

# Prioritization Subcommittee

## *Meeting Agenda*

July 10, 2024

9:30 AM

**Meeting to be held at Land of Sky Regional Council or via**

**Zoom:** <https://zoom.us/j/91373453789>

**Voting Members on the Committee:** Jessica Morris (City of Asheville, Vice-Chair), William High (Buncombe County), Autumn Radcliff (Henderson County), Anthony Sutton (Town of Waynesville), Elizabeth Teague (Town of Waynesville, Chair), Archie Pertiller (Town of Black Mountain), Catherine Cordell (Town of Weaverville)

<b>1. Welcome and Introductions</b>	Elizabeth Teague
<b>2. Public Comment</b>	Elizabeth Teague
<b>3. Approval of June, 2024 Meeting Minutes</b>	Elizabeth Teague
<b>4. Business</b>	
A. Ranking of Existing STIP Projects	Tristan Winkler, MPO Staff
B. 2050 Socio-Economic Projections	Colby Brown, Manhan & Associates
C. 2050 MTP	Joel Strickland/Emily Scott-Cruz, McAdams
<b>5. News, Events, Updates</b>	Elizabeth Teague
<b>6. Public Comment</b>	Elizabeth Teague
<b>7. Adjournment</b>	Elizabeth Teague

# Item 4A

## Ranking of Existing STIP Projects

From NCDOT:

“As part of the development of the 2026-2035 Draft STIP, NCDOT is seeking input from Planning Organizations (POs) and Divisions on priorities of existing committed projects. These projects have previously been selected for funding through Prioritization 3.0 (P3.0), Prioritization 4.0 (P3.0), or Prioritization 5.0 (P5.0). The input will be used to assist the STIP Unit when adjusting schedules to meet federal and state fiscal constraint requirements. As you are aware, the P7.0 funding availability for many of the Regional Impact and Division Needs funding categories is in the negative (see attached funding availability as of May 17, 2024). For these funding categories, schedule changes will occur to meet federal and state fiscal constraint requirements for the Draft 2026-2035 STIP.

By default, the STIP Unit will use the Seniority Approach as the initial ranking of priorities for the 7 Regional Impact and 14 Division Needs funding categories (the Statewide Mobility category has already been completed). The Seniority Approach was recommended by the Prioritization Workgroup and approved by the Board of Transportation (BOT) to develop the 2024-2033 STIP. This approach ranks projects in each STI funding category as follows: highest to lowest scoring projects from P3.0, followed by highest to lowest scoring projects from P4.0, followed by highest to lowest scoring projects from P5.0.

POs and Divisions can modify rankings within their Region or Division as long as **both the PO and Division agree on any changes**. If the PO and Division do not agree on changes, or do not desire to make any changes, the STIP Unit will continue to use Seniority Approach rankings as input in the development of the Draft 2026-2035 STIP.

The attached spreadsheet contains multiple tabs of the existing committed projects within your PO by STI funding category, with each tab sorted by Seniority Rank. If there is a desire to adjust the rankings in any of the STI funding categories, please enter the new rankings in column E, with any additional comments or pertinent information that will assist the STIP Unit when adjusting schedules. Please note that not all POs have existing committed projects in all STI funding categories. In addition, each project should have a unique ranking (i.e., no multiple #1s).

We highly encourage each PO and Division to set up meeting(s) to discuss proposed changes to the rankings and invite STIP Unit staff to participate virtually if desired (Ben Johnson for Divisions 1, 2, 3, 4, 6; David Wasserman for Divisions 5, 7, 8, 9; and Teresa Robinson for Divisions 10, 11, 12, 13, 14)

**All revisions to the rankings are due by August 30<sup>th</sup>**, to meet the schedule of releasing the Draft 2026-2035 in January 2025. Rankings are one input the STIP Unit will consider when developing the Draft STIP. Other considerations include (but not limited to) funding availability, project delivery

schedule, project cost, project sequencing, whether the project has been awarded a federal discretionary, and whether right-of-way has already been acquired or is actively underway.”

In sum, the MPO is being asked for any potential changes to rankings with existing projects. This will be used by NCDOT in (re)programming projects currently committed in the STIP.

