

P8 – Draft Assignment of Local Input Points for Regional Impact Projects

FRENCH BROAD RIVER MPO

Introduction

This informational packet reflects the DRAFT assignment of local input points by the French Broad River MPO as part of the current process of prioritizing transportation projects in North Carolina. The French Broad River MPO is holding a public comment period on its draft assignment of local input points from July 22 to August 19 in order to get feedback from members of the public. These comments will be considered on Thursday, August 20th at the MPO Board meeting that will provide the final assignment of local input points.

How to Comment on the Draft Assignment of Local Input Points

Comments may be sent in a variety of ways:

Email: MPO@landofsky.org

Mail (mailed comments received after August 19th will be forwarded to the Board after their final decision):

French Broad River MPO

339 New Leicester Highway, Suite 400

Asheville, NC 28806

In-Person: comments may be provided at the French Broad River MPO Board meeting, scheduled for 1:00 PM on Thursday, August 20th at Land of Sky Regional Council (with a Zoom option.)

FAQs

What is P8?

P8 is the eighth iteration of North Carolina's data-driven and transparent prioritization process used to determine what transportation projects become funded by state and federal funds in North Carolina allocated for improvement projects.

What are Local Input Points?

Local Input Points are a part of the prioritization process used by MPOs, RPOs, and NCDOT Divisions to “boost” the score of projects in the Regional Impact or Division Needs tiers. This enables these entities to reflect projects they see as priorities or not.

What is the Regional Impact tier?

Based on the rules of the prioritization process, there are three funding tiers that are differentiated by eligible project types, the geographic area in which they compete, and the amount of funding. The Regional Impact tier is for highway projects on US or NC routes, passenger rail projects that cross multiple counties, or projects from the Statewide Mobility tier that are requested to be considered by MPO Board or TCC members.

How Does the MPO Determine What Projects Receive Local Input Points?

The MPO developed a methodology, approved by the MPO Board, that is used to score projects based on safety, congestion, local priorities, freight, multimodal aspects, resiliency, impacts on the environment, and previous planning efforts. The methodology also includes considerations for when a maximum/minimum number of points should be used and notes that local input point assignments can be altered at the discretion of the MPO Board.

The MPO has 1,900 Local Input Points Available, Why Isn't It Planning on Using All of Those Points?

The MPO methodology includes a section on using a minimal number of Local Input Points if there is no funding available. In this round of prioritization there is projected to be \$122 million available in the Regional Impact tier in which the MPO competes for funding. The MPO utilizes fewer points in order to better reflect top priorities.

Projects Assigned Draft Local Input Points

County	Route / Facility / Project Name	From / Cross Street / Location	To / Cross Street	Description	Specific Improvement Type	Cost to NCDOT	Draft LIP Points
Buncombe	US 19 (Smokey park Highway), US 23	I-40	NC 151 (Pisgah Highway)	Implement access management and complete streets improvements.	11 - Access Management	\$ 194,600,000	100
Buncombe	US 70 (Tunnel Road)	Beaucatcher Tunnel	US 74 ALT (South Tunnel Road)	Implement a road diet with intersection improvements on US 70 (Tunnel Road) from Beaucatcher Tunnel to US 74A (South Tunnel Road)	24 - Implement Road Diet to Improve Safety	\$ 125,600,000	100
Buncombe	US 25 (Sweeten Creek Road)	SR 3116 (Mills Gap Road)	SR 3081 (Rock Hill Road)	Widen to multi-lanes	1 - Widen Existing Roadway	\$ 182,100,000	100
Buncombe	NC 63 (New Leicester Highway)	SR 1004 (Newfound Road)	SR 1377 (Gouges Branch Road)	Improve the intersections of NC 63 with SR 1004(Newfound Road), SR 1302 (Ramsey Road,) and SR 1377 (Gouges Branch Road)	25 - Improve Multiple Intersections along Corridor	\$ 29,000,000	100

County	Route / Facility / Project Name	From / Cross Street / Location	To / Cross Street	Description	Specific Improvement Type	Cost to NCDOT	Draft LIP Points
Buncombe	WNC Passenger Rail	Asheville	Salisbury	Upgrade rail infrastructure to support new intercity passenger service from Salisbury to Asheville on the AS Line.	5 - Passenger rail service (line)	\$ 96,400,800	15
Haywood	US 19 (Dellwood Road)	South Lakeshore Dr	SR 1207 (Dayton Drive)	Access management project which will eliminate the TWLTL.	11 - Access Management	\$ 39,100,000	100
Haywood	US 23 BUS (South Main Street)	SR 1164 (Hyatt Creek Road)	US 276 (Pigeon Street)	SR 1164 (Hyatt Creek Road) to US 276 (Pigeon Street). Widen to multi-lanes.	1 - Widen Existing Roadway	\$ 65,400,000	100
Henderson	US 176 (Spartanburg Highway)	NC 225	SR 1783 (Upward Road)	Construct median, sidewalk, and side path along road. Attempt to consolidate driveway cuts.	11 - Access Management	\$ 109,900,000	100
Henderson	US 25 BUS (Asheville Highway)	North Main Street	NC 191 (Haywood Road)	Improve Multiple Intersections along US 25B to improve safety	25 - Improve Multiple Intersections along Corridor	\$ 22,800,000	100

County	Route / Facility / Project Name	From / Cross Street / Location	To / Cross Street	Description	Specific Improvement Type	Cost to NCDOT	Draft LIP Points
Henderson	US 64 (Brevard Road)	SR 1312 (South Rugby Road)	SR 1424 (Brickyard Road)	Improve 5 Intersections along US 64.	25 - Improve Multiple Intersections along Corridor	\$ 29,000,000	100
Madison	NC 213 (Cascade Street)	Athletic Street	Bone Camp Road	Modernize NC 213 from Athletic Street to Bone Camp Road including Complete Streets	16 - Modernize Roadway	\$ 18,400,000	100

*NOTE: 15 is the maximum number of points the MPO can assign to the WNC Passenger Rail Project due to roughly 15% of the project being in the MPO.

