

Joint MPO Technical Coordinating Committee & Governing Board

November 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 (1	l0 min)	1
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A. Welcome and Introductions, Approval of Agenda

B. Ethics Statement for MPO Board Members

Autumn Radcliff & Anthony Sutton

Anthony Sutton

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND CONSENT AGENDA

Autumn Radcliff & Anthony Sutton

- A. October, 2023 TCC Minutes
- B. October, 2023 Board Minutes

4. BUSINESS (15-30 min)

A. Amendments to the 2024-2033 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

MPO Staff

B. Citizens Advisory Committee New Members

MPO Staff

5. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS (30-45 min)

A. Travel Demand Model & TAZ Changes

Daniel Sellers, NCDOT TPD

B. Division 14 Project Milestones

Steve Williams, NCDOT Division 14

C. FTA Triennial Review and Transit Updates

Jessica Morris, City of Asheville

6. REGULAR UPDATES (15 min)

A. NCDOT Division 13 and 14 updates

Tim Anderson/Wanda Payne or Designee

B. Transportation Planning Branch

Daniel Sellers

C. FHWA/FTA Updates

Suzette Morales

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 (January 11th and 18th)
- 9. PUBLIC COMMENT
- 10. ADJOURNMENT



MPO Technical Coordinating Committee & Governing Board

Item 3:

Consent Agenda

Item 3A: October, 2023 TCC Meeting Minutes

Item 3B: October, 2023 Board Meeting Minutes



Item 3A:

October, 2023 TCC Meeting Minutes

Available here: https://frenchbroadrivermpo.org/wp-

content/uploads/2023/11/2023 10 12 DRAFT.MPO .TCC .Minutes.pdf

Item 3B:

October, 2023 Board Meeting Minutes

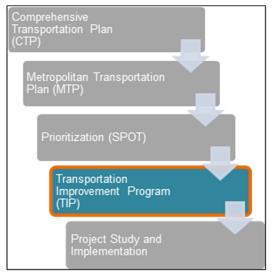
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content/uploads/2023/11/2023 10 19 MPO.DRAFT .Board .Minutes.pdf



Item 4A:

Amendments to the 2024-2033 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.

Modifications Summary

Modifications in this round of amendments are primarily focused on reflecting programmed transit funding in the TIP, including 5310 and JARC funds. Beyond transit, this set of

amendments reflects the addition of fy 24 engineering funds to BL-0078 (a section of the Ecusta Trail project) and construction funds to U-5019A (Town Branch Greenway) & U-5019E (Craven St Bridge Improvements) that were not previously programmed. Amendments to projects U-5834, U-5886, & U-6049 involve modifying funds from State to Federal. There is one addition to the TIP: EB-5790 and there are no deletions.

Action: Consider Approval of Amendments to the 2024-2033 TIP



METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

EAD AGENCY City Of Ashevi	ille		PUBLIC 1				UNCOME	Ε		13	SION(S)			
ONSTRUCTION	YEAR		LOCALLY AI PROJECT	DMINISTER	ED	Ri -	OUTE/ROAD	NAME		TOT/	NL LENGTH			
OTAL COST 426,000			PROJECT D											
PHASE	FUND SOURCE	PRIOR	FY2024	FY2025	FY2026	FY2027	FY2028	FY2029	FY2030	FY2031	FY2032	FY2033	FUTURE	тот
CAPITAL	Local	-	\$213,000	-		-	-	-	-	-	-		-	\$213,0
CAPITAL	5310 Funds	-	\$213,000	-		-		-	-	-				\$213,0
Total CAPITAL		-	\$426,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	\$426,0
Total Programmed		-	\$426,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	\$426,0
CURRENT CHANGE REASON		to a pr	ule / Funding oject (traditio is include sta	nal source	es of reven	ue include	federal, s							
PROJECT CHANGES		Plan R	evision Nam	e change	d from "24-	33 Adoptio	on" to "Nov	ember 202	3 Amendn	ents"				
FUNDING CHANGES		Local	ease funds in											
FEDERAL PROJECT C	ОВТ	Stays	the same \$0											
PROJECTO	JECT													



