

MPO Governing Board

August 20, 2026 – 1:00 P.M., Hybrid Meeting, In-Person at Land of Sky Regional Council
or Via Zoom

Login: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82576830994>

Meeting ID: 82576830994

Call-In: 13126266799

Agenda

1. **WELCOME AND HOUSEKEEPING (10 min)**

A. Welcome and Introductions	Anthony Sutton
B. Ethics Statement for MPO Board Members	Anthony Sutton
 2. **PUBLIC COMMENT**
 3. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA & CONSENT AGENDA** Anthony Sutton

A. June, 2026 Board Meeting Minutes	
B. Letter of Support- WNC Source 5310 Application	
C. Prioritization Subcommittee Appointment	
 4. **ACTION ITEMS**

A. Approval of Regional Priority Projects	MPO Staff, 20 Min
B. Resolution Supporting Lennie's Law/Bicycle Safety Zones	MPO Staff, 10 Min
C. Pedestrian Bicycle Advisory Committee Appointments	MPO Staff, 5 Min
D. Approval of Funding & Schedule Changes to Regionally-Significant Projects	MPO Staff, 10 Min
 5. **INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**
 6. **REGULAR UPDATES**

A. NCDOT Division 13 and 14 updates	Tim Anderson/Wesley Grindstaff or Designee
B. Transportation Planning Branch	Daniel Sellers
C. Subcommittee/Workgroup Reports, Staff Updates, and Housekeeping	MPO Staff
D. Legislative Updates	MPO Staff
 7. **ANNOUNCEMENTS, NEWS, SPECIAL UPDATES (5 min)**
 8. **TOPICS FOR NEXT MEETING (September 17th)**
 9. **PUBLIC COMMENT**
 10. **ADJOURNMENT**
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FRENCH BROAD RIVER

METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

Staff Report & Recommendations

Item 3:

Consent Agenda

Item 3A: June, 2026 Meeting Minutes

Item 3B: Letter of Support- WNC Source 5310 Application

Item 3C: Prioritization Subcommittee Appointment

Staff Report & Recommendations

Item 3A:

June, 2026 Meeting Minutes

Available here: https://frenchbroadrivermpo.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/08/2026_06_18_MPO.DRAFT_Board_Minutes.pdf

Staff Report & Recommendations

Item 3B:

Letter of Support- WNC Source 5310 Application

Mr. Tim Camp, Transportation, Facilities and Safety Director
WNCSOURCE
526 7th Ave. E.
Hendersonville, NC 28792

August 3, 2026

Dear Mr. Camp,

On behalf of the French Broad River Metropolitan Planning Organization (FBRMPO), I am pleased to provide this letter of support for Henderson County's application for North Carolina Department of Transportation Enhanced Mobility of Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities (Section 5310) funding for FY 2027 to support Apple Country Transit, operated by WNCSOURCE.

FBRMPO has reviewed the application and fully supports the request for funding to continue providing essential transportation services for seniors and individuals with disabilities in Henderson County.

Reliable transportation is critical to ensuring residents can access medical appointments, shopping, community services, and recreational opportunities that contribute to their health, independence, and quality of life. These services play an important role in meeting the mobility needs of some of the community's most vulnerable residents.

We appreciate WNCSOURCE's continued commitment to providing these essential transportation services and look forward to the positive impact they will continue to have throughout Henderson County.

Sincerely,

Anthony Sutton
Chair, French Broad River MPO Board

Staff Report & Recommendations

Item 3C:

Prioritization Subcommittee Appointment

Item Overview

The MPO Prioritization Subcommittee plays an important role in advising the MPO TCC and Board and is made up of four members of the TCC and three members of the MPO Board. One representative from the TCC, Elizabeth Teague (Waynesville), plans to retire and will no longer be a representative of the TCC. Her position needs to be replaced.

Purpose of the Subcommittee

The MPO Prioritization Subcommittee was initially setup to advise the MPO TCC and Board on items related to the prioritization process but its role was expanded over the years to include the evaluation of the Locally Administered Projects Program (LAPP), being the steering committee for major MPO planning efforts including the Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP), and other items as needed.

