



Western Piedmont Council of Governments

Greater Hickory Metropolitan Planning Organization

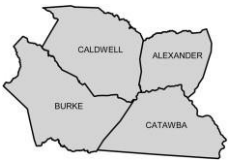
Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC)

Wednesday, April 22, 2026, 2:30 PM

WPCOG Offices—1880 2nd Ave NW

wpcog.org/metropolitan-planning-org

Agenda Item	Presenter	Attachment	Action
Call to Order /Ethics Awareness/ Introductions	Hank Guess		
Consent Agenda Items:			
A. Minutes of March 25, 2026 Meeting	Hank Guess	Attachment I	Approve Consent Agenda Items
B. Transportation Improvement Program Revisions for Release			
Transportation Improvement Program Revisions for Approval	Averi Ritchie	Attachment II	Adopt via Resolution
TCC/TAC & Public Survey Results	Averi Ritchie &	Attachment III	Presentation
NCDOT Board Updates			
	Brad Lail, Meagan Phillips		
Division 11	Michael Poe		
Division 12	Mark Stafford		
Division 13	Tim Anderson		
Transportation Planning Division	Reuben Crummy		
Integrated Mobility Division	Nikki Elsheimer		
Reminders	Averi Ritchie		
Public Comment / Announcements	Hank Guess		
Adjournment			
Next Meeting: May 27, 2026	Hank Guess		



GREATER HICKORY METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION (MPO)

1880 2nd Avenue NW, PO Box 9026

Hickory, NC 28603



MINUTES

**GREATER HICKORY METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION
(GHMPO)**

METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE (TAC)

Wednesday, March 25th, 2026, 2:30 PM In-person meeting and via Zoom

Present			Absent		
First Name	Last Name	Representing	First Name	Last Name	Representing
Melinda	Zimmerman	Town of Valdese	Larry	Yoder	Alexander County
Jill	Patton	City of Hickory	Jody	York	Town of Hildebran
Les	Morrow	City of Claremont	Donald	Robinson	Town of Catawba
Hank	Guess	City of Hickory	Holly	Crafton-Lay	Town of Maiden
Genita	Hill	Town of Long View	Jack	Simms	Town of Taylorsville
Jamie	Hagerty	Town of Granite Falls	VACANT		Brookford
Donna	Price	Town of Rhodhiss	VACANT		Gamewell
Jonathan	Beal	City of Lenoir	VACANT		Glen Alpine
Lanny	Ford	Town of Maiden	VACANT		Caldwell County
Martin	Townsend	Town of Granite Falls	VACANT		Cedar Rock
Mary	Furtado	Catawba County	VACANT		Connelly Springs
Jonathan	McClure	City Newton	VACANT		Sawmills
Molly	McKay	City of Morganton	VACANT		Rutherford College
Gary	Sigmon	City of Claremont	VACANT		Drexel
Barbara	Beatty	Catawba County			
Mark	Canrobert	City of Conover			

Mike	Stroud	Burke County			
Jim	Engleman	Town of Hudson			
Richard	Andrews	Town of Cahah's Mountain			
<u>WPCOG, FHWA & GUEST</u>			<u>NC DOT STAFF</u>		
Averi Ritchie – WPCOG			Ruben Crummy – NC DOT TPD		
Casey Fullbright - WPCOG			Sean Sizemore – Div 11		
Daniel Odom – WPCOG			Michael Poe- Div 11		
Anthony Starr - WPCOG			Anson Merrithew – Div 11		
Alison Alexander – WPCOG			Travis Chrisawn – Div 11		
Michael Bowman - WPRTA			Travis Jordan – Div 12		
Renee Carswell – City Clerk Morganton			Dough Phillips – Div 13		
			Tim Anderson – Div 13		
			Stephan Sparks – Div 13		
			Dean Leadbetter – Div 11 & 12		
			Meghan Phillips – NCDOT BOT		
			Gabriel Johnson – Div 13		
			Brad Lail – NCDOT BOT		
			Brandon Whitaker – Div 11		

Call To Order/Ethics Awareness/ and Introductions: Chairman Guess called the meeting to order at 2:30 PM and welcomed all present. Introductions were conducted, followed by the Introduction of online viewers.