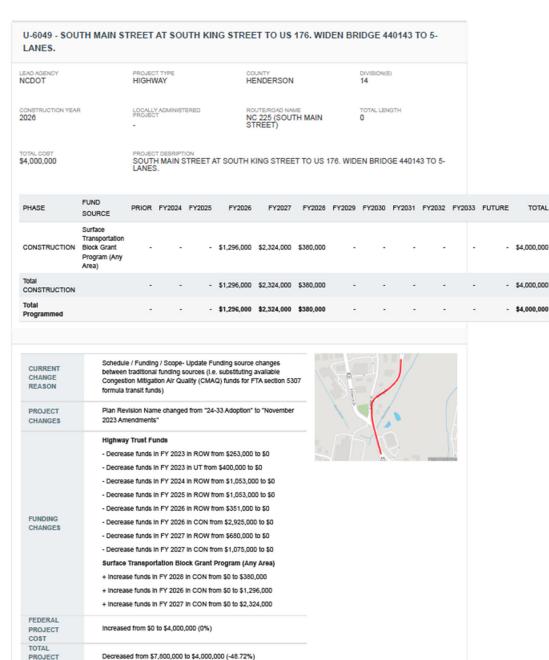
METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

EAD AGENCY Asheville Red	efines Tran	nsit	PUBLIC 1				UNCOME	ΒE		13	SION(S)			
CONSTRUCTION	YEAR		LOCALLY AI PROJECT	OMINISTER	ED	R	OUTE/ROAD	NAME		тот/	AL LENGTH			
TOTAL COST \$350,000			PROJECT D			ECTS								
PHASE	FUND SOURCE	PRIOR	FY2024	FY2025	FY2026	FY2027	FY2028	FY2029	FY2030	FY2031	FY2032	FY2033	FUTURE	тотя
CAPITAL	5310 Funds	-	\$281,000	-										\$281,00
CAPITAL	Local		\$69,000	-	-	-			-				-	\$69,00
Total CAPITAL		-	\$350,000	-		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	\$350,00
Total Programmed		-	\$350,000		-	-	-	-	-	-		-		\$350,00
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PHASE	FUND SOURCE	PRIOR	FY2024	FY2025	FY2026	FY2027	FY2028	FY2029	FY2030	FY2031	FY2032	FY2033	FUTURE	тоти
CAPITAL	Job Assistance And Reverse Commute (JARC)	-	\$408,000	-					-			-		\$408,00
CAPITAL	Local		\$408,000	-			-					-	-	\$408,0
Total CAPITAL		-	\$816,000	-	-		-			-	-	-	-	\$816,00
Total Programmed		-	\$816,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	\$816,00
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COST



