Grove Street Sidewalks$904,000(EB-5963)	44.16% 34	55.84% 43	77

Henderson County

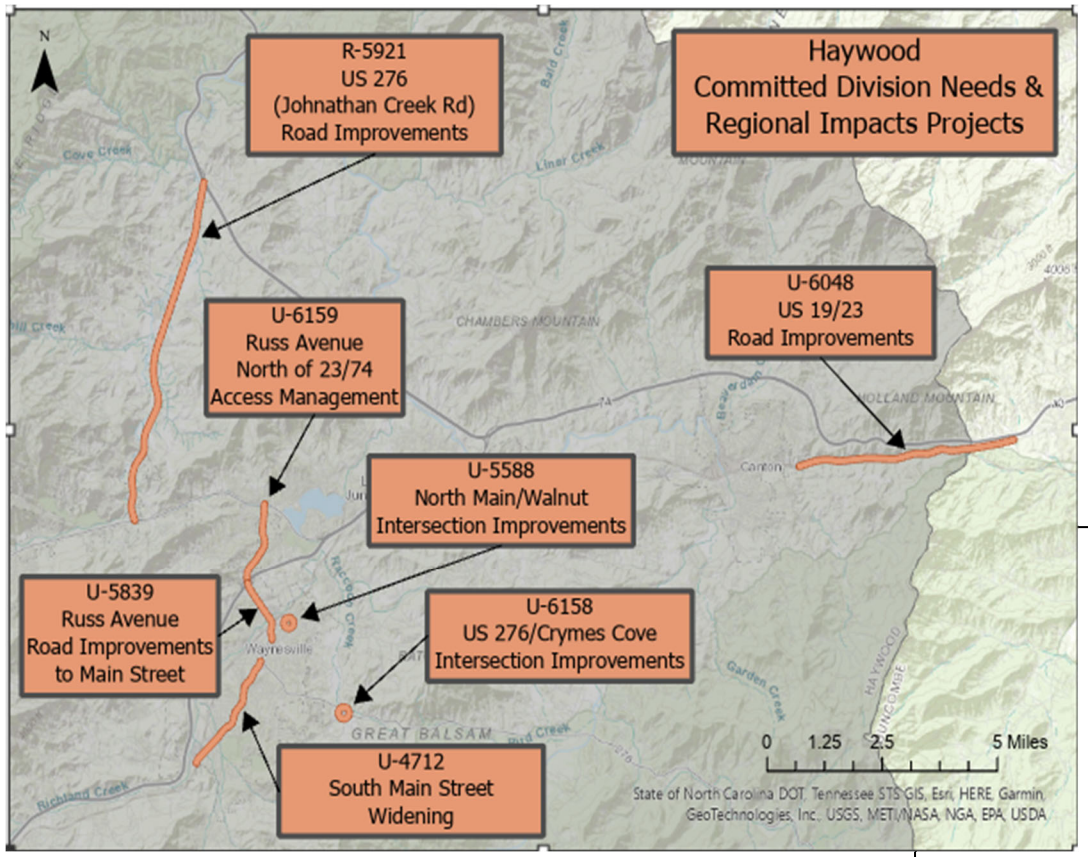


- Priority:
  - I-4400BA - I-26/64 Interchange **(67.95% Support)**
- Tied:
  - U-6124 - NC 280 Access Management

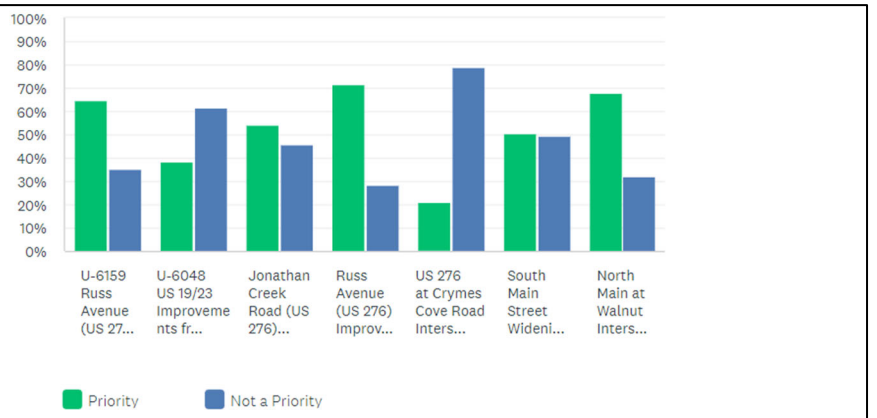


	PRIORITY	NOT A PRIORITY	TOTAL
U-6124 Boylston Highway (NC 280) Access Management$28,100,000(U-6124)	50.00% 35	50.00% 35	70
I-4400BA I-26/US 64 Interchange$29,500,000(I-4400BA)	67.95% 53	32.05% 25	78

Haywood County



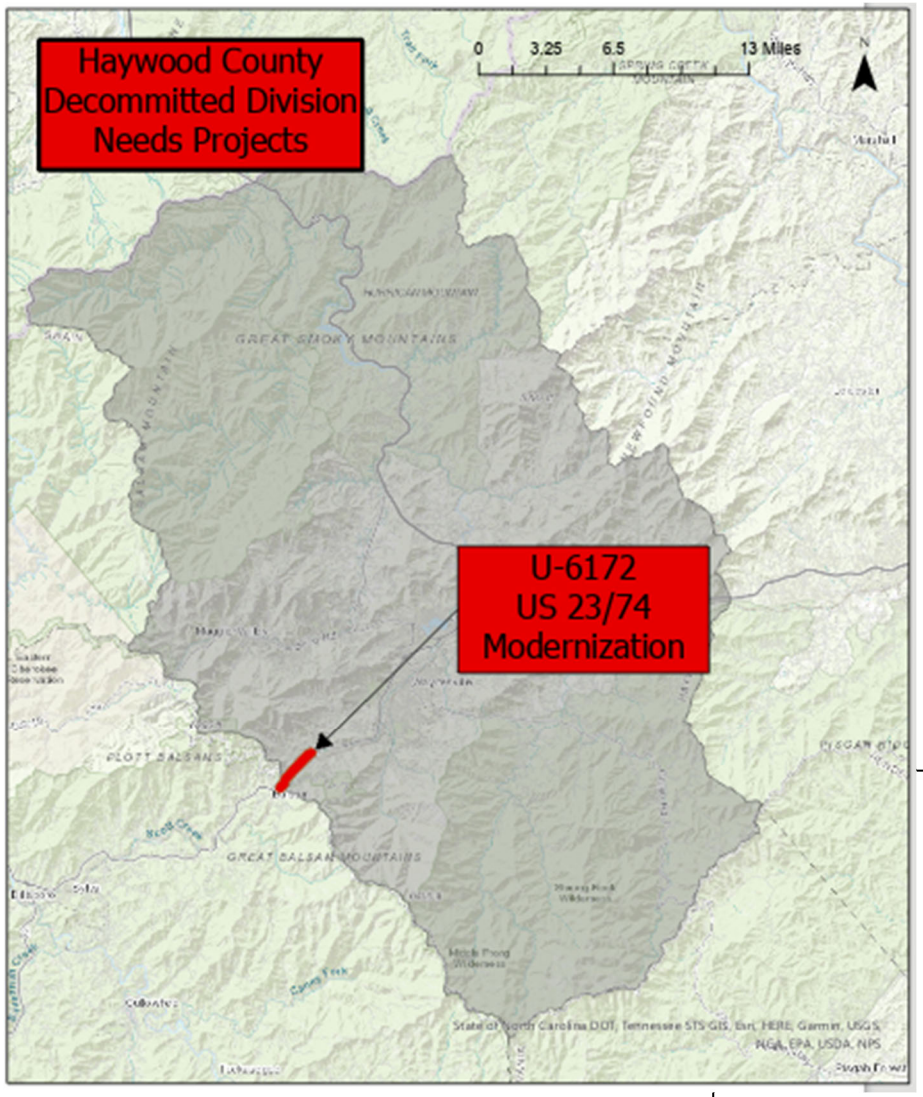
- Priority:
  - U-6159 - Russ Ave Access Management **(64.86% Support)**
  - R-5921 - US 276 Improvements **(54.17% Support)**
  - U-5839 - Russ Ave Improvements **(71.62% Support)**
  - U-4712 - S Main St Widening **(50.77% Support)**
  - U-5588 - N Main St/Walnut Intersection Improvements **(67.65% Support)**



