

Citizens' Advisory Committee

April 8th, 2024 – 1:00 P.M

In Person: 339 New Leicester Hwy Ste 140, Asheville, NC 28806

OR

Virtual: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/88197241040?pwd=uK2R7CKhb7hICKFKagecQ3JY1yF9rs.1>

Passcode: 969369

1. Welcome and Housekeeping

- A. Welcome and Introductions

2. Public Comment

3. Business

- A. Hellbender Regional Greenway Forum
- B. P7 Survey

4. Informational

- A. P7 Schedule Changes
- B. Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A)
- C. Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) Update

5. Topics for Next Meeting?

- A. July 8th, 2024

6. Public Comment II

7. Adjournment

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Item 3A: Hellbender Regional Greenway Forum

The French Broad River MPO & Land of Sky RPO will hold its Annual Regional Greenway Forum in the late Summer/early Fall of this year! The purpose of the forum is to educate on the planning process, raise awareness of future projects, and celebrate the greenways in our region. Last year over 100 people joined us in the River Arts District in Asheville to enjoy a day of education and good discussions.

Why is it called the 'Hellbender' Regional Greenway Forum?

The name 'Hellbender Regional Greenway Forum' stems from the Hellbender Regional Greenway Network plan in our region – a plan of interconnected greenways that will connect Buncombe, Haywood, Henderson, Madison, & Transylvania Counties.

When and Where is the next Forum?

This year's Hellbender Regional Greenway Forum will be held in Brevard, NC in early-to-mid September (exact date TBD). The event will be **tentatively** structured as follows:

- Exhibit Booths/Coffee Hour
- Keynote Presentation
- Session I
- Session II
- Lunch + Hellbender Update
- Optional Greenway Walk



Action: Discuss Session/Speaker Ideas

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Item 3B: P7 Survey

What is P7?

The Strategic Prioritization Process is a data-driven, transparent method for prioritizing transportation projects and is used to develop the State Transportation Improvement Program/ Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program (STIP/MTIP), which identifies the projects that will be funded during a 10-year period. Prioritization scores all roadway, public transportation, bicycle & pedestrian, rail, ferry, and aviation projects based upon approved criteria.

The Prioritization Process (aka SPOT) is the process that determines the majority of capital improvement projects funded through NCDOT and NCDOT's allotment of federal funds. The process is governed by the Strategic Transportation Investments (STI) Law of 2012 that provides the framework for a more data-driven and transparent process that also utilizes local input from NCDOT Divisions, MPOs, and RPOs. In relation to other aspects of transportation planning, the prioritization process serves as the bridge to determine what long-range needs are funded in the TIP/STIP for implementation.

P 7.0 refers to the seventh iteration of the prioritization process in North Carolina and will be the process that determines what new projects are funded in the 2026- 2035 TIP/STIP.

P7 Survey

The P7 survey was developed over the last couple of months through coordinated efforts between the MPO, RPO, NCDOT, and input from the Citizens' Advisory Committee. The survey includes the carryover projects from prior rounds of Prioritization as well as the new project submittals that were submitted for this round of Prioritization. **The purpose of the survey is to gain an understanding of public sentiment around each project and will be used to inform official regional priorities later this year.**

The survey is divided by county and mode (Highways/Roads, Bike/Ped, Transit, & Rail). Survey-takers can choose sections of the survey by county and are presented with a map of projects that are competing in this round of Prioritization. Users can rate the project on a scale of 1 to 5 with the option to provide detailed comments at the bottom of each section.

P7 Survey Promotion

The survey is currently open and will be open until Monday May 20th. The MPO & RPO are pursuing several routes to enable the survey to reach a wide audience. Digital promotion includes social media promotion, social media advertising, and distribution via email lists and committees. Physical promotion includes disposable coasters and flyers, both with scannable QR codes, that will be

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distributed to various coffee shops, breweries, community centers, etc. around the region. We are also leaning on the MPO & RPO's respective Technical Coordinating Committee and Governing Board to amplify the survey in their respective jurisdictions.