CDOT		PROJEC					DUNTY ENDERSON	ı	14	/ISION(S)					
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CONSTRUCTION	Surface Transportation Block Grant Program (Any Area)					\$3,104,000	\$6,683,000	\$4,356,000	\$957,000						\$15,100,0
Total CONSTRUCTION	,	-				\$3,104,000	\$6,683,000	\$4,356,000	\$957,000	-	-	-	-		\$15,100,0
Total Programmed						\$3,104,000	\$6,683,000	\$4,356,000	\$957,000	-	-		-	-	\$15,100,0
PROJECT CHANGES		vision Nan nendments	-	ed from	1 "24-	33 Adoption*	to "Novembe	r	\checkmark	1	4	1			
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EAD AGENCY NCDOT			NECT TYPE			OUNTY			DIVISION 13	(8)				
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OTAL COST 513,200,000		US	25 (HEN ADWAY.		LLE ROAD)	TO SR 315	7 (WESTO	N ROAD)). UPGRA	DE EXIS	TING			
PHASE	FUND SOURCE	PRIOR	FY2024	FY2025	FY2026	FY2027	FY2028	FY2029	FY2030	FY2031	FY2032	FY2033	FUTURE	тот
BUILD NC CON	Surface Transportation Block Grant Program (Any Area)			\$2,188,000	\$6,197,000	\$4,314,000	\$501,000							\$13,200,0
Total BUILD	Neaj			\$2,188,000	\$6,197,000	\$4,314,000	\$501,000							\$13,200,0
NC CON Total Programmed				\$2,188,000	\$6,197,000	\$4,314,000	\$501,000							\$13,200,0
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FUNDING	Higi - De	rorease fur crease fur face Trans crease fur crease fur	t Funds did in FY 2 did in FY 2	026 in NG-CC 027 in NG-CC 028 in NG-CC 029 in NG-CC 030 in NG-CC 031 in NG-CC 033 in NG-CC 034 in NG-CC 036 in NG-CC 036 in NG-CC 026 in NG-CC 027 in NG-CC	DN from \$1,03 DN from \$515 DN from \$54,365,01 From \$4,366,01 Frogram (Ar NN from \$0 to NN from	10,000 to \$0 000 to \$0 10,000 t			÷		Tenanta			
FEDERAL PROJECT COST				028 In NC-CC	N from \$0 to	\$501,000								
TOTAL	Dan	reased fro	m \$14 925	000 to \$13.2	00.000 (-11.5	5%)								

Decreased from \$14,925,000 to \$13,200,000 (-11.56%)

COST



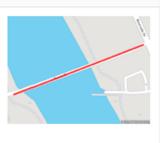
METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

Staff Report & Recommendations

U-5019E - CRAVEN STREET BRIDGE IMPROVEMENTS OVER THE FRENCH BROAD RIVER LEAD AGENCY NCDOT PROJECT TYPE COUNTY BUNCOMBE 13 CONSTRUCTION YEAR 2025 ROUTEROAD NAME TOTAL LENGTH OF PROJECT - RIVERWAY MULTI-MODAL 0 TOTAL COST PROJECT DESRIPTION CRAVEN STREET BRIDGE IMPROVEMENTS OVER THE FRENCH BROAD RIVER PHASE FUND SOURCE PRIOR FY2024 FY2025 FY2026 FY2027 FY2028 FY2029 FY2030 FY2031 FY2032 FY2033 IN TOTAL COST SOURCE PRIOR FY2024 FY2025 FY2026 FY2027 FY2028 FY2029 FY2030 FY2031 FY2032 FY2033 IN TOTAL COST SOURCE PRIOR FY2024 FY2025 FY2026 FY2027 FY2028 FY2029 FY2030 FY2031 FY2032 FY2033 IN TY2032 FY2033 IN TY203

PHASE	FUND SOURCE	PRIOR	FY2024	FY2025	FY2026	FY2027	FY2028	FY2029	FY2030	FY2031	FY2032	FY2033	FUTURE	TOTAL
CONSTRUCTION	Surface Transportation Block Grant Program (Any Area)			\$4,200,000	-					-		-		\$4,200,000
CONSTRUCTION	Local	-	-	\$1,050,000	-		-			-	-	-		\$1,050,000
Total CONSTRUCTION		-	-	\$5,250,000	-	-	-	-		-	-	-	-	\$5,250,000
Total Programmed		-	-	\$5,250,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	\$5,250,000