Approval of Remote Participation: Online attendees were, Meghan Phillips, Brandon Whitaker, Renee Carswell and Stephan Sparks. Chairman Guess canvassed the committee for any objections to online participants. Upon a motion made by Mr. Townsend and seconded by Mr. Morrow, online participation was approved.

Action Items:

- I. Approval of Consent Agenda:** Chairman Guess called for a motion to approve the consent agenda, which included the Minutes of the February 25, 2026 meeting and the Transportation Improvement Program Revisions for Release. Upon a motion made by Mrs. Patton and a second by Mr. Morrow, the Committee unanimously approved the consent agenda.
- II. Transportation Improvement Program Revisions for Approval:** Ms. Ritchie briefly presented the Transportation Improvement Program Revisions for Approval, condensing the review due to the large number of projects in the packet. Upon a motion made by Mrs. Patton and seconded by Mr. Townsend, the committee unanimously approved the revisions.
- III. Transit State of Good Repairs Performance Measures:** Ms. Ritchie presented the Transit State of Good Repairs Performance Measures as detailed in the agenda packet. Upon a motion made by Mrs. Patton and seconded by Mr. Canrobert, the committee unanimously adopted the measures.
- IV. Local Input Point Methodology for Prioritization 8:** Mr. Fullbright presented the Local Input Point Methodology for Prioritization 8. The committee reached consensus to approve the methodology.
- V. Resolution of Support for IMD Multimodal Planning Grant-City of Hickory:** Ms. Ritchie presented the Resolution of Support for the IMD Multimodal Planning Grant for the City of Hickory. Upon a motion made by Mr. Beal and seconded by Mr. Morrow, the committee unanimously approved the resolution of support.
- VI. LAPP 2026-Spring Call for New Projects:** Mr. Odom presented the Locally Administered Project Program (LAPP) 2026 Spring Call for New Projects. The committee reached consensus to release the call for projects for public comment.

NCDOT Update –

- **BOT –** Mr. Lail reviewed the latest newsletter and shared updates from a recent meeting with the Secretary of Transportation. Mrs. Phillips provided updates on board activities.

- **Division 11:** Mr. Poe reviewed the information provided in the agenda packet. Mr. Chrisawn provided an update on the Pinewood Road project, noting that it is progressing well.
- **Division 12:** Mr. Jordan reported that there were no major new updates, but noted there is currently a lot of resurfacing, mowing, and active construction occurring.
- **Division 13:** Mr. Phillips reviewed the project development list, noting that paving is underway. He also reported that the Connelly Springs Road bridge project is actively clearing and working through permitting and phasing.
- **NCDOT-TPD:** Mr. Crummy reported that there is no traffic forecast currently in progress and the GHMPO Comprehensive Transportation Plan (CTP) has been submitted for adoption. It was also noted that the TPD director is moving and new leadership will be stepping in.
- **NCDOT-IMD:** None.

Reminders: Ms. Ritchie reminded members to submit their TAC ethics forms. She also reminded the committee about the upcoming Federal Recertification review survey.

Public Comment/Announcements: None

Adjournment: Upon a motion made by Chairman Guess and a second by Mr. Morrow, the meeting was adjourned at 3:07 PM. The next meeting will be Wednesday, April 22, 2026.

Respectfully Submitted,

Hank Guess, TAC Chairman

Averi Ritchie, TAC Secretary

**REQUEST FOR BOARD ACTION
GREATER HICKORY METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION
TCC/TAC**

MEETING DATE: April 22, 2026

SUBJECT: Transportation Improvement Program Revisions for Release

PRESENTER: Averi Ritchie, Transportation Planning Director

ATTACHMENTS: Transportation Improvement Program Revisions for Release

SUMMARY OF REQUEST:

State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) revisions include modifications and amendments to regional and statewide transportation projects. STIP revisions are released for public comment and approved following a 30 day public comment period by TAC. All approved revisions are submitted for Board of Transportation approval. Modifications and revisions often include funding and fiscal year changes. Revisions are released monthly by NCDOT.