Projects currently committed in the STIP in the MPO are listed below by funding tier.

# REGIONAL IMPACT PROJECTS in FBRMPO

SENIORITY RANK	STIP ID	PRIORITIZATION CYCLE COMMITTED	PRIORITIZATION CYCLE SCORE	ROUTE	DESCRIPTION	COUNTY(S)	TOTAL REMAINING STI COST	CURRENT ROW START FISCAL YEAR	CURRENT CON START FISCAL YEAR
1	U-2801AB	P3.0	57.07	US 25A (SWEETEN CREEK ROAD)	SR 3116 (MILLS GAP ROAD) TO SR 3081 (ROCK HILL ROAD)	BUNCOMBE	\$ 117,198,000	2028	2031
2	A-0010AA	P3.0	53.64	I-26 (US 19/US 23)	SR 1781 (BROADWAY STREET) TO US 25/70	BUNCOMBE	\$ 323,501,000	2028	2031
3	U-6049	P4.0	62.09	NC 225 (SOUTH MAIN STREET)	SOUTH MAIN STREET AT SOUTH KING STREET TO US 176. WIDEN BRIDGE 440143 TO 5-LANES.	HENDERSON	\$ 7,800,000	2023	2027
4	I-2513AC	P5.0	73.84	I-26/I-240	NORTH OF I-40 TO SR 3548 (HAYWOOD ROAD). WIDEN TO SIX LANE FREEWAY.	BUNCOMBE	\$ 282,589,000	2023	2025

# DIVISION NEEDS (13) PROJECTS in FBRMPO

SENIORITY RANK	STIP ID	MODE	PRIORITIZATION CYCLE COMMITTED	PRIORITIZATION CYCLE SCORE	ROUTE	DESCRIPTION	COUNTY(S)	TOTAL REMAINING STI COST	CURRENT ROW START FISCAL YEAR	CURRENT CON START FISCAL YEAR
1	U-5832	Highway	P3.0	66.32	NC 81 (SWANNANOA RIVER ROAD)	SR 3214 (BILTMORE AVENUE) TO US 74A (SOUTH TUNNEL ROAD). WIDEN EXISTING ROADWAY.	BUNCOMBE	\$ 127,200,000	2028	2030
2	U-5834	Highway	P3.0	65.38	SR 3116 (MILLS GAP ROAD)	US 25 (HENDERSONVILLE ROAD) TO SR 3157 (WESTON ROAD). UPGRADE EXISTING ROADWAY.	BUNCOMBE	\$ 25,533,000	2019	2025
3	U-5019D	Highway	P3.0	38.53	RIVERWAY MULTI-MODAL NETWORK	LIVINGSTON STREET COMPLETE STREETS IMPROVEMENTS.	BUNCOMBE	#N/A		2026
4	U-5019E	Highway	P3.0	38.53	RIVERWAY MULTI-MODAL NETWORK	CRAVEN STREET BRIDGE IMPROVEMENTS OVER THE FRENCH BROAD RIVER.	BUNCOMBE	\$ 4,250,000		2027
5	I-4409	Highway	P4.0	79.71	SR 2500 (BLUE RIDGE ROAD)	CONVERT I-40 / SR 2500 (BLUE RIDGE ROAD) GRADE SEPARATION TO INTERCHANGE. WIDEN SR 2500 (BLUE RIDGE ROAD) TO THREE LANES FROM US 70 TO SOUTH OF I-40 AND UPGRADE ROADWAY SOUTH OF I-40 TO SR 2713 (SOUTH BLUE RIDGE ROAD).	BUNCOMBE	\$ 31,901,000	2024	2025
6	U-4739	Highway	P4.0	77.19	SR 3556 (AMBOY ROAD/ MEADOW ROAD)	I-240 TO NC 81/SR 3214 (BILTMORE AVENUE). UPGRADE ROADWAY WITH NEW BRIDGE OVER THE FRENCH BROAD RIVER.	BUNCOMBE	\$ 64,800,000	2025	2030
7	U-6047	Highway	P4.0	69.71	NC 112 (SARDIS ROAD/ SANDHILL ROAD)	NC 191 (BREVARD ROAD) TO US 19/23 (SMOKEY PARK HIGHWAY). WIDEN ROADWAY TO MULTI-LANES.	BUNCOMBE	\$ 136,598,000	2028	2031
8	EB-5965	Bike & Ped	P5.0	87.31	DEAVERVIEW ROAD	US 19/23/74A (PATTON AVENUE) TO WESTMORE DRIVE IN ASHEVILLE. CONSTRUCT SIDEWALK.	BUNCOMBE	\$ 2,564,000	2026	2027
9	EB-5822	Bike & Ped	P5.0	82.86	GREENWAY WILMA DYKEMAN	NORTHERN TERMINUS NEAR RIVERSIDE DRIVE AND HILL STREET TO PEARSON BRIDGE ROAD. CONSTRUCT MULTI-USE PATH ALONG THE FRENCH BROAD RIVER.	BUNCOMBE	\$ 3,783,000	2025	2026