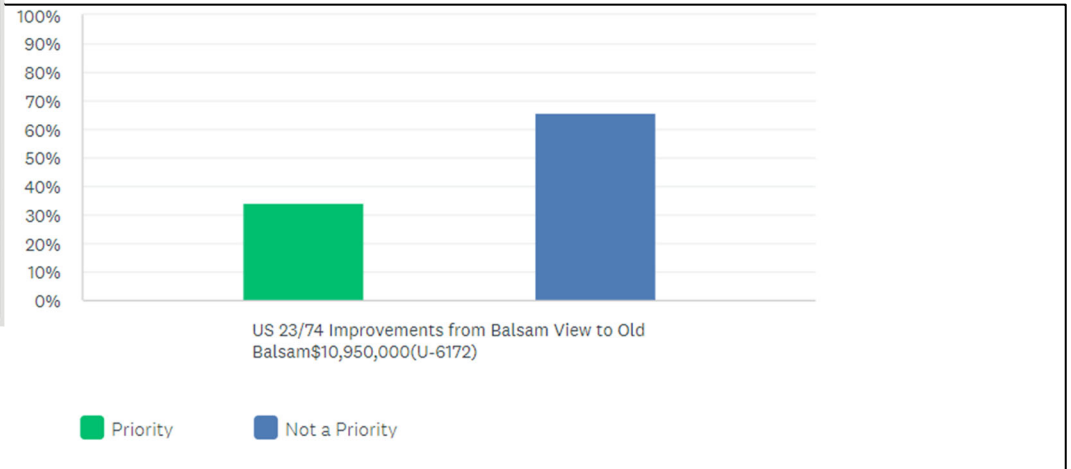
- Not a Priority:
  - U-6048 - US 19/23 Improvements **(61.54% Oppose)**
  - U-6158 - US 276/Crymes Cove Intersection Improvements **(79.03% Oppose)**

	PRIORITY	NOT A PRIORITY	TOTAL
U-6159 Russ Avenue (US 276) Access Management from US 23/74 to Dellwood Road (US 19)$30,201,000(U-6159)	64.86% 48	35.14% 26	74
U-6048 US 19/23 Improvements from Chestnut Mountain to Wiggins Road$29,200,000(U-6048)	38.46% 25	61.54% 40	65
Jonathan Creek Road (US 276) Improvements$36,400,000(R-5921)	54.17% 39	45.83% 33	72
Russ Avenue (US 276) Improvements Main Street to US 23/74$6,800,000(U-5839)	71.62% 53	28.38% 21	74
US 276 at Crymes Cove Road Intersection Improvements (U-6158)	20.97% 13	79.03% 49	62
South Main Street Widening from Hyatt Creek to US 276 (Pigeon St)$49,000,000(U-4712)	50.77% 33	49.23% 32	65
North Main at Walnut Intersection Improvements$6,800,000(U-5888)	67.65% 46	32.35% 22	68

Haywood County



- Not a Priority:
  - U-6172 - US 23/74 Modernization **(65.57% Oppose)**



	PRIORITY	NOT A PRIORITY	TOTAL
US 23/74 Improvements from Balsam View to Old Balsam$10,950,000(U-6172)	34.43% 21	65.57% 40	61

Buncombe County Comments (Summarized)

- 14 Comments Regarding Sweeten Creek Rd:
  - Support Widening
  - Concern About Congestion
  - Want to See Complete Streets, Especially Bicycle Infrastructure
- Desire for Public Transit
  - Commuter Focused Park & Ride
  - Better Bus Infrastructure
  - Light Rail Connectivity
- Desire for Widening of Swannanoa River Road
- Strong Desire to See Bike Lanes Included in All Projects
  - Some Desire to See Bikes Take a Back Seat to Cars
  - Some Desire to Allocate More Funding to Bike/Ped
- 5 Comments Supporting Mills Gap Rd Project
  - Some Concerns About Bike Lanes in Plans
    - Desire for Them to be Separated/Design a Multi-Use Path
- Desire to See Entire I-26 Project Committed
- Desire to See an Emphasis on Bike/Ped in New Leicester Project
- Concern About Traffic Load on Brevard Road

Henderson County Comments (Summarized)

- Emphasis on Pedestrian Connections in NC 191 Project
  - 2 Comments About Crosswalks and School Connections
- Concern Regarding Traffic Load on White St
- Concern About State of Bridges in Henderson County
- 5 Comments Concerned About Traffic Load and Speed on NC 280

Haywood County Comments (Summarized)

- Desire For All Projects to Include Bike Lanes
- Emphasis on Main St Projects to Help Spur Economic Development
- Desire for Better Traffic Flow

FRENCH BROAD RIVER
METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

Staff Report & Recommendations

Item 4B:

Draft 2024-2033 TIP/STIP: Buncombe County Projects

UPDATE: This item has been updated since initial publication on March 9th. This item initially focused solely on U-2801A. It has been updated with a proposal from Board members for Option #4 to consider swapping out I-2513AC in order to fully fund U-2801A (as well as U-5972.)

Background

U-2801A is a TIP project to widen Sweeten Creek Road from Rock Hill Road to the US 25/NC 280 intersection. The current status of the road is as follows:

Cross-Section	Two-Lane Undivided
Current Complete Street Elements	Intermittent Sidewalks, No Bike Facilities
Proposed Cross-Section	Four-Lane Divided
Proposed Complete Street Elements	Multi-Use Path and Sidewalks
Volumes	14,000-19,500
Projected Volumes	25,000-35,000
Overlapping or Adjacent Communities of Concern	4

In a recent meeting with NCDOT Division 13, Buncombe County, and Buncombe Municipalities, staff was informed that the cost of U-2801A has increased from $195 million to more than $250 million. NCDOT also informed staff that a cost increase of that magnitude would require U-2801A to potentially be (once again) defunded in the STIP.

A follow-up meeting with NCDOT, Buncombe County, and City of Asheville staff determined that the best course of action would be to develop costs for a reduced cross-section that would be for three-lanes, intersection improvements, and complete streets improvements instead of the four-lane divided typical that was previously used. The updated costs were delivered on February 28th with no significant decrease in cost between the four-lane and the three-lane.

Options Moving Forward:

1) **Take No Action**

Results: U-2801A would be decommitted in the STIP and would be required to go through future rounds of prioritization to get funded again.