Other Projects Considered For Local Input Points

County	Route / Facility / Project Name	From / Cross Street / Location	To / Cross Street	Description	Specific Improvement Type	Cost to NCDOT	Draft LIP Points
Buncombe	US 74 ALT (Patton Avenue)	NC 63 (New Leicester Hwy)	SR 1332 (North Louisiana Avenue)	Construct an additional westbound through lane to correspond to the U-5971B project, creating four receiving lanes west of the intersection of SR 1332 (N Louisiana Ave) at US 19/23 (Patton Ave). Change the northbound geometry to two left-turn lanes with a shared through-right lane. Split phasing will need to be replaced with standard NEMA phasing.	25 - Improve Multiple Intersections along Corridor	\$ 50,800,000	0
Buncombe	US 19, US 23, I-26	US 25/US 70	N/A	US 25/US 70 Interchange. Improve interchange.	8 - Improve Interchange	\$ 47,400,000	0

County	Route / Facility / Project Name	From / Cross Street / Location	To / Cross Street	Description	Specific Improvement Type	Cost to NCDOT	Draft LIP Points
Buncombe	US 25 ALT (Sweeten Creek Road)	US 25 (Hendersonville Road)	SR 3116 (Mills Gap Road)	Widen to multi-lanes	1 - Widen Existing Roadway	\$ 209,500,000	0
Buncombe	NC 191 (Brevard Road)	SR 3431 (Pond Road)	N/A	Construct an additional left turn lane on Pond Rd in order to provide dual left turns onto NC 191	10 - Improve Intersection	\$ 2,300,000	0
Buncombe	NC 112 (Sardis Road/Sandhills Road)	NC 191 (Brevard Road)	US 19/23 (Smokey Park Highway)	NC 191 (Brevard Road) to US 19/23 (Smokey Park Highway). Widen roadway to multi-lanes.	1 - Widen Existing Roadway	\$ 190,200,000	0
Buncombe	NC 191 (Brevard Road)	SR 3486 (Glenn Bridge Rd SE, Avery Creek Road), Southwicke Drive	N/A	Realign Glenn Bridge Rd to Laurel Park Dr. to covert to 4-leg intersections. Add exclusive left turn lanes on NC 191 at both intersections. Cul-de-sac Glenn Bridge Rd SE to maintain access to parcels near existing 5-leg intersection.	10 - Improve Intersection	\$ 8,600,000	0

County	Route / Facility / Project Name	From / Cross Street / Location	To / Cross Street	Description	Specific Improvement Type	Cost to NCDOT	Draft LIP Points
Buncombe	US 19/23	NC 151 (Pisgah Highway)	SR 1200 (Wiggins Road)	Perform access management along US 19/23 within the project limits. Include complete streets elements.	11 - Access Management	\$ 111,100,000	0
Buncombe	NC 81 (Swannanoa River Road)	SR 3214 (Biltmore Avenue)	US 74a (South Tunnel Road)	SR 3214 (Biltmore Avenue) to US 74A (South Tunnel Road). Widen existing roadway.	1 - Widen Existing Roadway	\$ 126,000,000	0
Buncombe	US 70 (W State Street)	SR 2500 (Blue Ridge Road)	NC 9 (Broadway Street)	Reduce the number of travel lanes and add complete streets elements.	24 - Implement Road Diet to Improve Safety	\$ 51,100,000	0
Haywood	US 276 (Russ Avenue)	US 23-74 (Great Smoky Mountain Expressway)	US 19 (Dellwood Road)	US 23-74 (Great Smoky Mountain Expressway) to US 19 (Dellwood Road). Access management.	11 - Access Management	\$ 42,500,000	0
Haywood	NC 215 (Penland Street)	US 19/23 (Park Street)	N/A	Improve the intersection of NC 215 and US 19/23	10 - Improve Intersection	\$ 22,000,000	0

County	Route / Facility / Project Name	From / Cross Street / Location	To / Cross Street	Description	Specific Improvement Type	Cost to NCDOT	Draft LIP Points
Haywood	US 19 (Asheville Highway), US 23	NC 215	SR 1836 (Chestnut Mountain Road)	Modernization of roadway including Complete Streets elements and improving intersection operations as appropriate.	16 - Modernize Roadway	\$ 47,900,000	0
Haywood	US 276	SR 1134 (Crymes Cove Rd), Raccoon Rd	N/A	SR 1134 (Crymes Cove Road) and Raccoon Road. Intersection realignment.	21 - Realign Multiple Intersections	\$ 6,500,000	0
Henderson	NC 280 (Boylston Highway)	NC 191 northern intersection (Old Haywood Road)	NC 191 Southern Intersection (Old Haywood Road)	Construct access management and intersection improvements.	11 - Access Management	\$ 53,100,000	0
Henderson	NC 191	US 25 (Asheville Highway)	SR 1381 (Mountain Road)	Widen to Multi-Lanes.	1 - Widen Existing Roadway	\$ 160,000,000	0