BOARD ACTION REQUESTED: Release for public comment.

Suggested Motion: *Approval to release for public comment*

REVISIONS TO THE 2026-2035 STIP
HIGHWAY PROGRAM

STATEWIDE PROJECT

STIP ADDITIONS

* C-5702D - STATEWIDE PROJECT
STATEWIDE
PROJ.CATEGORY
EXEMPT

NORTH CAROLINA CLEAN ENERGY TECHNOLOGY CENTER, SYSTEMWIDE CONDUCT A CLEAN-FUEL ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY OUTREACH AND AWARENESS PROGRAM IN ALL CMAQ-ELIGIBLE COUNTIES.

ADD PROJECT AT THE REQUEST OF DIVISION OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMMING.

IMPLEMENTATION

FY 2026 -	\$2,000,000	(CMAQ)
FY 2026 -	\$500,000	(L(M))
FY 2027 -	\$2,000,000	(CMAQ)
FY 2027 -	\$500,000	(L(M))
FY 2028 -	\$2,000,000	(CMAQ)
FY 2028 -	\$500,000	(L(M))
FY 2029 -	\$2,000,000	(CMAQ)
FY 2029 -	\$500,000	(L(M))
FY 2030 -	\$2,000,000	(CMAQ)
FY 2030 -	\$500,000	(L(M))
FY 2031 -	\$2,000,000	(CMAQ)
FY 2031 -	\$500,000	(L(M))
FY 2032 -	\$2,000,000	(CMAQ)
FY 2032 -	\$500,000	(L(M))
FY 2033 -	\$2,000,000	(CMAQ)
FY 2033 -	\$500,000	(L(M))
FY 2034 -	\$2,000,000	(CMAQ)
FY 2034 -	\$500,000	(L(M))
FY 2035 -	\$2,000,000	(CMAQ)
FY 2035 -	\$500,000	(L(M))
	<u>\$25,000,000</u>	

* INDICATES FEDERAL AMENDMENT

REVISIONS TO THE 2026-2035 STIP
HIGHWAY PROGRAM

STATEWIDE PROJECT

STIP MODIFICATIONS

* C-5702E	- STATEWIDE PROJECT	NORTH CAROLINA CLEAN ENERGY TECHNOLOGY	IMPLEMENTATION	FY 2026 -	\$6,033,000	(CMAQ)
STATEWIDE		CENTER, SYSTEMWIDE CONDUCT EMISSIONS-		FY 2026 -	\$1,711,000	(L(M))
PROJ.CATEGORY		REDUCING SUB-AWARDS IN ALL CMAQ-ELIGIBLE		FY 2027 -	\$3,000,000	(CMAQ)
EXEMPT		COUNTIES, INCLUDING EDUCATION AND OUTREACH.		FY 2027 -	\$750,000	(L(M))
		<u>MODIFY FUNDING AT THE REQUEST OF THE DIVISION</u>		FY 2028 -	\$3,000,000	(CMAQ)
		<u>OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMMING.</u>		FY 2028 -	\$750,000	(L(M))
				FY 2029 -	\$3,000,000	(CMAQ)
				FY 2029 -	\$750,000	(L(M))
				FY 2030 -	\$3,000,000	(CMAQ)
				FY 2030 -	\$750,000	(L(M))
				FY 2031 -	\$3,000,000	(CMAQ)
				FY 2031 -	\$750,000	(L(M))
				FY 2032 -	\$3,000,000	(CMAQ)
				FY 2032 -	\$750,000	(L(M))
				FY 2033 -	\$3,000,000	(CMAQ)
				FY 2033 -	\$750,000	(L(M))
				FY 2034 -	\$3,000,000	(CMAQ)
				FY 2034 -	\$750,000	(L(M))
				FY 2035 -	\$3,000,000	(CMAQ)
				FY 2035 -	\$750,000	(L(M))
					\$41,494,000	
* RX-2600	- STATEWIDE PROJECT	VARIOUS, IMPROVE PASSENGER RAIL CROSSING	ENGINEERING	FY 2027 -	\$500,000	(T)
STATEWIDE		SAFETY INVENTORY PROGRAM.		FY 2028 -	\$500,000	(T)
PROJ.CATEGORY		<u>MODIFY PRELIMINARY ENGINEERING FUNDING FROM</u>		FY 2029 -	\$500,000	(T)
DIVISION		<u>FEDERAL TO STATE.</u>		FY 2030 -	\$500,000	(T)
					\$2,000,000	