Staff Report & Recommendations

2) Segment the Project at Mills Gap Road, Keep the Northern Section (Mills Gap Road to Rock Hill Road) on the STIP

Results: The southern section would be decommitted in the STIP and would be required to go through future rounds of prioritization to get funded again, the northern section would move forward with project development.
-Maintaining the four-lane divided cross-section would be recommended for the Northern section; a three-lane cross-section would not likely meet project Purpose & Need.
-At this time it is not guaranteed this would keep the Northern Section "committed" in the STIP

Cross-Section	Two-Lane Undivided
Current Complete Street Elements	Intermittent Sidewalks, No Bike Facilities
Proposed Cross-Section	Four-Lane Divided
Proposed Complete Street Elements	Multi-Use Path and Sidewalks
Volumes	19,000-19,500
Projected Volumes	33,000-35,000
Overlapping or Adjacent Communities of Concern	2
Cost	$118,000,000

3) Segment the Project at Mills Gap Road, Keep the Southern Section (Mills Gap Road to US 25/NC 280) on the STIP

Results: The northern section would be decommitted in the STIP and would be required to go through future rounds of prioritization to get funded again, the southern section would move forward with project development.
-A three-lane or four-lane divided cross-section could be considered (it is currently being developed as a four-lane divided.) A three-lane would need to go through the merger team due to likely issues with project Purpose & Need.
-At this time it is not guaranteed this would keep the Southern Section "committed" in the STIP

Cross-Section	Two-Lane Undivided
Current Complete Street Elements	Intermittent Sidewalks, No Bike Facilities
Proposed Cross-Section	Four-Lane Divided
Proposed Complete Street Elements	Multi-Use Path and Sidewalks
Volumes	14,000-15,500
Projected Volumes	25,000-27,500
Overlapping or Adjacent Communities of Concern	2
Cost	$136,500,000

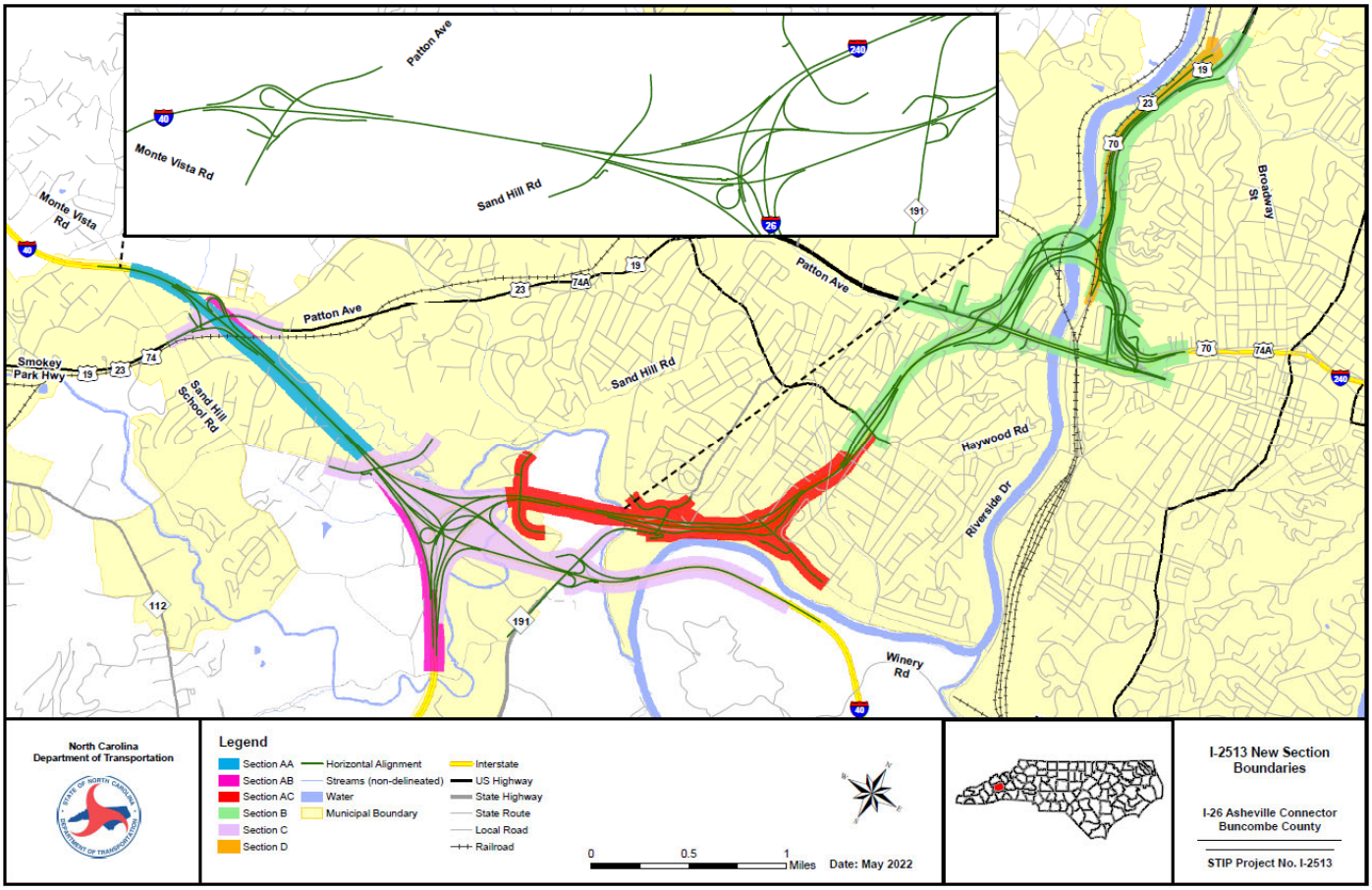
Staff Report & Recommendations

4) Swap Out I-2513AC to Fund All of U-2801A (And & U-5972)

Several board members requested that one consideration for fulling funding U-2801A could be to swap out I-2513AC for the remainder of U-2801A as well as U-5972.

Project Information:

I-2513AC – "The West Asheville Widening" of the I-26 Connector
Improvement: Widen to Six-Lanes with Interchange Improvements and Multi-Modal Improvements
Limits: North of I-40 to Haywood Road
Cost: $220,820,000
Funding Tier: Regional Impact (Region G)
Round Funded: P 5.0
Current Construction Start Date: 2024
Notes: Right-of-Way Acquisition is Scheduled to Begin in March, 2023; removing the project from the TIP/STIP may cause issues with current I-2513B and would require additional work to develop a way to taper that section, per NCDOT.



FRENCH BROAD RIVER
METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

Staff Report & Recommendations

U-2801A – US 25A/Sweeten Creek Road Widening
Limits: US 25/NC 280 to Rock Hill Road
Cost: $254,500,000 (at least $118,000,000 is unfunded)
Funding Tier: Regional Impact (Region G)
Round Funded: P 3.0
Current Construction Start Date: 2031

U-5972 – NC 63 New Leicester Highway Access Management
Limits: US 19/Patton Avenue to Newfound Road
Cost: $104,599,000
Funding Tier: Regional Impact (Region G)
Round Funded: P 5.0
Current Construction Start Date: Unfunded

The deadline for swaps is March 17th so there is limited time to gather additional information.
Prioritization Subcommittee & TCC Recommendation: Option #2- Segment U-2801A at Mills Gap and prioritize the Northern Section (Mills Gap Road to Rock Hill Road) for inclusion in the STIP; have the Southern Section (Mills Gap Road to US 25/NC 280) recompete in future rounds of prioritization

NOTE: The Prioritization Subcommittee and TCC did not consider Option #4.

Action Required

FRENCH BROAD RIVER
METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

Staff Report & Recommendations

Item 4C:

Final FY 2024 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)

The French Broad River MPO is required to develop a Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) and present a draft in February with the final version approved in March.

What is a UPWP?

The UPWP is a federally mandated document for MPO's 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.

A draft of the UPWP was presented and approved in February.

Major Changes between the FY 2023 and FY 2024 UPWP

-Less emphasis is being put on data, modeling, and travelers behavior to reflect work completed in FY 2022 and FY 2023.

-Work added for P 7.0 includes project submittals, local input point methodology, and regional impact point assignments.

-More funding is being put towards special study administration with a number of carryover studies as well as the award of funds for a Safe Streets for All Action Plan

-More emphasis is being put on regional planning for MTP development and 5307 suballocation formula updates

-A Staffing & Compensation Study has been added to the list of studies to be done

-Percentage of local dues has been recalculated using 2020 decennial census figures. Carryover dues have also been applied.

FY 2024

French Broad River MPO
Unified Planning Work Program

FRENCH BROAD RIVER
METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION
A PROGRAM OF LAND OF SKY

Fiscal Year 2024 Unified Planning Work Program

for the

French Broad River Metropolitan Planning Organization

TABLE OF CONTENTS

TABLE OF CONTENTS 2
INTRODUCTION 3
NARRATIVE OF SECTION 104(f) WORK TASKS TO BE PERFORMED 4
TABLES OF UPWP FTA SECTION 5303 WORK TASKS TO BE PERFORMED 7
RESOLUTION OF APPROVAL 15
MPO CERTIFICATION 16

INTRODUCTION

In compliance with Federal law and guidelines, the French Broad River Metropolitan Planning Organization (FBRMPO) has developed a Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) for Fiscal Year 2024 that will help to carry out a cooperative, comprehensive, and continuous transportation planning process for the FBRMPO Planning Area.