CURRENT	Schedule / Funding / Scope- Update Project schedule shifts in years
CHANGE	through 4 that move project completion dates across Horizon Years
REASON	as determined by the Long Range Transportation Plan
	Plan Revision Name changed from "24-33 Adoption" to "November
PROJECT CHANGES	2023 Amendments"
CHANGES	CONSTRUCTION YEAR changed from "2024" to "2025"
	Surface Transportation Block Grant Program (Any Area)
	- Decrease funds in FY 2024 in CON from \$4,200,000 to \$0
FUNDING	+ Increase funds in FY 2025 in CON from \$0 to \$4,200,000
CHANGES	Local
	- Decrease funds in FY 2024 in CON from \$1,050,000 to \$0
	+ Increase funds in FY 2025 in CON from \$0 to \$1,050,000
FEDERAL	01
PROJECT COST	Stays the same \$4,200,000
TOTAL	
PROJECT	Stays the same \$5,250,000





EB-5824 - CONSTRUCT MULTI-USE PATH FROM HOMINY VALLEY PARK AND ENKA HIGH SCHOOL TO EAST OF SAND HILL ROAD

NCDOT

BIKE/PED

BUNCOMBE

LOCALLY ADMINISTERED PROJECT

TOTAL LENGTH

CONSTRUCTION YEAR 2025

YES

HOMINY CREEK GREENWAY

\$3,844,000

CONSTRUCT MULTI-USE PATH FROM HOMINY VALLEY PARK AND ENKA HIGH SCHOOL TO EAST OF SAND HILL ROAD

PHASE	FUND SOURCE	PRIOR	FY2024	FY2025	FY2026	FY2027	FY2028	FY2029	FY2030	FY2031	FY2032	FY2033	FUTURE	TOTAL
CONSTRUCTION	Surface Transportation Block Grant Program (Any Area)			\$1,510,000	\$1,279,000	-	-		-			-		\$2,789,000
CONSTRUCTION	Surface Transportation Block Grant Program (Direct Attributable)	-	-	\$37,000		-	-		-	-		-	-	\$37,000
CONSTRUCTION	Local		-	\$1,018,000			-					-	-	\$1,018,000
Total CONSTRUCTION				\$2,565,000	\$1,279,000				-			-		\$3,844,000
Total Programmed		-		\$2,565,000	\$1,279,000	-		-	-			-	-	\$3,844,000

CURRENT CHANGE REASON	Schedule / Funding / Scope- Update Change in the project design or scope that significantly changes the termini or project type, purpose, o number of through lanes on a non-exempt (for transportation conformity purposes) project
PROJECT CHANGES	Pian Revision Name changed from "October 2023 Amendments" to "November 2023 Amendments"
FUNDING CHANGES	N/A
FEDERAL PROJECT COST	Stays the same \$2,826,000
TOTAL PROJECT COST	Stays the same \$3,844,000





EB-5790 - ON-STREET CROSSINGS AND CONNECTIONS FOR BICYCLISTS AND PEDESTRIANS IN ASHEVILLE'S EAST OF THE RIVERWAY.

Asheville

BIKE/PED

BUNCOMBE

YES

ROUTE/ROAD NAME

TOTAL LENGTH

\$1,496,000

ON-STREET CROSSINGS AND CONNECTIONS FOR BICYCLISTS AND PEDESTRIANS IN ASHEVILLE'S EAST OF THE RIVERWAY.

PHASE	FUND SOURCE	PRIOR	FY2024	FY2025	FY2026	FY2027	FY2028	FY2029	FY2030	FY2031	FY2032	FY2033	FUTURE	TOTAL
CONSTRUCTION	Local	-	\$299,000	-	-	-	-	-		-	-	-	-	\$299,000
CONSTRUCTION	Surface Transportation Block Grant Program (Direct Attributable)		\$68,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		\$68,000
CONSTRUCTION	Transportation Alternatives Program (Any Area)	-	\$1,129,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		\$1,129,000
Total CONSTRUCTION		-	\$1,496,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	\$1,496,000
Total Programmed		-	\$1,496,000	-	-		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	\$1,496,000