Current Roster

All TCC, Board, and NCDOT members are welcome to join subcommittee meetings, but there are only seven voting members: four TCC representatives and three Board representatives. The current voting members include:

Anthony Sutton, Town of Waynesville (Board)
Archie Pertiller, Town of Black Mountain (Board)
Mark Endries, Weaverville (Board)
Autumn Radcliff (Chair), Henderson County (TCC)
William High, Buncombe County (TCC)
Jessica Morris (Vice-Chair), City of Asheville (TCC)

TCC Action

The TCC nominated Noah Taylor with Maggie Valley to replace Elizabeth Teague on the Prioritization Subcommittee.

ACTION REQUIRED: Consider Approval of Noah Taylor's Appointment to the MPO Prioritization Subcommittee.

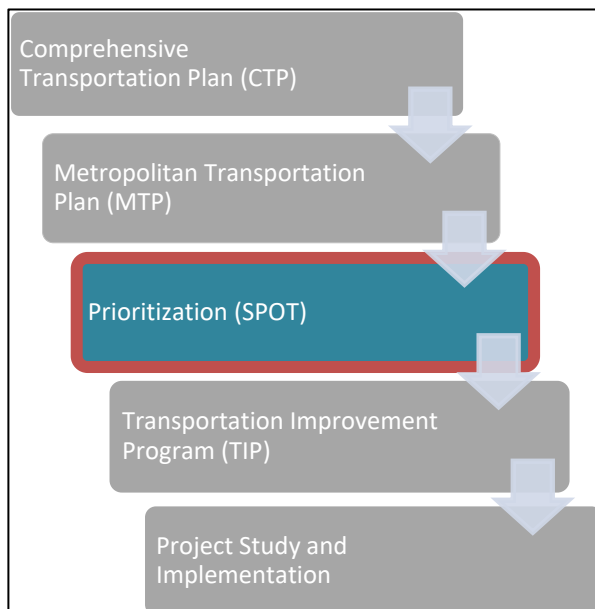
Staff Report & Recommendations

Item 4A:

Approval of Regional Priority Projects

Background

The Prioritization Process (AKA SPOT, AKA P 8) is the process in North Carolina that helps determine the majority of transportation improvements across the State. The process is dictated by the [Strategic Transportation Investments Act \(STI\) of 2012](#) and is generally designed to be a data-driven, transparent process to determine what transportation projects are funded or not. MPOs are engaged throughout the process to submit projects for consideration (along with Divisions and RPOs) as well as local input points that are used to boost the scores of projects competing for Regional Impact or Division Needs funding.



Action Items for Today

- Review P8 Survey Results
- Approve Final Local Input Point Assignment for the P8 Regional Impact tier

Staff Report & Recommendations

Summary of Recommendations

- The MPO has 1,900 Local Input Points for the Regional Impact tier
 - Local Input Points are used by MPOs, RPOs, and NCDOT Divisions to give projects a better chance of getting funded and to reflect regional priorities.
- **Regional Impact Projects Recommended to Receive Points (1,015)**
 - WNC Passenger Rail (15)
 - US 25B (Asheville Highway) Multiple Intersection Improvements (100)
 - US 70 (Tunnel Road) Road Diet (100)
 - US 23/74 (Smokey Park Highway) Access Management (100)
 - NC 63 (New Leicester Highway) Multiple Intersection Improvements (100)
 - US 25A (Sweeten Creek Road) Widening (100)
 - US 176 (Spartanburg Highway) Access Management (100)
 - US 64 (Brevard Road) Multiple Intersection Improvements (100)
 - US 19 (Dellwood Road) Access Management (100)
 - US 23B (South Main Street) Widening (100)
 - NC 213 (Cascade Street) Access Management (100)
- **Donate Points to Other Planning Organizations for WNC Passenger Rail (26)**
 - Charlotte Regional Transportation Planning Organization (14)
 - Cabarrus-Rowan MPO (12)
- **Transfer Points to Division Needs Funding Tier (500)**
- **Accept Donated Points from Land of Sky RPO (+200)**
 - NC 191 (Brevard Road) @ Glenn Bridge Road Intersection Improvement (100)
 - US 276 (Pigeon Street) @ Crymes Cove Road Intersection Improvement (100)