* INDICATES FEDERAL AMENDMENT

REVISIONS TO THE 2026-2035 STIP
HIGHWAY PROGRAM

GREATER HICKORY METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

STIP MODIFICATIONS

* C-5196 CATAWBA PROJ.CATEGORY DIVISION	- GREATER HICKORY METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION	16TH STREET (SANDY RIDGE ROAD), 21ST AVENUE NE INTERSECTION IN HICKORY. CONSTRUCT ROUNDBOUT. <u>COST INCREASE EXCEEDING \$2 MILLION AND 25% THRESHOLDS.</u>	RIGHT-OF-WAY	FY 2026 -	\$1,756,000	(CMAQ)
			UTILITIES	FY 2026 -	\$1,100,000	(CMAQ)
			CONSTRUCTION	FY 2027 -	\$6,523,000	(CMAQ)
				FY 2027 -	\$20,000	(BGANY)
				FY 2027 -	\$1,016,000	(L(M))
				FY 2027 -	\$571,000	(L)
				FY 2028 -	\$1,154,000	(BGANY)
				FY 2029 -	\$816,000	(BGANY)
					\$12,956,000	
			* EB-5978 BURKE PROJ.CATEGORY DIVISION	- GREATER HICKORY METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION	COLLEGE STREET, NORTH GREEN STREET TO US 70 IN MORGANTON. CONSTRUCT MULTI-USE PATH. <u>COST INCREASE EXCEEDING \$2 MILLION AND 25% THRESHOLDS.</u>	RIGHT-OF-WAY
	FY 2026 -	\$20,000				(L(M))
UTILITIES	FY 2026 -	\$8,000				(TAANY)
	FY 2026 -	\$2,000				(L(M))
CONSTRUCTION	FY 2027 -	\$2,320,000				(TAANY)
	FY 2027 -	\$580,000				(L(M))
	FY 2028 -	\$4,400,000				(TAANY)
		\$7,510,000				

* INDICATES FEDERAL AMENDMENT

**REQUEST FOR BOARD ACTION
GREATER HICKORY METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION
TCC/TAC**

MEETING DATE: April 22, 2026

SUBJECT: Transportation Improvement Program Revisions for Approval

PRESENTER: Averi Ritchie, Transportation Planning Director

ATTACHMENTS: Transportation Improvement Program Revisions for Approval

SUMMARY OF REQUEST:

State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) revisions include modifications and amendments to regional and statewide transportation projects. STIP revisions are released for public comment and approved following a 30 day public comment period by TAC. All approved revisions are submitted for Board of Transportation approval. Modifications and revisions often include funding and fiscal year changes. Revisions are released monthly by NCDOT.

BOARD ACTION REQUESTED: Recommend for approval.