CURRENT CHANGE REASON	Schedule / Funding / Scope- Update Project schedule shifts in years through 4 that move project completion dates across Hortzon Years as determined by the Long Range Transportation Plan
PROJECT CHANGES	Plan Revision Name changed from "24-33 Adoption" to "November 2023 Amendments" CONSTRUCTION YEAR changed from "2023" to "2024"
FUNDING CHANGES	Surface Transportation Block Grant Program (Direct Attributable - Decrease funds in FY 2023 in CON from \$840,000 to \$0 + Increase funds in FY 2024 in CON from \$0 to \$68,000 Local - Decrease funds in FY 2023 in CON from \$89,000 to \$0 - Decrease funds in FY 2023 in CON from \$210,000 to \$0 + Increase funds in FY 2024 in CON from \$0 to \$299,000 Transportation Atternatives Program (Any Area) - Decrease funds in FY 2023 in CON from \$357,000 to \$0 + Increase funds in FY 2023 in CON from \$357,000 to \$0
FEDERAL PROJECT COST	Stays the same \$1,197,000
TOTAL PROJECT COST	Stays the same \$1,496,000





METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

LEAD AGENCY City Of Asheville			PROJECT TYPE PUBLIC TRANSIT				BUNCOMBE		DIVISION(S) 13					
ONSTRUCTION	YEAR		LOCALLY PROJECT	ADMINISTE	RED		ROUTE/ROA	D NAME		TO1	TAL LENGTH	4		
OTAL COST 518,000				DESRIPTIO		ISIT. 5310) ADMINI	STRATIV	E OVER	SIGHT.				
PHASE	FUND SOURCE	PRIOR	FY2024	FY2025	FY2026	FY2027	FY2028	FY2029	FY2030	FY2031	FY2032	FY2033	FUTURE	тот
CAPITAL	5310 Funds		\$18,000											\$18,0
Total CAPITAL		-	\$18,000	-	-		-		-	-	-	-		\$18,0
Total Programmed		-	\$18,000	-	-		-	-	-				-	\$18,0
CURRENT CHANGE REASON		to a pro	ule / Fundir oject (tradit s include s	ional sour	ces of reve	enue includ	e federal,							
PROJECT CHANGES		Plan R	evision Na	me change	ed from "24	4-33 Adopt	ion" to "No	vember 20	23 Amend	ments"				
FUNDING CHANGES		5310 Funds + Increase funds in FY 2024 in CAP from \$0 to \$18,000												
FEDERAL PROJECT C	OST	Stays t	he same \$	0										
TOTAL PRO	JECT				0 (0%)									



Item 4B:

Citizens Advisory Committee New Members

The French Broad River MPO is relaunching the Citizen's Advisory Committee (CAC) in an effort to enhance public involvement strategies. MPO staff reached out to dozens of non-profits in the region whose focus(es) pertained to housing, accessible healthcare, aging resources, and cultural resources. New members of the CAC must be appointed by the Board.

The purpose of the CAC is to:

- A. Serve as an advisory body to the FBRMPO TCC and Board.
- B. Provide independent, region-oriented citizen advice to the TCC and Board on issues related to the public involvement component for the development of the Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP), Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP), Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), and any other processes or planning efforts that require considerable public involvement.
- C. Promote public awareness and participation in the regional transportation planning process.
- D. Promote equity in the regional transportation planning process.
- E. Make recommendations to enhance FBRMPO public involvement policies and techniques.

Name	Organization
Chris Parker	Thrive (Thrive4Health
Jazmin Rogers	Eagle Market Development Corporation
Pearson Ripley/Hushabye Sinn, and/or Quinn Nevel	Steady Collective

Action: Consider Appointing New Members to the Citizen's Advisory Committee



Item 5A:

Travel Demand Model and TAZ Changes

What is a Travel Demand Model?

The French Broad River MPO developed a Regional Travel Demand Model that covers the five-county region (Buncombe, Haywood, Henderson, Madison, and Transylvania counties.) The model is used to project future traffic and its impacts to the transportation network. The outputs of the model help with long-range planning efforts but are also utilized in traffic forecasting to help determine the number of lanes, turn lanes, or other capacity features that would be appropriate to accommodate projected future traffic.