In general, the UPWP is the FBRMPO's budget for personnel tasks and planning studies, either carried out by the MPO or studies using MPO planning funds carried out by member governments. The UPWP is largely funded by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and Federal Transit Administration (FTA), with reimbursements managed by the North Carolina Department of Transportation. UPWP's can have six general funding sources:

-**Statewide Planning and Research Program (SPR)-** These are federal planning funds used by NCDOT to conduct work for the French Broad River MPO. A 20% local match is required. (No SPR funds are programmed in FY 2024 UPWP)

-**FHWA Section 104(f) Funds-** These funds are dedicated to MPO planning areas to perform metropolitan transportation planning tasks. A 20% local match is required.

-**FTA Section 5303 Funds-** These funds are used for transit planning in the MPO planning area by the region's 5303 Direct Recipient, the City of Asheville. The FTA provides 80% of these funds, NCDOT provides 10%, and the City of Asheville provides the 10% local match

-**FTA Section 5307 Funds**- These funds are distributed to the region and are eligible for transit capital, operations, and planning. Planning tasks carried out with these funds by 5307 (sub)recipients or the MPO are required to be documented in the UPWP.

-**FHWA Surface Transportation Block Grant Program-** Direct Attributable Funds- The funds are dedicated to Transportation Management Areas and these funds can be used for transportation planning. A 20% local match is required.

-**Local Match**- the match required to utilize federal planning funds is charged to MPO member governments in direct proportion to proportion of population within

the MPO, per the most recent decennial census. The 2020 US Census will be utilized to calculate local dues for FY 24.

NARRATIVE OF SECTION 104(f) WORK TASKS TO BE PERFORMED

II-A Data and Planning Support		
II-A-I	**Networks and Support Systems**	Continued collection of various metrics- VMT, traffic volume counts, traffic crashes, transit system data, air travel data. Updates to Street Systems, Parking Inventory, Transit Systems, Bike/Ped Facilities Inventory. Any changes to Functional Classification as a result of changes to the UZA will be processes. An initial Capacity Deficiency Analysis will be completed with the update to the Travel Demand Model. WORK PRODUCTS: updated data, inventories, Capacity Deficiency Analysis, any functional classification changes required.
II-A-2	**Travelers and Behavior**	Modifications to base-year (2020) data as needed, continued bike/ped counts. WORK PRODUCTS: Bike/Ped Counts
II-A-3	**Transportation Modeling**	Forecasts of Future Travel Patterns as a result of the 2050 Socio-Economic Projections, initial development of Financial Models. WORK PRODUCTS: Draft Future Travel Patterns
II-B Planning Process		
II-B-1	**Targeted Planning**	Compilation of existing local Hazard Mitigation & Disaster plans, attendance at Clean Air/Clean Vehicle meetings, incorporation of EV plans, attendance at State and Regional Freight and Resilience planning meetings.
II-B-2A	**Regional Planning**	Development of MTP Goals & Objectives, Existing Conditions for the MTP. Amendments to the 2045 MTP as necessary. Updated 5307 Suballocation Formula. WORK PRODUCTS: MTP 2050 Goals & Objectives, Updated 5307 Suballocation Formula
II-B-2B	**Safe & Accessible Transportation Options**	Identify and Develop Complete Streets projects in the region for inclusion in the MTP 2050.

II-B-3	**Special Studies Operations**	Oversight for MPO-funded Special Studies (Cane Creek Greenway, Woodfin-Weaverville Greenway Connections, Patton Avenue Corridor Study, Fonta Flora Greenway Study, Safe Streets for All Action Plan, 2050 Socio-Economic Forecast. WORK PRODUCT: Getting Special Studies underway and completed.
III-A Planning Work Program		
III-A-1	**Planning Work Program**	Amendments to the FY 2024 UPWP as necessary, Development of the FY 2025 UPWP and coordination with the City of Asheville on the FTA Section 5303 Narrative. WORK PRODUCTS: Amendments to the FY 2024 UPWP, Draft and Final FY 2025 UPWP
III-A-2	**Metrics and Performance Measures**	Maintain federally-required performance measures, provide quarterly reports to NCDOT. WORK PRODUCTS: Quarterly Reports, Transit Performance Targets
III-B Transportation Improvement Program		
III-B-1	**Prioritization**	Coordinate with local partners on P 7.0. Project submissions, Local Methodology development, and Regional Impact point assignment expected in FY 2025. LAPP project coordination will continue. Continued assistance to local governments on federal and state discretionary grants. Annual 5310 & JARC Calls for Projects.
III-B-2	**Metropolitan TIP**	Adoption of the 2024-2033 TIP, Quarterly Amendments to the TIP, updates to the TIP AGOL map.
III-B-3	**Merger/Project Development**	Attendance at Merger meetings, Express Designs, Feasibility Studies, and Bike/Ped studies.
III-C Civil Rights Compliance (Title VI) and Other Regulatory Requirements		
III-C-1	**Title VI Compliance**	Updated Title VI Plan, Maintain Title VI Compliance WORK PRODUCTS: Updated Title VI Plan
III-C-2	**Environmental Justice**	Continued Environmental Justice Analysis as part of the development of the 2050 MTP
III-C-3	**Minority Business Enterprise Planning**	Nothing planned this fiscal year.

III-C-4	**Planning for Elderly**	Nothing planned this fiscal year.
III-C-5	**Safety/Drug Control Planning**	Nothing planned this fiscal year.
III-C-6	**Public Involvement**	Updates to the PIP as necessary, Public Engagement for P 7.0, Hellbender Trail Forum
III-C-7	**Private Sector Participation**	Nothing planned this fiscal year.
III-D Statewide and Extra-Regional Planning		
III-D	**Statewide and Extra-Regional Planning**	Attendance at NCAMPO, NC-Public Transit Association, SPOT Workgroup, AMPO, USDOT webinars and trainings, NC BikeWalk Summit, NC Transportation Summit.
III-E Management and Operations		
III-E	**Management, Operations, Program Support Administration**	Staff meetings, agendas, minutes, and preparation for the Board, TCC, subcommittee, and workgroup meetings. Continued contracting for TIP software that enables enhanced tracking and public interface. Maintenance of the MPO website and social media sites. All other internal trainings, meetings, and administration. Routine travel for local engagements. A compensation and staffing study will be undertaken for MPO staff. WORK PRODUCTS: Updated website, agendas, minutes, presentations, travel authorization forms, reimbursement requests, timesheets, TIP software, social media presence. MPO Compensation and Staffing Study.