Suggested Motion: *Motion to approve*

REVISIONS TO THE 2026-2035 STIP
HIGHWAY PROGRAM

GREATER HICKORY METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

STIP ADDITIONS

* HS-2611C ALEXANDER WILKES PROJ.CATEGORY REGIONAL	- GREATER HICKORY METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION - HIGH COUNTRY RURAL PLANNING ORGANIZATION	NC 16, SR 1334 (MOUNTT OLIVE CHURCH ROAD) TO US 421 SOUTHBOUND OFF/ON RAMP. INSTALL RUMBLE STRIPS AND LONG LIFE PAVEMENT MARKINGS. <u>ADD PROJECT BREAK AT THE REQUEST OF TRANSPORTATION MOBILITY AND SAFETY DIVISION.</u>	CONSTRUCTION	FY 2026 -	\$216,000	(HSIP)
				FY 2026 -	\$24,000	(T(M))
					\$240,000	

STIP MODIFICATIONS

* C-5196 CATAWBA PROJ.CATEGORY DIVISION	- GREATER HICKORY METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION	16TH STREET (SANDY RIDGE ROAD), 21ST AVENUE NE INTERSECTION IN HICKORY. CONSTRUCT ROUNDAABOUT. <u>COST INCREASE EXCEEDING \$2 MILLION AND 25% THRESHOLDS.</u>	RIGHT-OF-WAY	FY 2026 -	\$1,405,000	(CMAQ)
				FY 2026 -	\$352,000	(L(M))
			UTILITIES	FY 2026 -	\$880,000	(CMAQ)
				FY 2026 -	\$220,000	(L(M))
			CONSTRUCTION	FY 2027 -	\$4,112,000	(CMAQ)
				FY 2027 -	\$20,000	(BGANY)
				FY 2027 -	\$998,000	(L(M))
				FY 2028 -	\$1,154,000	(BGANY)
				FY 2029 -	\$816,000	(BGANY)
					\$9,957,000	
* EB-5978 BURKE PROJ.CATEGORY DIVISION	- GREATER HICKORY METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION	COLLEGE STREET, NORTH GREEN STREET TO US 70 IN MORGANTON. CONSTRUCT MULTI-USE PATH. <u>COST INCREASE EXCEEDING \$2 MILLION AND 25% THRESHOLDS. TO ALLOW ADDITIONAL TIME FOR PLANNING AND DESIGN, DELAY CONSTRUCTION FROM FY 26 TO FY 27.</u>	RIGHT-OF-WAY	FY 2026 -	\$180,000	(TAANY)
				FY 2026 -	\$20,000	(L(M))
			UTILITIES	FY 2026 -	\$8,000	(TAANY)
				FY 2026 -	\$2,000	(L(M))
			CONSTRUCTION	FY 2027 -	\$2,320,000	(TAANY)
				FY 2027 -	\$580,000	(L(M))
	FY 2028 -	\$4,400,000	(TAANY)			
		\$7,510,000				

* INDICATES FEDERAL AMENDMENT

REVISIONS TO THE 2026-2035 STIP
HIGHWAY PROGRAM

GREATER HICKORY METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

STIP MODIFICATIONS

TP-5106	- GREATER HICKORY METROPOLITAN	WESTERN PIEDMONT COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS,	PLANNING	FY 2026 -	\$8,000	(S(M))
ALEXANDER	PLANNING ORGANIZATION	SYSTEMWIDE. FUNDING FOR PLANNING ASSISTANCE.		FY 2026 -	\$8,000	(L(M))
BURKE		<u>MODIFY FUNDING AT THE REQUEST OF THE WESTERN</u>		FY 2026 -	\$57,000	(5303)
CALDWELL		<u>PIEDMONT REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY.</u>		FY 2027 -	\$9,000	(S(M))
CATAWBA				FY 2027 -	\$9,000	(L(M))
PROJ.CATEGORY				FY 2027 -	\$68,000	(5303)
PUBLIC TRANS				FY 2028 -	\$8,000	(S(M))
				FY 2028 -	\$8,000	(L(M))
				FY 2028 -	\$57,000	(5303)
					\$232,000	

* INDICATES FEDERAL AMENDMENT

TOWN of VALDESE

RESOLUTION

Resolution to withdraw the Massel Avenue Sidewalk Project, BL-0166,
from the Statewide Transportation Improvement Plan