While a new model has not been developed since 2013, the MPO's model is updated every five years as part of the development of the Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP.)

MPO responsibilities for Travel Demand Model updates:

- -provide updates to the existing land use layer
- -provide base-year data for demographics, employment, and student populations
- -develop socio-economic projections for the region to determine the amount of growth and where growth is likely to go by the horizon year (2050)
- -develop a list of planned projects to be included in determining capacity deficiencies as part of the MTP

NCDOT responsibilities for Travel Demand Model updates:

- -maintain and run the regional Travel Demand Model
- -calibrate the Travel Demand Model
- -provide model outputs to relevant partners

What is a Transportation Analysis Zone (TAZ)?

The model splits our region into hundreds of smaller areas, known as TAZs. These TAZs play an integral role in determining travel demand for the region and are loosely based on census block groups.

What's Changing as Part of the 2020/2050 Update?

The current model has a base year of 2015 and a horizon year of 2045; the current update that is being developed has a base year of 2020 and a horizon year of 2050. A number of changes have been discussed between MPO and NCDOT staff to make changes to the Travel Demand Model, including:



- -numerous changes to TAZs to better lineup with best practices on TAZ development
- -incorporation of AirDNA data to better account for tourist travel patterns originating in "residential" areas
- -more accurate tourist attraction numbers at a number of major sites in the region, thanks to NCDOT's origin-destination data from Streetlight

Other changes discussed but unable to incorporate at this time:

- -better bicycle and pedestrian integration into the model
- -integration of travel-time reliability data to reflect limited travel demand in the mornings (the model currently reflects an equal AM and PM peak)

Why is this important?

While NCDOT is responsible for maintaining and running the model, the model is considered the MPO's and the MPO is required to sign-off on the Travel Demand Model including a Preferred Growth Scenario.

Daniel Sellers with NCDOT Transportation Planning Division will provide a presentation on updates to the Travel Demand Model.



Item 5B:

Division 14 Upcoming Projects and Milestones

Steve Williams, Corridor Development Engineer with Division 14, will present on projects that are expected to be started, completed, or see significant progress over 2024 in Division 14. The 2024-2033 Transportation Improvement Program has more than \$2 billion in improvements slated for the MPO Planning Area over the next ten years and Steve will present on the progress expected to be seen over the next year.



Item 5C:

FTA Triennial Review & Transit Updates

Transportation Management Areas (TMAs), or urban areas with a population greater than 200,000, are required to designate a direct recipient for transit funding through FTA. The direct recipient is primarily in charge of being the liaison between FTA and the rest of the region, ensuring subrecipient compliance, as well as ushering the FTA funding through to subrecipients. In the FBRMPO planning area, the City of Asheville has been designated as the direct recipient for the region by the MPO Board. The funding this impacts includes:

- -FTA Section 5303- Metropolitan Planning Funds (not distributed)
- -FTA Section 5307- Urban Transit Formula Funds
 - -distributed to City of Asheville, Henderson County, and Buncombe County based on the FBRMPO 5307 Suballocation Formula (Haywood County with funding through FY 2023)
- -FTA Section 5310- Transit Projects for Senior & Individuals with Disabilities
 - -funding is programmed through a call for projects held by the FBRMPO; 10% of funds typically go to transit administration (CoA)
- -FTA Section 5339- Bus and Bus Facilities (not distributed)

Every three years FTA conducts a triennial review of the direct recipient to ensure that administrative and statutory requirements are being met.

Jessica Morris with the City of Asheville will provide an update on the Triennial Review as well as a new contract with a consultant to provide grant management services.



Item 6A:

Division Project Updates

Division 13: To be updated.