# DIVISION NEEDS (14) PROJECTS in FBRMPO

SENIORITY RANK	STIP ID	MODE	PRIORITIZATION CYCLE COMMITTED	PRIORITIZATION CYCLE SCORE	ROUTE	DESCRIPTION	COUNTY(S)	TOTAL REMAINING STI COST	CURRENT ROW START FISCAL YEAR	CURRENT CON START FISCAL YEAR
1	U-5886	Highway	P3.0	37.97	SR 1170 (WHITE STREET)	SR 1171 (WILLOW ROAD) TO US 176 (SPARTANBURG HIGHWAY). REALIGN AND EXTEND ROADWAY.	HENDERSON	\$ 36,400,000	2023	2027
2	EB-5860	Bike & Ped	P4.0	71.59	BLYTHE STREET	BLYTHE STREET, US 64 (BREVARD ROAD) TO NC 191 (HAYWOOD ROAD). CONSTRUCT SIDEWALKS.	HENDERSON	\$ 1,200,000	2025	2026
3	R-2588B	Highway	P4.0	64.31	NC 191	SR 1381 (MOUNTAIN ROAD) TO NC 280 SOUTH OF MILLS RIVER.	HENDERSON	\$ 169,585,000	2021	2026
4	I-4400BA	Highway	P4.0	63.02	I-26	US 64 INTERCHANGE IMPROVEMENTS	HENDERSON	\$ 29,500,000		2029
5	U-6048	Highway	P4.0	61.98	US 19, US 23	SR 1836 (CHESTNUT MOUNTAIN ROAD) TO SR 1200 (WIGGINS ROAD). UPGRADE ROADWAY.	HAYWOOD, BUNCOMBE	\$ 29,200,000	2028	2030
6	U-4712	Highway	P4.0	58.41	US 23 BUSINESS (SOUTH MAIN STREET)	SR 1164 (HYATT CREEK ROAD) TO US 276 (PIGEON STREET). WIDEN TO MULTI-LANES.	HAYWOOD	\$ 57,402,000	2027	2030
7	EB-5963	Bike & Ped	P5.0	76.12	GROVE STREET	BARNWELL STREET TO US 176 (SPARTANBURG HIGHWAY). CONSTRUCT SIDEWALK.	HENDERSON	\$ 1,562,000	2025	2026
8	U-6158	Highway	P5.0	68.80	US 276	SR 1134 (CRYMES COVE ROAD) AND RACCOON ROAD. INTERSECTION REALIGNMENT.	HAYWOOD	\$ 3,801,000	2028	2030
9	U-6159	Highway	P5.0	68.44	US 276 (RUSS AVENUE)	US 23-74 (GREAT SMOKEY MOUNTAIN EXPRESSWAY) TO US 19 (DELLWOOD ROAD). ACCESS MANAGEMENT.	HAYWOOD	\$ 30,201,000	2028	2030

# Item 4B:

## **2050 Socio-Economic Projections**

### **Introduction**

As part of the development of the Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP), the MPO develops what's referred to as the "**Preferred Growth Scenario**" that determines how much growth the region should be planning to accommodate in 2050, what kind of growth is expected (in terms of demographics and business type), and where that growth is expected to go. This information feeds into the region's Travel Demand Model, which is used to develop traffic projections to determine future transportation needs. Outputs from the model are used to build Purpose & Need Statements for future projects as well as a starting point for the development of traffic forecasts that NCDOT uses to determine roadway needs for projects.