TABLES OF UPWP FTA SECTION 5303 WORK TASKS TO BE PERFORMED

II-A Data and Planning Support		
II-A-I	**Networks and Support Systems**	The City of Asheville Transit Planning Division collects and analyzes various data related to the operation and maintenance of the transit system. This includes ridership data compiled from the Automatic Passenger Counters, fare data collected from the fareboxes, performance data collected from the real-time GPS and AVL system, etc. The data is used in reporting current system functions, as well as analyze the impact of system service changes, and to plan for future service improvements to increase system-wide ridership. **Work Product**: Monthly ridership reports, on-time-performance reports, fare revenue reports, etc.
II-A-2	**Travelers and Behavior**	The City of Asheville Transit Planning Division utilizes land use and demographic data in partnership with the MPO and the City's Planning and Urban Design department to coordinate land use and transportation decision-making on proposed new developments. In addition, the information is used in planning improvements to the transit system to ensure connectivity among ART's fixed-route service and to other regional modes of transportation.
II-A-3	**Transportation Modeling**	

II-B Planning Process		
II-B-1	**Targeted Planning**	The City will be beginning a planning process for the development of a new/expanded downtown transit center. Preliminary planning activities will be performed in FY 24 and will include an analysis of the operational needs for ingress/egress of the site, as well as a space needs analysis for passengers and staff portions of a new transit center space. **Work Product**: Deliverables will consist of space needs diagrams and quantities and a report regarding ingress/egress and staging needs for the new transit center.
II-B-2	**Regional Planning**	The City of Asheville Transit Planning Division continues to implement recommended service improvements in the transit master plan, as well as Implement the vision/long range plan outlined in the Multimodal Transportation Plan. Participate in the Regional Transit Operators meetings to discuss prioritization of regional transit projects. Attend TCC (Technical Coordinating Committee), and other transit advisory board meetings. In FY24 and FY25 the City of Asheville plans to work with Buncombe County to develop a joint Transit Master Plan. **Work Product**: Deliverables associated with joint Transit Master Plan to be developed by the City of Asheville and Buncombe County.
II-B-3A	**Special Studies Operations**	

II-B-3B	**Corridor Studies Operations**	
II-B-3C	**Special Studies Pass-Through**	
III-A Planning Work Program		
III-A-1	**Planning Work Program**	Program Administration entails working on multiple reporting and managerial functions. Program administration includes monitoring subrecipients planning and grant activities, and reporting requirements for (drug/alcohol, NTD, FTA, etc.), work with the MPO to develop the UPWP per federal and state requirements, manage and administer the City's FTA and State grants, manage FTA compliance program, monitor and oversee the operations and maintenance contracts for the fixed-route and paratransit services. In FY23 the City of Asheville, as the designated recipient will undergo the FTA Triennial Review. **Work Products**: Completed FTA Triennial Review (FYs 19-22). Quarterly and Annual FTA Reports, Complete annual NTD reporting; work on Subrecipient Agreements and reports; Drug and Alcohol Reports, etc.
III-A-2	**Metrics and Performance Measures**	
III-B Transportation Improvement Program		
III-B-1	**Prioritization**	
III-B-2	**Metropolitan TIP**	

III-B-3	**Merger/Project Development**	
III-C Civil Rights Compliance (Title VI) and Other Regulatory Requirements		
III-C-1	**Title VI Compliance**	In FY 23, the City will update the 3-year Title VI Program Plan for submission to FTA. The City will continue conducting Title VI analysis for any future route and/or fare changes. **Work Product**: FY 23-25 City of Asheville Title VI Plan
III-C-2	**Environmental Justice**	
III-C-3	**Disadvantaged Business Enterprise Planning**	The FTA Region IV Office approved the City FY 23-25 DBE Goals in August 2022, which includes closely coordinating with the City's Small and Minority-Owned Business Program. Continue evaluating individual transit projects to ensure adherence to the City's DBE Goals and federal DBE requirements. **Work Product**: Quarterly DBE reports for FTA.
III-C-4	**Planning for Elderly**	
III-C-5	**Safety/Drug Control Planning**	The City has an approved Public Transportation Safety Plan. Required meetings and monitoring of performance measures will take place. **Work Product**: PTSP Committee meetings notes, performance measures, reports and submissions for FTA.
III-C-6	**Public Involvement**	The City will be conducting public involvement as part of the joint Transit Master Plan that will be prepared by the City with Buncombe County in FY 24 and FY 25.

		<u>Work Product</u>: Public meetings and survey results.
III-C-7	**Private Sector Participation**	
III-D Statewide and Extra-Regional Planning		
III-D	**Statewide and Extra-Regional Planning**	
III-E Management and Operations		
III-E	**Management, Operations, Program Support Administration**	

SPECIAL STUDIES SUMMARY

FY	Study	Managing Entity	Summary
2024	Woodfin-Weaverville Greenway Connection	Town of Woodfin	This study will hire a consultant to provide recommendations on potential alignments to connect the Woodfin Greenway project (EB-5547) to the planned Reems Creek Greenway in Weaverville. The study will look at potential alignments including along Future I-26, NC 251, and any other alignment deemed reasonable that would provide a safe, accessible route for bicyclists and pedestrians between the two identified greenway corridors. Preliminary cost estimates and public engagement will be included as well.
2024	Cane Creek Greenway Study	Town of Fletcher	This study will hire a consultant to provide recommendations towards the implementation of the planned Cane Creek Greenway corridor between the Bill Moore Community Park and the French Broad River. The study will include potential alignments, preliminary cost estimates, and public engagement.
2024	Staffing and Compensation Study	French Broad River MPO	The MPO will hire a consultant to review and make recommendations on MPO compensation and staffing levels.
2024	Multimodal Transportation Plan	Buncombe County	Buncombe County will hire a consultant to develop a Multimodal Transportation Plan that will provide recommendations on projects and policies for developing multimodal infrastructure in Buncombe County and prioritize projects for the County to pursue.
2023	2050 Socio-Economic Projections	French Broad River MPO	This study will hire a consultant to provide projections of employment, population, school-aged population, and other information needed at the TAZ-level to provide 2050 projections for the region's Travel Demand Model.

2023	Patton Avenue Corridor Study	City of Asheville	This study will hire a consultant to provide recommendations on long-term improvements to the Patton Avenue corridor from the Jeff Bowen Bridge to Biltmore Avenue in Downtown Asheville. Improvements that may be considered include intersection improvements, opportunities to improve street network connectivity, forecasting future growth and land use, and bicycle and pedestrian improvements along the corridor.
FY	**Study**	**Managing Entity**	**Summary**
2023	Reed Creek Greenway Extension Study	City of Asheville	This study will hire a consultant to provide recommendations on the extension of the Reed Creek Greenway in North Asheville to connect the facility to NC 251 to the north and Downtown Asheville to the south. The study will include potential alignments, preliminary cost estimates, and public engagement.
2023	Fonta Flora Greenway Study	Town of Black Mountain	This study will hire a consultant to provide recommendations on the construction of a multi-use path as part of the Fonta Flora Trail from the Eastern Town Limits of Black Mountain to NC 9 in Downtown Black Mountain. The study will include potential alignments, preliminary cost estimates, and public engagement.