Division 14: https://frenchbroadrivermpo.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/11/Div14 November Updates.pdf

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

FHWA Updates – November 2023

White House Publishes National Framework for Climate Resilience

On September 28, 2023, the White House <u>introduced</u> the <u>National Climate Resilience Framework</u> to help guide and align climate resilience investments and activities by the Federal government and its partners. The Framework identifies specific actions to accomplish six overarching climate resilience objectives:

- 1. Embed climate resilience into planning and management.
- 2. Increase resilience of the built environment to both acute climate shocks and chronic stressors.
- 3. Mobilize capital, investment, and innovation to advance climate resilience at scale.
- 4. Equip communities with information and resources needed to assess their climate risks and develop the climate resilience solutions most appropriate for them.
- 5. Protect and sustainably manage lands and waters to enhance resilience while providing numerous other benefits.
- 6. Help communities become not only more resilient, but also more safe, healthy, equitable, and economically strong.

USDOT Announces \$82 Million in Awards for Safe Streets and Roads

On October 27, 2023, the U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT) <u>announced</u> more than \$82 million in awards from the <u>Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) Grant Program</u>. The USDOT awarded grants to 235 regional, local, and Tribal communities for planning and demonstration projects to improve safety and help prevent deaths and serious injuries on the nation's roadways.

FHWA Announces \$40 Million in Available Funding for Connected Vehicle Technologies

On October 26, 2023, the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) <u>announced</u> the availability of \$40 million in funding through the <u>Saving Lives with Connectivity: Accelerating V2X Deployment</u> grant opportunity. The initiative is focused on road safety, mobility, and efficiency through technology that enables vehicles and wireless devices to communicate with each other and with roadside infrastructure and provide warnings. The application deadline is January 17, 2024. More information is available <u>here</u> and <u>here</u>.

FHWA Accepting Applications for Accelerated Innovation Deployment Grants

On October 24, 2023, FHWA published a <u>Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO)</u> to announce that the agency is accepting applications for the <u>Accelerated Innovation Deployment (AID) Demonstration</u> <u>Program</u>. AID funds are used to promote the deployment of proven innovations that can deliver road and bridge projects more cost-effectively among State, local, and Tribal governments. The notice of intent deadline is December 12, 2023, and the application deadline is January 23, 2024.

Application Deadlines Approaching for Other USDOT Discretionary Grant Opportunities

Please be aware of the approaching application deadlines for the following discretionary grant opportunities from the USDOT:

• November 6 – Nationally Significant Federal Lands and Tribal Transportation Projects (NSFLTP) Program;

- November 13 Electric Vehicle Charger Reliability and Accessibility Accelerator Program;
- November 15 Letters of Interest for Thriving Communities Program;
- November 27 Bridge Investment Program (Fiscal Years 2023 and 2024); and
- November 28 Technical Assistance Providers for Thriving Communities Program.

USDOT Adopts the DOE's Categorical Exclusion for Electric Vehicle Charging Stations

On September 20, 2023, the USDOT published a <u>notice</u> in the Federal Register to adopt the Department of Energy's (DOE's) Electric Vehicle Charging Stations Categorical Exclusion (CE) under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) to use in programs and funding opportunities administered by the USDOT. The notice describes the categories of proposed actions for which the USDOT intends to use the DOE's CEs and describes the consultation between the agencies.

FHWA Resources on Asset Management, Roadway Classification, Reliability, Public Involvement

FHWA recently published the following resources:

- The Art of Selecting Projects: 2023 Transportation Asset Management Peer Exchange;
- Highway Functional Classification Concepts, Criteria and Procedures, 2023 Edition;
- <u>Linking Transportation Asset Management, Transportation Performance Management, and Performance-Based Planning and Programming;</u>
- Travel Time Reliability Reference Guide; and
- Virtual Public Involvement Documentaries (Six-Video Playlist).