Staff Report & Recommendations

P8 Public Survey

The French Broad River Metropolitan Planning Organization (FBRMPO), in coordination with the Land of Sky Rural Planning Organization (LOSRPO), conducted the Prioritization 8.0 (P8.0) Project Prioritization Survey to gather public input on transportation projects submitted for consideration through North Carolina's Strategic Prioritization of Transportation Investments (SPOT) process. The survey was conducted online from **June 11 through July 22, 2026**, providing residents and stakeholders an opportunity to express their level of support for proposed highway, bicycle and pedestrian, transit, rail, and other multimodal transportation projects throughout the region.

The survey received **852 responses** from residents across Western North Carolina, representing **more than 120 ZIP codes**. Respondents were able to evaluate projects in multiple counties and across multiple transportation modes, resulting in broad regional participation. In addition to project ratings, the survey generated **304 written comments** that provided valuable insight into community transportation priorities and concerns.

Several consistent themes emerged from the survey results. Across every county, respondents expressed greater interest in **non-highway projects** than highway projects. Projects that improve **walking, bicycling, greenway connectivity, passenger rail, transit, and pedestrian safety** consistently received some of the highest ratings, while highway projects focused on addressing major regional bottlenecks, improving intersections, and enhancing safety generally received stronger support than projects centered primarily on roadway widening.

Although project priorities varied somewhat by county, several regional trends were evident:

- **Safety emerged as the region's highest transportation priority**, with respondents frequently identifying dangerous intersections, speeding, and the need for safer facilities for pedestrians and bicyclists.
- **Multimodal investments received broad respondent support**, particularly greenways, sidewalks, shared-use paths, passenger rail, and transit improvements that expand transportation options and improve connectivity.
- **Targeted highway improvements remained important**, especially projects that address congestion, operational efficiency, and safety along major interstate corridors and key intersections.

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Staff Report & Recommendations

- **Written comments closely reinforced the quantitative survey results**, emphasizing transportation choice, accessibility, regional connectivity, and investments that improve quality of life while maintaining an efficient transportation network.

[THE FULL SURVEY REPORT IS AVAILABLE ON THE MPO WEBSITE](#)

REGIONAL PRIORITY PROJECTS

At the June TCC & Board meetings, the MPO Board elected to assign DRAFT local input points to the following projects:

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
Buncombe	WNC Passenger Rail	Asheville	Salisbury	Upgrade rail infrastructure to support new intercity	5 - Passenger rail service (line)	\$ 96,400,800	15

339 New Leicester Highway, Suite 140 • Asheville, NC 28806 • www.fbrmpo.org

Long-Range Transportation Plan • Transportation Improvement Program

Highway Planning • Bicycle and Pedestrian Planning • Transit Planning • Air Quality

Public Involvement

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Staff Report & Recommendations

				passenger service from Salisbury to Asheville on the AS Line.			
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 (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
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

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Staff Report & Recommendations

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.	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
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

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County	Route / Facility / Project Name	From / Cross Street / Location	To / Cross Street	Description	Specific Improvement Type	Cost to NCDOT	Draft LIP Points
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

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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

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County	Route / Facility / Project Name	From / Cross Street / Location	To / Cross Street	Description	Specific Improvement Type	Cost to NCDOT	Draft LIP Points
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
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

Staff Report & Recommendations

Proposed LOSRPO Point Donation

The Land of Sky RPO has proposed donating local input points to the MPO to assign points to two additional projects.

County	Route / Facility / Project Name	From / Cross Street / Location	To / Cross Street	Description	Specific Improvement Type	Cost to NCDOT
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
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

Staff Report & Recommendations

Donation of Points to Other Planning Organizations for WNC Passenger Rail

- Greater Hickory MPO & Foothills RPO plan to apply their points to the project
- CRTPO and Cabarrus-Rowan MPO do not plan to apply their points but will consider if points are donated to them

Planning Organization	Percent of the WNC Passenger Rail Project	Local Input Points Needed from Each PO
Greater Hickory MPO	36.5%	37
Foothills RPO	22.5%	23
French Broad MPO	14.8%	15
CRTPO	14.1%	14
Cabarrus-Rowan MPO	11.8%	12

Local Input Point Transfer to Division Needs

Each MPO and RPO can transfer up to 500 points to the Division Needs tier. While these points are unlikely to be needed at the Division Needs tier, it may enable some other options with more funding available at the Division Needs tier (currently) and a number of lower cost projects at that tier.