			MPO Planning and Admin - PL104			Transit Planning - 5303				STBGDA (Flexed to PL)			Transit Program Support- 5307			Total			
FTA CODE	TASK CODE	TASK DESCRIPTION	Local 20%	Federal 80%	TOTAL	Local 10%	State 10%	Federal 80%	Total	Local 20%	Federal 80%	Total	Local 20%	Federal 80%	Total	Local	State	Federal	Total
	II-A	**Data and Planning Support**	$ 7,659	$30,630	$ 38,288	$3,486	$3,486	$27,885	$34,856	$ -	$0	$ -				$ 11,145	$3,486	$58,515	$ 73,146
44.24.00	II-A-1	Networks and Support Systems	$ 4,069	$16,272	$ 20,341	$2,789	$2,789	$22,308	$27,885	$ -	$0	$ -				$ 6,858	$2,789	$38,580	$ 48,228
44.23.01	II-A-2	Travelers and Behavior	$ 1,197	$4,786	$ 5,983	$697	$697	$5,577	$6,971	$ -	$0	$ -				$ 1,894	$697	$10,363	$ 12,954
44.23.02	II-A-3	Transportation Modeling	$ 2,393	$9,572	$ 11,965					$ -	$0	$ -				$ 2,393	$0	$9,572	$ 11,965
	II-B	**Planning Process**	$ 41,527	$ 166,108	$ 207,635	$12,549	$12,549	$100,386	$125,484	$ 69,800	$ 279,200	$ 349,000				$ 123,876	$12,549	$545,694	$ 682,119
44.23.02	II-B-1	Targeted Planning	$ 4,188	$16,751	$ 20,939	$4,183.0	$4,183.0	$33,462.0	$41,828.0	$ -	$0	$ -				$ 8,371	$4,183	$50,213	$ 62,767
44.22.00	II-B-2A	Regional Planning	$ 17,349	$69,397	$ 86,746	$8,366	$8,366	$66,924	$83,656	$ -	$0	$ -				$ 25,715	$8,366	$136,321	$ 170,402
44.22.00	II-B-3B	Complete Streets Planning	$ 5,025	$20,100	$ 25,125					$ -	$0	$ -				$ 5,025	$0	$20,100	$ 25,125
44.27.00	II-B-3A	Special Studies Operations	$ 11,965	$47,860	$ 59,825					$ -	$0	$ -				$ 11,965	$0	$0	$ -
44.27.00	II-B-3B	Buncombe County Multimodal Plan	$ -	$0						$ 25,000	$100,000	$ 125,000				$ 25,000	$0	$ 100,000	$ 125,000
44.27.00	II-B-3C	Woodfin-Weaverville Greenway	$ -	$0						$ 19,200	$76,800	$ 96,000				$ 19,200	$0	$ 76,800	$ 96,000
44.27.00	II-B-3D	Cane Creek Greenway	$ -	$0						$ 11,200	$44,800	$ 56,000				$ 11,200	$0	$ 44,800	$ 56,000
44.27.00	II-B-3E	TDM Coordinator	$ -	$0	$ -					$ 14,400	$57,600	$ 72,000				$ 14,400	$0	$ 57,600	$ 72,000
44.27.00	II-B-3F	Staffing & Compensation Study	$ 3,000	$12,000	$ 15,000											$ 3,000	$0	$ 12,000	$ 15,000
	III-A	**Planning Work Program**	$ 4,786	$19,144	$ 23,930	$6,971	$6,971	$55,770	$69,713	$ -	$0	$ -				$ 11,757	$6,971	$74,914	$ 93,642
44.23.02	III-A-1	Planning Work Program	$ 1,795	$7,179	$ 8,974	$6,971	$6,971	$55,770	$69,713	$ -	$0	$ -				$ 8,766	$6,971	$62,949	$ 78,686
44.24.00	III-A-2	Metrics and Performance Measures	$ 2,991	$11,965	$ 14,956					$ -	$0	$ -				$ 2,991	$0	$11,965	$ 14,956
	III-B	**Transp. Improvement Plan**	$ 32,306	$129,222	$ 161,528	$0	$0	$0	$0	$ -	$0	$ -				$ 32,306	$0	$129,222	$ 161,528
44.25.00	III-B-1	Prioritization	$ 13,162	$52,646	$ 65,808					$ -	$0	$ -				$ 13,162	$0	$52,646	$ 65,808
44.25.00	III-B-2	Metropolitan TIP	$ 8,376	$33,502	$ 41,878					$ -	$0	$ -				$ 8,376	$0	$33,502	$ 41,878
44.25.00	III-B-3	Merger/Project Development	$ 10,769	$43,074	$ 53,843					$ -	$0	$ -				$ 10,769	$0	$43,074	$ 53,843
	III-C	**Cvl Rgts. Cmp./Otr .Reg. Reqs.**	$ 10,768	$43,074	$ 53,843	$4,879	$4,879	$39,039	$48,800	$ -	$0	$ -				$ 15,647	$4,879	$82,113	$ 102,639
44.27.00	III-C-1	Title VI Compliance	$ 3,590	$14,358	$ 17,948	$1,394	$1,394	$11,154	$13,943	$0	$0	$ -				$ 4,984	$1,394	$25,512	$ 31,890
44.27.00	III-C-2	Environmental Justice	$ 3,290	$13,162	$ 16,452					$0	$0	$ -				$ 3,290	$0	$13,162	$ 16,452
44.27.00	III-C-3	Minority Business Enterprise Planning	$ -	$0	$ -	$1,394	$1,394	$11,154	$13,943	$0	$0	$ -				$ 1,394	$1,394	$11,154	$ 13,942
44.27.00	III-C-4	Planning for the Elderly	$ -	$0	$ -					$0	$0	$ -				$ -	$0	$0	$ -
44.27.00	III-C-5	Safety/Drug Control Planning	$ -	$0	$ -	$697	$697	$5,577	$6,971	$0	$0	$ -				$ 697	$697	$5,577	$ 6,971
44.27.00	III-C-6	Public Involvement	$ 3,888	$15,555	$ 19,443	$1,394	$1,394	$11,154	$13,943	$0	$0	$ -				$ 5,282	$1,394	$26,709	$ 33,384
44.27.00	III-C-7	Private Sector Participation	$ -	$0						$0	$0	$ -				$ -	$0	$0	$ -
	III-D	**Statewide & Extra-Regional Planning**	$ 9,572	$38,288	$ 47,860	$0	$0	$0	$0	$ -	$0	$ -				$ 9,572	$0	$38,288	$ 47,860
44.27.00	III-D-1	Statewide & Extra-Regional Planning	$ 9,572	$38,288	$ 47,860					$0	$0	$0				$ 9,572	$0	$38,288	$ 47,860
	III-E	**Management Ops, Program Suppt Admin**	$ 18,058	$72,234	$ 90,292	$0	$0	$0	$0	$ 8,176	$32,706	$ 40,882	$ 18,000	$72,000	$ 90,000	$ 44,235	$0	$176,939	$ 221,174
44.27.00		Management Operations	$ 18,058	$72,234	$ 90,292				$0	$ 8,176	$32,706	$ 40,882				$ 26,235	$0	$104,939	$ 131,174
44.27.00		Program Support Administration	$ -	$0									$ 18,000	$ 72,000	$ 90,000	$ 18,000	$0	$72,000	$ 90,000
		TOTALS	$124,675	$498,700	$ 623,375	$27,885	$27,885	$223,080	$278,853	$ 77,976	$311,906	$389,882	$ 18,000	$72,000	$90,000	$ 248,536	$27,885	$1,105,686	$ 1,382,107

Continuing Studies

FY Account	Project	MPO Planning & Admin- PL 104			Transit Planning- 5303				STBGDA (Flexed to PL)			Transit Support- 5307			Total			
		Local 20%	Federal 80%	Total	Local 10%	State 10%	Federal 80%	Total	Local 20%	Federal 80%	Total	Local 20%	Federal 80%	Total	Local	State	Federal	Total
2023	2050 Socio-Economic Projections								$20,000	$80,000	$100,000				$20,000		$80,000	$100,000
2023	Patton Avenue Corridor Study (Asheville)								$44,400	$177,600	$222,000				$44,400		$177,600	$222,000
2023	Reed Creek Greenway Study (Asheville)								$10,000	$40,000	$50,000				$10,000		$40,000	$50,000
2023	Fonta Flora Greenway Study (Black Mountain)								$7,000	$28,000	$35,000				$7,000		$28,000	$35,000
	Total	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$64,400	$257,600	$322,000				$64,400	$0	$257,600	$322,000

LOCAL MATCH FOR FY 2024 UPWP

Local match for federal Metropolitan Planning funds (either PL or STBGDA flexed to PL) is required in order to access these funds. The French Broad River MPO's budget for FY 2024 consists of a total of $623,375, necessitating a 20% local match of $124,675. This local match is split between paying entities of the region (some counties pay on behalf of some of their municipalities), based on the jurisdiction proportion of the MPO's population from the 2010 Dicennial Census. These funds also include a contribution of unspent local dues from the previous fiscal year. The estimated dues for FY 2024 have changed from FY 2023 with the application of the 2020 decennial census to update due percentages.

