

Transportation Matters



The Land of Sky Regional Council’s Summer BBQ took place on Wednesday, August 20th, bringing together local leaders, advocates, partners, and stakeholders in WNC to the Bill Moore Community Park in Fletcher. Governor Josh Stein spoke, thanking our communities for all the hard work they’ve done for Helene recovery. Thank you to all of our partners who attended.

Elevate 2050 Adoption

The Elevate 2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan is set to go to the French Broad River MPO Board on Thursday, Sept. 18th for the Board to consider adoption. The plan looks 25 years into the future to look at existing & future needs of the transportation system in our region and prioritizes potential investments and policies. The plan has been developed over the course of a year and a half and has included 4 rounds of public engagement. It is a federally required document that is updated every 5 years and transportation projects receiving federal funds or requiring federal actions must be identified in the plan. More info on the plan [here](#).

State Prioritization Submittals

On Thursday, August 21st, the French Broad River MPO Board approved the Draft list of project submittals to the state’s prioritization process. This process was setup by the Strategic Highway Investments Act of 2012 and serves as one of the primary methods NCDOT, MPOs, and RPOs collaboratively determine what transportation improvement projects will be selected for funding. The MPO is allotted 18 projects (per mode) to submit for consideration in the process. Public comment on that list is open through September 17th. The list of project submittals is [here](#)



Summer Strolls

Our Safe Routes to School programming wrapped up the five-week community walk series. We had a total of 36 participants. The walks featured lots of meaningful conversations, pleasant community exploration, and gave some attention to local coffee shops. Look out for our next series in summer 2026 with locations in a wider geographic spread.

Connecting with SRTS

We have added a [Facebook](#) page to help folks keep up with the Land of Sky’s Safe Routes to School programming. You can now follow us on there and/or our already existing [Instagram](#) page.

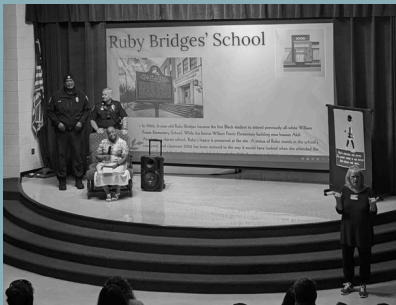


Bicycle Commuting 101

On August 12, Go Mountain Commuting lead a [Bicycle Commuting 101](#) lunch & learn for City of Asheville employees. This one-hour session is available for any business or community group who requests it! Those who take the casual course can expect to learn the following:

- Bike safety & rules of the road
- Route selection
- Bicycle infrastructure & facilities
- Commuting gear & bike locks
- Basic bicycle maintenance
- Most common collisions & how to avoid them
- Tips for inclement weather
- How to load a bike on the bus
- Tips for buying a bike
- Bicycling resources & community
- How to be a bicycle-friendly driver
- Tips for setting new habits

Email [Sandy](#) to book a Bike Commuting 101 for your org!



Grant Spotlight

[Ruby Bridges Walk to School Day Mini Grant](#)

Due Sept 2nd

- \$500-\$1000 for school programming
- Lucy S Herring held a successful event last year.

[NC Recreational Trail Program Grant](#)

Due: Sept 5th

- \$10,000 to \$100,000 to fund trail development projects.

No more P minimums?

The [NC House unanimously passed HB 369](#), which would eliminate parking minimums statewide. The senate should be taking up the bill when they return from recess this month.

September Events

9/7 - 9/9 [Bike Walk NC Annual Summit](#)

Hickory, NC

9/9 - 9/13 [City of Asheville Bike/Ped Counts](#) Sign up to volunteer!

9/15 - 9/19 [AMPO Annual Conference](#)

Providence, Rhode Island

9/29 - 10/5 [Week Without Driving](#)

Sign up to learn to ride the bus, or click the link above to learn about the various events during the week.

Public Meetings



Prioritization Subcommittee

Sept 3rd 9:30am - 11:30am



TCC

Sept 11th

RPO 10 am - 11 am

MPO 11am - 1pm



Board

Sept 18th

RPO 11:30 am - 1 pm

MPO 1 pm - 3:30pm

Back to School

School is back in session across the region. Do you want Safe Routes to School programming to come to your kid’s school? Reach out to [Ada](#) to get started or learn more at [lossrts.org](#)

Get involved & stay connected



MPO: mpo@landofsky.org

RPO: rpo@landofsky.org

Safe Routes to School: ada@landofsky.org

Go Mountain Commuting: sandy@landofsky.org



www.frenchbroadrivermpo.org/

www.landofskyrpo.org/

www.lossrts.org/

www.gomountain.org/

Email [here](#) to be added to our interested citizen list. Having trouble clicking the links? Make sure you are viewing the PDF attachment.