Prioritization Subcommittee & TCC Recommendation: Recommend the Presented Priorities

Action Required: Recommend Approval of Regional Priority Project List, Including:

- Regional Priority Projects
- Donation of Local Input Points to Other Planning Organizations for WNC Passenger Rail
- Receive 200 Donated Points from Land of Sky RPO for Priority Projects
- Transfer of 500 Regional Impact Points to the Division Needs funding tier

Staff Report & Recommendations

Item 4B:

Resolution Supporting Lennie's Law

Background

Lennie's Law is a proposed state legislative initiative that would authorize the designation of Bicycle Safety Zones on qualifying roadways and allow enhanced penalties for certain traffic violations within those zones. The proposal is intended to provide an additional safety tool for corridors with substantial bicycle activity or documented safety concerns.

The MPO Board received an informational presentation on Lennie's Law in June 2026. Although formal action was not scheduled on the agenda, a motion was made during the meeting to support the proposal. The motion did not pass. Following the discussion, Board members agreed that the item should return in August for additional consideration and a formally scheduled vote.

Since the June meeting, multiple local governments in the region have adopted resolutions supporting Lennie's Law. The attached resolution would allow the MPO Board to take a formal position on the proposal.

Additional information from advocates is attached.

TCC Recommendation: Approve the Resolution of Support

Action Required: Consider Recommending Adoption of the Below Resolution supporting Lennie's Law.

Leonard Antonelli and Jacob Hill Bicycle Safety Zone Act of 2025

Aka: *Lennie's Law*

To honor the lives of Leonard Antonelli (Lennie, 27) and Jacob Hill (Jake, 32) - who tragically lost their lives on July 1st, 2025 when a commercial vehicle crossed the center line on a weekly group cycling ride near Asheville, NC on a popular cycling route - this bill proposes a simple solution to encourage and enforce stricter adherence to posted speed limits on popular cycling routes in North Carolina.

Similar to school zones with reduced speed limits and higher penalties for speeding, **Lennie's Law** proposes to designate certain popular cycling routes as **Bicycle Safety Zones** with higher penalties for speeding.

Local and State officials shall make road designations based on data of cycling related accidents and feedback from cycling groups in communities. Once a stretch of road is designated as a Bicycle Safety Zone, new signage should be put up along the route utilizing the existing "share the road" sign with this additional signage:

Bicycle Safety Zone **Fines Higher for Speeding** **Next 15 Miles**



This simple, cost effective measure will raise awareness of cyclists on the road and impose a greater penalty for disobeying posted speed limits - a leading cause of cyclist/vehicle related accidents.

It's time we had safer places to ride in Western North Carolina, and Lennie's Law is one easy piece of legislation that will move us further down the road in honor of two young cyclists who should still be riding today.

Staff Report & Recommendations

RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE LEONARD ANTONELLI AND JACOB HILL BICYCLE SAFETY ZONE ACT OF 2025, ALSO KNOWN AS “LENNIE’S LAW”

WHEREAS, the French Broad River Metropolitan Planning Organization is committed to advancing a safe, accessible, and multimodal transportation system for all residents and visitors to the region; and

WHEREAS, Western North Carolina is home to a significant bicycling community, and many roadways throughout the region serve as important recreational and transportation routes for bicyclists; and

WHEREAS, on July 1, 2025, Leonard Antonelli and Jacob Hill were tragically killed, and Griffin Tichenor was injured, when a commercial vehicle crossed the center line and struck them during a group bicycle ride near Marshall, North Carolina; and

WHEREAS, this tragic crash underscores the continuing need for coordinated efforts to reduce serious injuries and fatalities involving bicyclists and other vulnerable roadway users; and