	FY 2024 Amount	Local Dues Based on 2010 Census	Local Dues Based on 2020 Census
Total	**$623,375**		
Federal Share	**$498,700**		
Local Share	**$124,675**		
Carryover Local Dues	$10,467.81	-	-
Buncombe County	$42,773.55	36.56%	**37.52%**
Henderson County	$26,254.66	23.64%	**23.03%**
City of Asheville	$24,567.43	21.07%	**21.55%**
Haywood County	$11,354.60	10.60%	**9.96%**
City of Hendersonville	$3,933.07	3.32%	**3.45%**
Town of Waynesville	$2,838.64	2.49%	**2.31%**
Madison County	$2,485.24	2.32%	**2.18%**

RESOLUTION OF APPROVAL

a program of Land of Sky
FRENCH BROAD RIVER
METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE PLANNING WORK PROGRAM FOR FY 2024

WHEREAS, the French Broad River MPO Governing Board has found that the Metropolitan Planning Organization is conducting transportation planning in a continuous, cooperative, and comprehensive manner in accordance with 23 U.S.C. 134 and 49 U.S.C 1607; and

WHEREAS, the region has an adopted a 25-year Metropolitan Transportation Plan to the year 2045 that is fiscally constrained and meets federal requirements for metropolitan transportation planning; and

WHEREAS, a comprehensive and continuing transportation planning program must be carried out cooperatively in order to ensure that funds for transportation projects are effectively allocated to the urbanized area; and

WHEREAS, the City of Asheville has been designated as the recipient of Federal Transit Administration Metropolitan Planning Program funds; and

WHEREAS, members of the French Broad River MPO Board agree that the Planning Work Program will effectively advance transportation planning for FY 2024;

WHEREAS, members of the French Broad River MPO Board agree that the Federal Transit Administration Narrative related to the 5303 and 5307 provides for an accurate overview of transit planning work to be undertaken with 5303 and 5307 funding in our region during FY 2024;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of the French Broad River Metropolitan Planning Organization hereby adopts the Unified Planning Work Program for fiscal year 2024.

ADOPTED: This the 16th day of March, 2023.

Jennifer Hensley, FBRMPO Board Vice-Chair

Attest: Tristan Winkler, Director

a program of Land of Sky

FRENCH BROAD RIVER

METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

RESOLUTION CERTIFYING THE FRENCH BROAD RIVER METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION'S TRANSPORTATION PLANNING PROCESS

WHEREAS, the French Broad River Metropolitan Planning Organization is the regional transportation planning organization for the Asheville Urban Area; and

WHEREAS, the French Broad River Metropolitan Planning Organization Board has found that the Metropolitan Planning Organization is conducting transportation planning in a continuous, cooperative, and comprehensive manner in accordance with 23 U.S.C. 134 and 49 U.S.C. 1607; and

WHEREAS, the French Broad River Metropolitan Planning Organization Board has found the Transportation Planning Process to be in full compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Title VI Assurance executed by each State under 23 U.S.C. 324 and 29 U.S.C. 794; and

WHEREAS, the French Broad River Metropolitan Planning Organization Board has considered how the Transportation Planning Process will affect the involvement of Disadvantaged Business Enterprises in the FHWA and the FTA funded planning projects (Section 1003(b) of ISTEA of 1991 (Pub. L. 102-240), Sec. 105(f), Pub. L. 97-424, 96 Stat. 2100, 49 CFR part 23); and

WHEREAS, the French Broad River Metropolitan Planning Organization Board has considered how the Transportation Planning Process will affect the elderly and the disabled per the provision of the Americans With Disabilities Act of 1990 (Pub. L. 101-336, 104 Stat. 327, as amended) and the U.S. DOT implementing regulations (49 CFR parts 27, 37, and 38); and

WHEREAS, the Metropolitan Transportation Plan has a planning horizon year of 2045 and meets the requirements for an adequate Transportation Plan.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of the French Broad River Metropolitan Planning Organization certifies the transportation planning process for the French Broad River Metropolitan Planning Organization on this 16th day of March, 2023.

Jennifer Hensley, FBRMPO Board Vice-Chair

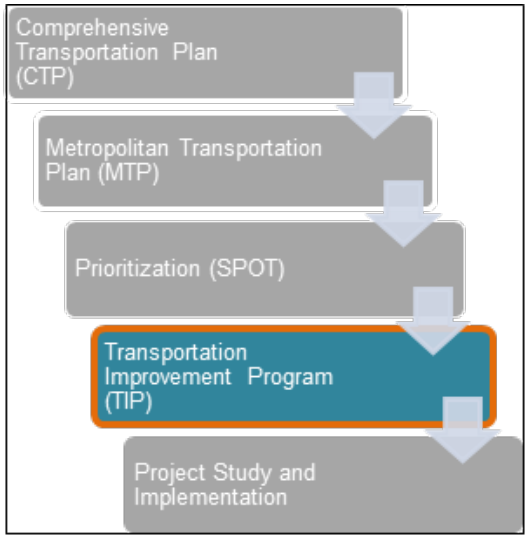
Attest, Tristan Winkler,
FBRMPO Director

FRENCH BROAD RIVER
METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

Staff Report & Recommendations

Item 4D:

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 March, 2023.

Modifications Summary

The modifications to the TIP largely include segmenting HS-2014 into several projects breaks to improve safety on various roads including, but not limited to, Asheville Hwy, US 19, and US 64. The Blue Ridge Parkway/US 23/US 74 interchange project is also being segmented at the request of the Division and the MPO into U-6172A & U-6172B. To reflect the latest delivery schedule, both segments of the Black Mountain Riverwalk Greenway project (EB-5547A & EB-5547B) are being delayed to allow additional time for preliminary engineering and right-of-way, respectively. To allow additional time for right-of-way, the replacement of the I-40 bridge going over Beaverdam Rd will delay construction from FY 23 to FY 24. Finally, R-2588B will no longer utilize Build NC Bonds and will utilize federal funding instead.

Action Required

FBRMPO TIP Amendments

March 2023

TIP/STIP No.	Jurisdiction/Project Name/Limits	Category	Amendment Description	Funding Type	Current Phase	Funding Amt	FY
EB-5547A	BLACK MOUNTAIN RIVERWALK GREENWAY (Black Mountain Ave - Sutton Ave)		TO REFLECT THE LATEST DELIVERY SCHEDULE, DELAY PRELIMINARY ENGINEERING FROM FY 22 TO FY 23.	BGANY	Engineering	$232,000	2023
				Local Match	Engineering	$58,000	2023
				BGANY	Right-of-Way	$32,000	2023
				Local Match	Right-of-Way	$8,000	2023
				BGANY	Construction	$1,151,200	2024
				Local Match	Construction	$287,800	2024
EB-5547B	BLACK MOUNTAIN RIVERWALK GREENWAY (Black Mountain Ave - Into the Oak Trail)	Non-Highway (Bike & Ped)	TO ALLOW ADDITIONAL TIME FOR RIGHT-OF-WAY ACQUISITION, DELAY CONSTRUCTION FROM FY 23 TO FY 24.	BGANY	Construction	$1,413,000	2024
				Local Match	Construction	$353,000	2024
HB-0002	I-40 - Replace bridge over SR (Beaverdam Rd)	Bridge Project	TO ALLOW ADDITIONAL TIME FOR RIGHT-OF-WAY ACQUISITION, DELAY CONSTRUCTION FROM FY 23 TO FY 24.	BFP	Right-of-Way	$1,600,000	2023
				BFP	Right-of-Way	$200,000	2024
				BFP	Construction	$3,900,000	2024
				BFP	Right-of-Way	$200,000	2025
				BFP	Construction	$3,900,000	2025