NCHRP Research on Transportation Technologies, Safety, and Roadway Design

The National Cooperative Highway Research Program (NCHRP) recently published the following research:

- Becoming a Tech-Savvy DOT of Tomorrow;
- Impact of New Disruptive Technologies on the Performance of DOTs;
- Pedestrian and Bicycle Safety Performance Functions; and
- Roadway Cross-Section Reallocation: A Guide.

NHI Launches Complete Streets Course Series

The National Highway Institute (NHI) recently launched a Complete Streets Course Series, including the following trainings:

- Planning for Complete Streets (<u>web-conference</u> or <u>instructor-led</u>);
- Designing for Complete Streets (web-conference or instructor-led); and
- Planning and Designing Complete Streets (web-conference or instructor-led).

Upcoming Webinars on Equity, Freight, and the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law

Here is the registration information for some upcoming webinars in November:

- November 3 USDOT Advisory Committee on Transportation Equity;
- November 14 Talking Freight: Freight and Wildlife Considerations;
- November 15 Elevating Equity and Safety in Project Prioritization; and
- November 15 Commemorating the Second Anniversary of the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law.



Item 6D:

Committee & Workgroup Updates

Prioritization Subcommittee— met on November 1st

Points of Discussion:

- MOU Survey
- LAPP Update
- CTP Amendments

Transit Operators' Workgroup— last met on October 18th; Points of Business/Discussion:

- October 18th Agenda:
 - o 5307 funding updates
 - NCDOT Regional Transit Study Update
 - Updates from Agencies

5307 Subrecipient Workgroup- met on September 12th, 2023

Points of Business/Discussion:

- Updated Urbanized Areas (UZAs) from US Census finalized and published January 9, 2023
- Asheville UZA land area shrank from 262 to 250 sq. mi., population increased from 279,201 to 285,495; new UZAs: Waynesville, 24,285 pop.; Canton, 8,812 pop., Brevard,13,059 pop.
- FY 2023 allocations:
 - City of Asheville, 42.6%
 - Buncombe County, 28.6%
 - Haywood County, 8.3%
 - Henderson County, 20.4%
- FY 2024 allocations (proposed):
 - City of Asheville, 46.8%
 - Buncombe County, 32.0%
 - Haywood County, n/a
 - Henderson County, 21.2%
- Discussion of 5307 Sub-Recipients allocation formula; MPO staff and Work Group members agreed to the following approach:



- No new funding formula study at this time in light of Henderson County and Asheville-Buncombe County transit studies underway.
- Keep the formula the same, albeit with updated FTA National Transit Database (NTD) operational data, but not population data from ESRI Community Analyst; only official US Census population data is the preferred source for population data.

Hellbender Trail Stakeholder Group/Regional Trail Forum Updates- forum held in August. Next Stakeholder Group TBD.



MPO Studies Status

Study	Managing Entity	Year Programmed	Status
Reed Creek Greenway Feasibility Study	City of Asheville	2023	Underway
2050 Socio-Economic Projections	FBRMPO	2023	Consultant Selected
CTP/MTP Update	FBRMPO	2024	Letter of Interest Due
Safe Streets for All Regional Action Plan	FBRMPO	2024	Letters of Interest Due 11/10
Patton Avenue Corridor Study	City of Asheville	2023	Underway
Ridgecrest Connector Greenway Feasibility Study	Town of Black Mountain	2023	Consultant Selected
Cane Creek Greenway Study	Town of Fletcher	2024	Agreement Being Drafted
Woodfin-Weaverville Greenway Study	Town of Woodfin	2024	Agreement Drafted
Buncombe County Multimodal Master Plan	Buncombe County	2024	Agreement Being Drafted
Hellbender Implementation Plan	FBRMPO	2024	Not Started
Regional ITS Plan	FBRMPO	2024	Not Started
Travel Survey/Model Upgrades	FBRMPO	2024	Not Started
Staffing & Implementation Study	Land of Sky	2024	Not Started

Additional Items:

Recommended Actions: Accept the reports.



Legislative Updates