WHEREAS, the proposed Leonard Antonelli and Jacob Hill Bicycle Safety Zone Act of 2025, also known as “Lennie’s Law,” would authorize the designation of Bicycle Safety Zones on qualifying roadways and provide for increased awareness, signage, enforcement, and penalties for certain traffic violations within those zones; and

WHEREAS, multiple local governments within the French Broad River MPO planning area have adopted resolutions supporting the proposed legislation; and

WHEREAS, Bicycle Safety Zones could provide an additional safety tool for roadways with substantial bicycle activity, documented safety concerns, or other conditions warranting increased driver awareness and enforcement; and

WHEREAS, the designation of Bicycle Safety Zones should be based on objective safety and usage data, local and regional input, roadway conditions, and the practical ability to provide meaningful and consistent enforcement; and

WHEREAS, Bicycle Safety Zones and enhanced enforcement should complement, rather than replace, roadway-design changes, infrastructure improvements, education, and other proven measures for improving the safety of bicyclists and all roadway users; and

Staff Report & Recommendations

WHEREAS, improving roadway safety requires continued coordination among the North Carolina General Assembly, the North Carolina Department of Transportation, local governments, metropolitan and rural planning organizations, law-enforcement agencies, and roadway users;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the French Broad River Metropolitan Planning Organization Board:

Expresses its support for the establishment of state legislation authorizing Bicycle Safety Zones on roadways meeting appropriate safety and usage criteria;

Encourages the North Carolina General Assembly to introduce and enact legislation generally consistent with the Leonard Antonelli and Jacob Hill Bicycle Safety Zone Act of 2025, including provisions for clear signage and enhanced penalties for speeding and other applicable traffic violations within designated zones;

Encourages the State to establish clear and objective criteria for designation, provide opportunities for local and regional input, and consider the feasibility of consistent enforcement when establishing Bicycle Safety Zones;

Supports coordination among NCDOT, local governments, planning organizations, law-enforcement agencies, and community stakeholders to identify appropriate candidate corridors and evaluate the effectiveness of designated Bicycle Safety Zones;

Affirms that Bicycle Safety Zones should serve as one component of a broader safety strategy that also includes roadway-design improvements, infrastructure investment, education, and other context-appropriate countermeasures;

Honors the memory of Leonard Antonelli and Jacob Hill and recognizes the proposed legislation as an effort to prevent similar tragedies and improve safety for bicyclists throughout North Carolina;

ADOPTED this 20th day of August 2026.

Anthony Sutton
Chair, French Broad River MPO Board

Attest, Tristan Winkler
French Broad River MPO Director

Staff Report & Recommendations

Item 4C:

Pedestrian & Bicycle Advisory Committee Appointments

Background

The MPO established a Pedestrian and Bicycle Advisory Committee at its April, 2026 meeting. The committee was setup to include:

- Five (5) members appointed by the MPO Board
- One (1) member appointed by Buncombe County
- One (1) member appointed by Haywood County
- One (1) member appointed by Henderson County
- One (1) member appointed by Madison County

The MPO held a call for applications from June 5th – July 6th and received 20 applications. Two of the applicants went on to be appointed by counties:

- Mike Sule- Buncombe County
- Hunter Marks- Henderson County

This left the MPO with 18 applications to consider. Staff recommendations for appointment are based on affiliation with community groups in the region and familiarity with the MPO. These include:

- Maddie Barondeau, Asheville
- Dawn Barr, Hendersonville
- Catherine Cordell, Weaverville
- Sherree Lucas, Asheville
- Laura Rice, Hendersonville

[The Full List of Applications](#)

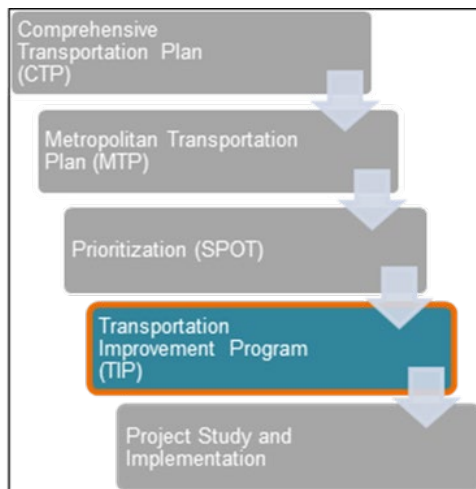
Action Requested: Recommend the Appointment of Five (5) members to the MPO Pedestrian & Bicycle Advisory Committee

Staff Report & Recommendations

Item 4D:

Approval of Funding & Schedule Changes to Regionally-Significant Projects

What is the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)?



The Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) is our region's document that reflects planned transportation investments over a ten-year period. The TIP describes each project, a schedule for implementation, funding sources, and estimated costs.

Amendment Highlights:

Amendments this month include:

- Updating the TIP ID for TG-0011 to TG-0022 (ART Routine Capital)
- Adding Utilities that were not previously programmed for BL-0076 (Riceville Rd Sidewalks), HS-2013O (Onteora Blvd Bridge Sidewalks), and HS-2414U (Carolina Blvd & Waitzel Way Safety Improvements)
- Delaying construction of I-4409A (Blue Ridge Rd Bridge Replacement) from FY 26 to FY 27

All TIP Amendment Summaries can be found here: https://frenchbroadrivermpo.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/07/FBRMPO_August2026_TIPAmendments.pdf

Action Required: Consider Recommending Adoption of the Amendments to the 2026-2035 TIP.

TCC Recommendation: Recommend Approval of the Amendments to the 2026-2035 TIP.

Staff Report & Recommendations

Item 6A:

Division Project Updates

Division 13: https://frenchbroadrivermpo.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/08/Division13_August2026_Updates.pdf

Division 14: https://frenchbroadrivermpo.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/08/Division14_August2026_Updates.pdf

Item 6B:

TPD Updates

FHWA/FTA Updates

FHWA Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Website: <https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/bipartisan-infrastructure-law/>

FTA Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Website: <https://www.transit.dot.gov/BIL>

Staff Report & Recommendations

Item 6C:

Committee & Workgroup Updates

Prioritization Subcommittee— met on August 5th, next meeting September 2nd.

- Regional Priority Projects

5307 Subrecipient Workgroup- met on May 19th, next meeting August 18th.

Points of Business/Discussion:

- Grant management update by the City of Asheville including discussion of funds at risk of lapsing
- Shared document repository discussion
- Locally Coordinated Plan update
- ConCPT Grant application requirements
- Driver/Workforce Issues
- Knowledge-sharing opportunities within current group composition

MPO Studies Status

Study	Managing Entity	Year Programmed	Status
Woodfin-Weaverville Greenway Study	Town of Woodfin	2025	Underway
Buncombe County Pedestrian Plan	Buncombe County	2025	Underway
Hellbender Implementation Plan	FBRMPO	2024	Not Started
Regional ITS Plan	FBRMPO	2024	Underway
Travel Survey/Model Upgrades	FBRMPO	2024	Contracting Underway
Staffing & Compensation Study	LOSRC	2024	Not Started
MPO Strategic Plan	FBRMPO	2027	RFLOI Drafted
US 64 (Four Seasons Boulevard) Corridor Study	FBRMPO	2027	Not Started
Buncombe County Transit Plan	FBRMPO	2027	Not Started

Staff Report & Recommendations

Item 6D:

MPO-Awarded Projects

TIP ID	Project Title	County	Project Status	When Will Current Phase Be Completed?	Construction Year (Beginning)	Managing Entity/Impacted Jurisdiction
BL-0005	Broadway St Ped Improvement	Buncombe	Closing Out	Recently Completed!		City of Asheville
HL-0012	I-240/Charlotte St Interchange & Ped Improvements	Buncombe	Closing Out	Recently Completed!		City of Asheville
BL-0007	Ecusta Trail (Kanuga Rd to US 64)	Henderson	95% Complete	Spring 2026 – completing punch-list items	2023	NCDOT/Henderson County
EB-5948	Onteora Blvd Sidewalks	Buncombe	Closing Out	Recently Completed!	2023	NCDOT/City of Asheville
U-5190	New Leicester Sidewalks	Buncombe	Closing Out	Complete.	2023	City of Asheville
HL-0014	Biltmore Ave/White Fawn Dr Intersection Improvements	Buncombe	60% Design	Moving to next phase in June 2026	2026	NCDOT/City of Asheville
EB-5944	Johnston Rd Sidewalks	Buncombe	Design – 99% R.O.W – 99%	Construction Underway	2026	City of Asheville
EB-5947	New Haw Creek Rd Sidewalks	Buncombe	Under Construction	Estimated to be complete in Summer 2026	2026	City of Asheville
U-5019A	Nasty Branch Greenway	Buncombe	Design – 100% R.O.W. – 100%	Construction to begin Fall 2026, Currently undergoing cost corrections	2026	City of Asheville
U-5019E	Craven St Bridge	Buncombe	Survey underway, design to begin August 2026			NCDOT/City of Asheville