*Federal

FBRMPO TIP Amendments

March 2023

TIP/STIP No.	Jurisdiction/Project Name/Limits	Category	Amendment Description	Funding Type	Current Phase	Funding Amt	FY
HL-0003	US 19/23 BUSINESS (HAYWOOD ROAD) (US 19/23/74 (Patton Ave) - Ridgelawn Rd)	Highway & Intersection	TO ALLOW ADDITIONAL TIME FOR PRELIMINARY ENGINEERING, DELAY CONSTRUCTION FROM FY 23 TO FY 24.	BGANY	Construction	$708,000	2024
				BGDA	Construction	$480,000	2024
				S(M)	Construction	$653,000	2024
				BGANY	Construction	$1,717,000	2025
				BGDA	Construction	$1,166,000	2025
				S(M)	Construction	$1,585,000	2025
				BGANY	Construction	$474,000	2026
				BGDA	Construction	$322,000	2026
				S(M)	Construction	$438,000	2026
HS-2013K	SR 1003 (Reems Creek Rd) Install Gaurdrail (SR 2106 - SR 2114)	Highway & Intersection	ADD PROJECT BREAK AT THE REQUEST OF THE TRANSPORTATION MOBILITY AND SAFETY DIVISION.	HSIP	Construction	$440,000	2024
HS-2014I	US 25 Business (Asheville Hwy), Install Rumble Strips with Long Life Pavement Markings (Hendersonville City Limit - SR 1534)	Highway Safety Project	ADD PROJECT BREAK AT THE REQUEST OF THE TRANSPORTATION MOBILITY AND SAFETY DIVISION.	HSIP	Construction	$140,000	2023

FBRMPO TIP Amendments

March 2023

TIP/STIP No.	Jurisdiction/Project Name/Limits	Category	Amendment Description	Funding Type	Current Phase	Funding Amt	FY
HS-2014J	INSTALL LONG LIFE PAVEMENT MARKINGS ALONG VARIOUS SECONDARY ROUTES	Highway Safety Project	ADD PROJECT BREAK AT THE REQUEST OF THE TRANSPORTATION MOBILITY AND SAFETY DIVISION.	HSIP	Construction	$2,570,000	2023
HS-2014K	Us 19 (Holston Village Rd - SR 1197)	Highway & Intersection	ADD PROJECT BREAK AT THE REQUEST OF THE TRANSPORTATION MOBILITY AND SAFETY DIVISION.	HSIP	Construction	$110,000	2023
HS-2014L	US 64 Upgrade Intersections	Highway & Intersection	ADD PROJECT BREAK AT THE REQUEST OF THE TRANSPORTATION MOBILITY AND SAFETY DIVISION.	HSIP	Construction	$570,000	2023
HS-2014M	US 64, Upgrade Intersection (SR 1592 (Hospital Dr) - Straus Parkway)	Highway & Intersection	ADD PROJECT BREAK AT THE REQUEST OF THE TRANSPORTATION MOBILITY AND SAFETY DIVISION.	HSIP	Construction	$225,000	2023

FBRMPO TIP Amendments

March 2023

TIP/STIP No.	Jurisdiction/Project Name/Limits	Category	Amendment Description	Funding Type	Current Phase	Funding Amt	FY
HS-2014N	US 64(7th Avenue) (North Grove St - 7th Avenue)	Highway & Intersection	ADD PROJECT BREAK AT THE REQUEST OF THE TRANSPORTATION MOBILITY AND SAFETY DIVISION.	HSIP	Construction	$240,000	2023
HS-2014O	US 64, Install Traffic Signal (SR 1586 (South Mills Gap Rd) - Tuttle Road)	Highway & Intersection	ADD PROJECT BREAK AT THE REQUEST OF THE TRANSPORTATION MOBILITY AND SAFETY DIVISION.	HSIP	Construction	$55,000	2023
R-2588B	NC 191 - SR 1381 (MOUNTAIN ROAD) TO NC 280 SOUTH OF MILLS RIVER.	Highway & Intersection	PROJECT TO NO LONGER UTILIZE BUILD NC BONDS. PROJECT TO UTILIZE FEDERAL FUNDS.	T	Right-of-Way	$2,600,000	2023
				T	Utilities	$7,750,000	2023
				T	Right-of-Way	$1,900,000	2024
				NHP	Construction	$24,954,000	2024
				NHP	Construction	$32,645,000	2025
				NHP	Construction	$26,254,000	2026
				NHP	Construction	$18,822,000	2027
				NHP	Construction	$9,926,000	2028

FBRMPO TIP Amendments

March 2023

TIP/STIP No.	Jurisdiction/Project Name/Limits	Category	Amendment Description	Funding Type	Current Phase	Funding Amt	FY
U-6172A	Blue Ridge Parkway Interchange Improvements (US 23/US 74 -)	Highway Safety Project	SEGMENT U-6172 INTO SEGMENT A AT THE REQUEST OF THE DIVISION AND MPO.	BGLT5	Right-of-Way	$110,000	2029
				BGLT5	Utilities	$100,000	2029
				BGLT5	Construction	$1,700,000	Post
U-6172B	US 23/US 74 (Great Smokey Mountains Expressway), Modernize Roadway (SR 1777 (Balsam View Dr) - SR 1158 (Old Balsam Rd))	Highway & Intersection	SEGMENT U-6172 INTO SEGMENT B AT THE REQUEST OF THE DIVISION AND MPO.	BGLT5	Right-of-Way	$100,000	2029
				BGLT5	Utilities	$250,000	2029
				BGLT5	Construction	$2,750,000	Post

FRENCH BROAD RIVER
METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

Staff Report & Recommendations

Item 5A:

WNC Passenger Rail Update

MPO Board Chair, Anthony Sutton, and MPO Director, Tristan Winkler, attended a meeting in Raleigh on plans and opportunities to expand passenger rail. NCDOT is planning to submit a number of corridors to the Corridor ID program, including the Asheville-to-Salisbury corridor. Letters of support have been requested to be submitted by March 3rd.

It has also come to staff's attention that the preliminary study on the Salisbury-to-Asheville extension is nearing completion. Eddie McFalls with NCDOT's Integrated Mobility Division will provide an update to the TCC and Board on the study and the Corridor ID program.

FRENCH BROAD RIVER
METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

Staff Report & Recommendations

Item 5B:

City of Asheville Close the GAP Plan Presentation

The MPO provided funding to the development of a Greenway, ADA, and Pedestrian Plan known as the “Close the GAP” plan. The adopted plan is available here: https://issuu.com/trafficpd/docs/close_the_gap_-_final_plan_appendix_277d639b17df64

Lucy Crown with the City of Asheville will provide a presentation on the plan.

FRENCH BROAD RIVER
METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

Staff Report & Recommendations

Item 6A:

Division Project Updates

Division 13 Updates

Division 14 Updates

Item 6B:

TPD Updates

Item 6C:

FHWA/FTA Updates

FHWA Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Website: https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/bipartisan-infrastructure-law/

FTA Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Website: https://www.transit.dot.gov/BIL

FRENCH BROAD RIVER
METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

Staff Report & Recommendations

Item 6D:

Committee & Workgroup Updates
Prioritization Subcommittee— met on March 1st
Points of Discussion:

- Project Swaps
- U-2801A Segmentation
- Passenger Rail- Corridor ID Program

Transit Operators' Workgroup—met on November 29, 2022
Points of Business/Discussion:

- FTA 5310/JARC funding applications were due by 12/15/22
- NCDOT/IMD (Integrated Mobility Division) will be working with FBRMPO and Land of Sky RPO on a Coordinated Regional Transit Plan
    - MPO Staff's current understanding of this process is that these documents can act as an update of the existing Locally Coordinated Plan (LCP, required for use of FTA 5310 Program – Enhanced Mobility of Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities
- NCDOT/IMD will post a Call for Applications for their Multimodal Planning Grant Program, date as of 11/29/22 was "January 2023"; as of 1/4/23, no current info on NCDOT/IMD website, MPO Staff will check for updates
- Next Transit Operator's Workgroup meeting: March 2023

5307 Subrecipient Workgroup- met on October 18, 2023
MPO Staff noted:

- Updated Urbanized Areas (UZAs) from US Census, statistics released end of December 2022, maps planned for release end of January 2023
- Discussion of 5307 Sub-Recipients allocation formula; MPO staff and Work Group members noted this could be reexamined once new UZA data and maps are finalized.

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

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

- Regional Trail Forum meeting held on February 13th to continue with the aim of planning for an event in August/September, 2023.

Additional Items:

Recommended Actions: Accept the reports.

FRENCH BROAD RIVER
METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

Staff Report & Recommendations

Item 6E:

Legislative Updates