### **Last Time (2020)**

During the last time the MPO conducted this study in 2020 for the 2045 Metropolitan Transportation Plan, the MPO hired Manhan Group to develop the socio-economic projections for the 2020 Travel Demand Model update. Manhan developed three different growth scenarios that the MPO Board used to recommend a Preferred Growth Scenario that was used. The scenarios included:

- 1) **Business As Usual**- future development patterns similar to recent development patterns
- 2) **"Efficient" Growth**- future development would be more constrained to areas with existing water and sewer infrastructure
- 3) **"WalkUP" Scenario**- future development would be more focused in walkable areas and areas with lower transportation impacts

The MPO Board adopted the "WalkUP" Scenario in 2020.

### **2050 Socio-Economic Projections**

For this study, the MPO contracted with Manhan Group once again and scoped four growth scenarios to be considered.

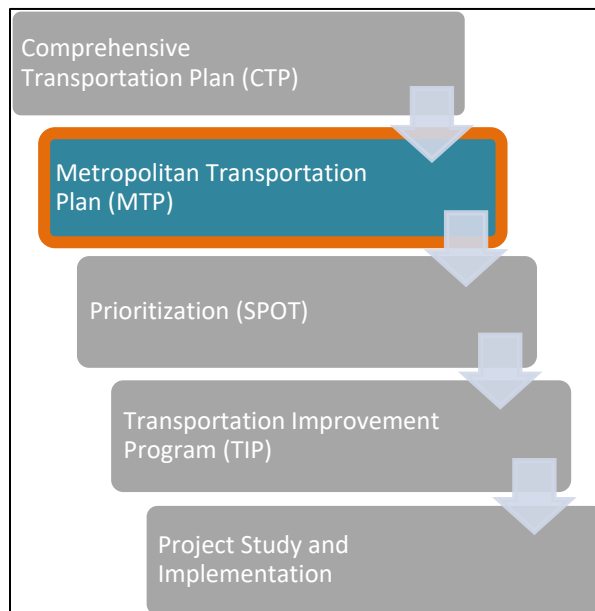
Colby Brown with Manhan Group will provide an overview of the study and provide an introduction to potential growth scenarios for the subcommittee to consider.

# Item 4C:

## 2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan

### Very Brief Overview

The Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) is a federally-required planning document that MPOs are required to update and maintain to reflect planned transportation investments in the region over the next twenty-five years. The MTP is required to be fiscally constrained, meaning that projects in the MTP have to be reasonably expected to work within projected revenues. The French Broad River MPO is required to update its MTP every five years with the last update completed in September, 2020 (not including amendments.)



### Why You Should Care

- Projects requiring federal actions or federal funds cannot proceed without being in the MTP
- Provides a realistic roadmap to the region's next 25 years by looking at current and projected challenges and opportunities
- Helps to explore links between transportation and land use
- Provides an opportunity to revisit regional priorities
- Involve the public and other stakeholders in regional transportation planning

### General Summary for Today

- Select branding for the 2050 MTP (see poll below)
- Review Phase I of Public Engagement



Phase 1 of Public Involvement for the 2050 MTP update, which aims at defining vision and goals for the plan, will occur over the next couple months—with a survey opening mid-July and public events over the first full week of August. The survey will remain open through the end of August, and we encourage you to share the website with your network: <https://publicinput.com/fbrmpo2050mtp>

Proposed events:

<b>Date / Time</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Event</b>
Friday, August 2 from 9-11am	Hendersonville Main Library (downtown)	Public Workshop
Friday, August 2 from 2-4pm	Mars Hill Town Hall	Public Workshop
Friday, August 2 from 6-8pm	Canton	Pickin' in the Park
Monday, August 5 from 3-4:30pm	Deaverview Apartments (Asheville)	Community Engagement Market

Please complete the following survey to identify your preferred concept for the “branding” of the 2050 MTP effort:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/68NZ3JT>