FRENCH BROAD RIVER

METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

Staff Report & Recommendations

TIP ID	Project Title	County	Project Status	When Will Current Phase Be Completed?	Construction Year (Beginning)	Managing Entity/Impacted Jurisdiction
HL-0003	Haywood Rd Resurfacing & Ped Improvements	Buncombe	Under Construction	Under Construction	2026	NCDOT/City of Asheville
EB-5965	Deaverview Rd Sidewalks	Buncombe	Surveying underway	ROW – 2028 Construction - 2031	2031	NCDOT/City of Asheville
BL-0008	Clear Creek Greenway	Henderson	ROW – 100% Construction-To Begin May 2026	Construction to begin May 2026	2026	NCDOT/City of Hendersonville
BL-0076	Riceville Rd Sidewalks	Buncombe	Design – 75%	ROW beginning Summer 2026	2027	NCDOT/City of Asheville
EB-5547A	Riverwalk Greenway (Black Mountain Ave to Flat Creek Greenway)	Buncombe	Design – 90% ROW - 0%	Summer 2026 – will be let with EB-5547B	2026	NCDOT/Town of Black Mountain
EB-5547B	Riverwalk Greenway (Black Mountain Ave to Into the Oaks Trail)	Buncombe	Design – 90%	Release of ROW funds has been requested – will be let with EB-5547A	2027	NCDOT/Town of Black Mountain
EB-5774AA	Woodfin Greenway – Broadway St to Mill at Riverside	Buncombe	Design – 65%	ROW to begin in Fall 2026	2027	Buncombe County/Town of Woodfin
EB-5774AB	Woodfin Greenway – Mill at Riverside to Beaverdam Creek	Buncombe			Post 2030	Buncombe County/Town of Woodfin
EB-5824	Enka Heritage Trail	Buncombe	Design – 15%	On Hold	Post 2028	Buncombe County

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EB-5831	Coxe Ave Bike/Ped Improvements	Buncombe	Design – 70%	ROW – Fall 2026 Construction – FY27	2026	City of Asheville
BL-0006	Various Ped Improvements within Asheville City Limits	Buncombe			2026	City of Asheville
EB-5774B	Beaverdam Creek Greenway	Buncombe	Design – 25%	R.O.W. – 2026 CLOMR being considered for rise	2028	Buncombe County/Town of Woodfin
EB-5822	Wilma Dykeman Greenway Extension	Buncombe	Design – 25%	Going with river alignment, Public Meeting held in May 2026	2027	NCDOT/City of Asheville
HL-0013	9 th Ave Bridge Replacement	Buncombe	Design – 90%	LET date was in March, 2026, opening bids May 2026	2026	NCDOT/Town of Black Mountain
BL-0078	Ecusta Trail (US 64 to Transylvania County Line)	Henderson	Design – 30%	Out to Bid as Design/Build	2027	NCDOT/Henderson County
EB-5945	Champion Dr Multi-Use Path	Haywood	Alignment change being looked at		Funded for ROW Only	NCDOT/Town of Canton
EB-5946	NC 280 Multi-Use Path	Henderson	PE to Begin in 2028		Funded for PE Only	NCDOT/Town of Mills River
EB-5823	Bent Creek Greenway	Buncombe	PE to Begin in 2029		Funded for PE Only	Buncombe County

Item 6E:

Legislative Updates