Survey Link

English: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/WWSGKHQ>

Español: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/6SZHPZL>

Action: Discuss survey promotion & brainstorm new avenues for promotion

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Item 4A: P7 Schedule Changes

What is P7?

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What is the Timeline of SPOT 7.0?

The Prioritization process requires coordination between NCDOT and every MPO, RPO, and Division across the state. The process is currently in the data review period, where NCDOT reviews all project submittals and awards them their initial scores. NCDOT has run into some delays, and thus this round's schedule has shifted as needed. Below is this original schedule and the updated current schedule.

Previous Schedule *(schedule presented to the CAC in January)*

Date	Event
July, 2023	Local Government Discussions on Potential Submittals
August, 2023	Draft Submittal List (Board Action Required)
August-September, 2023	Public Comment on Draft Submittal List
October, 2023	Final Submittal List (Board Action Required)
February, 2024	Data Review
March, 2024	Local Input Point Methodology Adoption (Board Action Required)
April, 2024	Statewide Mobility Projects Programmed
May, 2024	Draft Local Input Point Assignment for Regional Impact Projects

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May-June, 2024	Public Comment on Draft Local Input Point Assignment for Regional Impact Projects
June, 2024	Final Local Input Point Assignment for Regional Impact Projects
August, 2024	Regional Impact Projects Programmed
October, 2024	Draft Local Input Point Assignment for Division Needs Projects
October-November, 2024	Public Comment on Draft Local Input Point Assignment for Division Needs Projects
November, 2024	Final Local Input Point Assignment for Division Needs Projects
February, 2025	Draft 2026-2035 TIP/STIP Released
August, 2025	Final 2026-2035 TIP/STIP (Board Action Required)

Updated Schedule

Date	Event
July, 2023	Local Government Discussions on Potential Submittals
August, 2023	Draft Submittal List (Board Action Required)
August-September, 2023	Public Comment on Draft Submittal List
October, 2023	Final Submittal List (Board Action Required)
February, 2024	Data Review
May, 2024	Local Input Point Methodology Adoption (Board Action Required)
May, 2024	Statewide Mobility Projects Programmed
June, 2024	Draft Local Input Point Assignment for Regional Impact Projects
June - August, 2024	Public Comment on Draft Local Input Point Assignment for Regional Impact Projects
August, 2024	Final Local Input Point Assignment for Regional Impact Projects
September, 2024	Regional Impact Projects Programmed
September, 2024	Draft Local Input Point Assignment for Division Needs Projects
September -November, 2024	Public Comment on Draft Local Input Point Assignment for Division Needs Projects
November, 2024	Final Local Input Point Assignment for Division Needs Projects
January, 2025	Draft 2026-2035 TIP/STIP Released
June, 2025	Final 2026-2035 TIP/STIP (Board Action Required)

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Item 4B: Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) Plan

The FBRMPO and LOSRPO kicked off our Safe Streets for All (SS4A) safety action plan last month. The SS4A program supports the U.S. Department of Transportation's National Roadway Safety Strategy and our goal of zero roadway deaths. This will be the first Vision Zero/Safety Action Plan in Western North Carolina. The FBRMPO and LOSRPO are working closely with our consultant, VHB, and there will be many opportunities for public engagement, with community outreach events throughout the summer.

If you have any questions, please reach out to Hannah Bagli, hannah@landofsky.org.

FRENCH BROAD RIVER

METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

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Item 4C: Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) Update

What is the Metropolitan Transportation Plan?

The Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) is a fiscally constrained and required planning document that reflects planned transportation investments over the next twenty-five years. It forecasts changes in the region and seeks to identify transportation improvements needed to keep travelers and goods moving smoothly and how to fund those improvements.

The plan is multi-modal and identifies investments in roadway, public transportation, bicycle and pedestrian, rail and aviation projects. The current MTP 2045, was adopted by the MPO on September 24, 2020. The plan is required to be updated every 5 years. **The MPO has hired a consultant to develop the 2050 MTP for the region.**



MPO staff will give a brief overview of the process of updating the MTP and what it will look like over the coming months.