

Transportation Matters



photo from Maureen Copelot

Ribbon cutting on Davidson River’s new pedestrian bridge. The bridge is near the entrance to Pisgah National Forest, connecting to Brevard’s [Estatoe Trail](#).

Update

Are you wondering what this newsletter is? We are trying out a collaborative monthly newsletter that encompasses the following:

- French Broad River Metropolitan Planning Organization (FBRMPO)
- Land of Sky Rural Planning Organization (RPO)
- Land of Sky Safe Routes to School (SRTS)
- Land of Sky Transportation Demand Management (TDM)

Hopefully it goes better than [this](#) test drive.

International Winter Bike to Work Day

Sandy and Tristan bikepooled to the Land of Sky office for the February 14th celebration of cold-weather commuting. Temps in the 20s made for an invigorating ride!



photo from Sandy Broadwill

Active Surveys

Our Safe Streets for WNC project is conducting a survey on roadway safety in your community. This 10-question survey will help guide us in making our streets safer. Click [here](#) to participate.

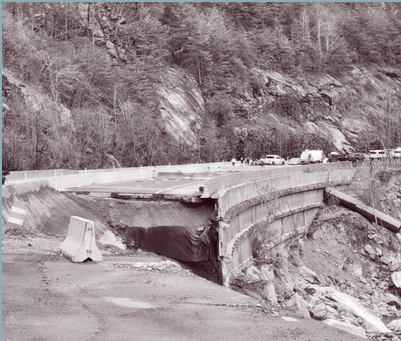
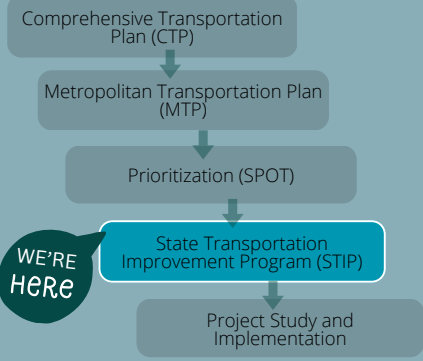


photo from Tristan Winkler

I-40 Update

Interstate 40 in the Pigeon River Gorge reopened on March 1, following extensive repairs from Hurricane Helene. Governor Josh Stein and NCDOT Secretary Joey Hopkins announced the reopening, highlighting the efforts to reconnect North Carolina and Tennessee and boost the local economy. The reopening features one lane in each direction between Exits 20 and 15, and from Exit 7 to the state line, with a 40-mph speed limit and restrictions on oversized loads. Permanent reconstruction efforts are underway. NCDOT remains committed to restoring full functionality to this vital transportation corridor.



Draft STIP

The State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) is a federally required document that reflects planned transportation investments over a 10-year period. The STIP describes each planned project, a schedule for implementation, funding sources, estimated costs, and is required to be in-line with MPO Transportation Improvement Programs (TIP). NCDOT released the draft 2026-2034 STIP and due to rising costs, multiple committed projects from the FBRMPO region were decommitted. Projects will have the opportunity to re compete for funding during the next prioritization cycle, slated to start later this year. For a full list of decommitted projects, click [here](#).



photo from Canva Pro Stock

Grant Spotlight

[AARP Community Challenge Capacity-Building Microgrants](#)
Due: March 5th

- \$2,500 with additional resources, such as webinars, cohort learning opportunities, and coaching. Categories: disaster preparedness training, walk audits, bike audits, & HomeFit Guide Modifications.

[The Skatepark Project's Skatepark/Skatespace Grant](#)
Due: March 31st

- Up to \$25,000 available to organizations or municipalities seeking to build public skateparks or skatespaces. Organizations or municipalities seeking funds for maintenance, improvement, or expansion of an existing public skatepark may be eligible to apply.

March Events

- 3/9** Hominy Creek Volunteer Workday. 10am @ the storage shed near Shelburne Road (HC Greenway)
- 3/19** Brevard Elementary Pop-up Bike Park 3:30-5:30 pm @ the school's court
- 3/19** Madison County Adult Fitness Equipment Grand Opening 1 pm @ 493 Medical Park Drive, Marshall
- 3/26** Brevard Bike Alliance Social Ride. 6pm @ Depot Railroad Ave Park
- 3/27** Bike Walk HVL Meeting 5pm @ Trailside Brewing

Public Meetings

- Prioritization Subcommittee**
March 5th 9:30am - 11:30am
- MPO TCC**
March 13th 11am - 1pm
- MPO Board**
March 20th 1pm - 3pm

Fun Fact

Did you know all Henderson County Transit and Haywood County Transit are always free to ride?

Get involved & stay connected



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