WHEREAS, the Greater Hickory Metropolitan Planning Organization (GHMPO) issued a call for projects to agencies in its jurisdiction for Locally Administered Projects Program (LAPP); and

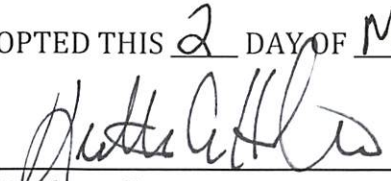
WHEREAS, the Town of Valdese submitted an application and funding was programmed for Preliminary Engineering, Right-of-Way & Utility Acquisition, and Construction for a curb and gutter sidewalk along Massel Avenue SE, Valdese starting at Rodoret Street S and ending at Carolina Street SE, identified as BL-0166 in GHMPO's Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP); and

WHEREAS, the Town of Valdese has determined that the sidewalk required by the LAPP Grant is cost prohibitive both as a singular project as well as it being cost prohibitive overall to the Town budget due to other competing projects which rose in costs; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Valdese is returning \$760,000 in Surface Transportation Block Grant – Direct Attributable (STBG-DA) funds to GHMPO's LAPP discretionary funding.

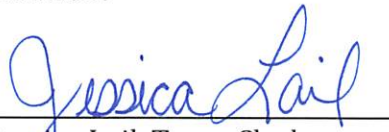
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Town of Valdese Town Council requests that the Western Piedmont Council of Governments withdraw the Massel Ave Sidewalk Project, BL-0166, from the Statewide Transportation Improvement Plan.

THE FOREGOING RESOLUTION IS ADOPTED THIS 2 DAY OF March 2026.



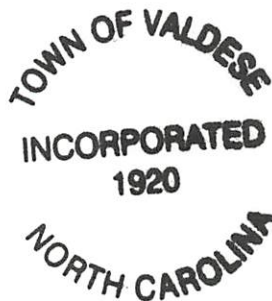
Keith Huffman, Mayor

ATTEST:



Jessica Lail, Town Clerk

(corporate seal)





**GREATER HICKORY
METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION (MPO)**
1880 2nd Avenue NW, PO Box 9026
Hickory, NC 28603



**RESOLUTION ADOPTING MODIFICATIONS TO THE
TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (TIP) FY 2026-2035**

A motion was made by _____ and seconded by _____ for the adoption of the following resolution, and upon being put to a vote was duly adopted.

WHEREAS, the following modifications have been proposed for FY 2026-2035
Transportation Improvement Program (TIP):
See page 1 of this Attachment

WHEREAS, the MPO certifies that these TIP modifications are consistent with the intent of the adopted 2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP);

NOW THEREFORE be it resolved, by the Greater Hickory MPO Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC) that the TIP FY 2026-2035 be modified as listed above on this, the 22nd day of April, 2026.

Hank Guess
Greater Hickory MPO TAC Chair

Averi Ritchie
Greater Hickory MPO TAC Secretary

**REQUEST FOR BOARD ACTION
GREATER HICKORY METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION
TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

MEETING DATE: April 22, 2026

SUBJECT: TCC/TAC & Public Survey Results

PRESENTER: Averri Ritchie & Casey Fullbright

ATTACHMENTS: Will be available at meeting once surveys have closed.

SUMMARY OF REQUEST:

As part of the Greater Hickory MPO's ongoing commitment to effective public involvement, and in preparation for the upcoming federal recertification review, two surveys were distributed to gather feedback on current engagement efforts.

A survey was provided to TCC and TAC members to assess the effectiveness of MPO public involvement processes from a technical and policy perspective. In addition, a separate survey was distributed to the general public to better understand community awareness, participation opportunities, and overall engagement experience. The public survey was also made available in Spanish to ensure broader accessibility.

The purpose of these surveys is to identify strengths and opportunities for improvement in public involvement efforts and to inform future enhancements to MPO outreach and engagement strategies. All surveys remained open through April 20, 2026.

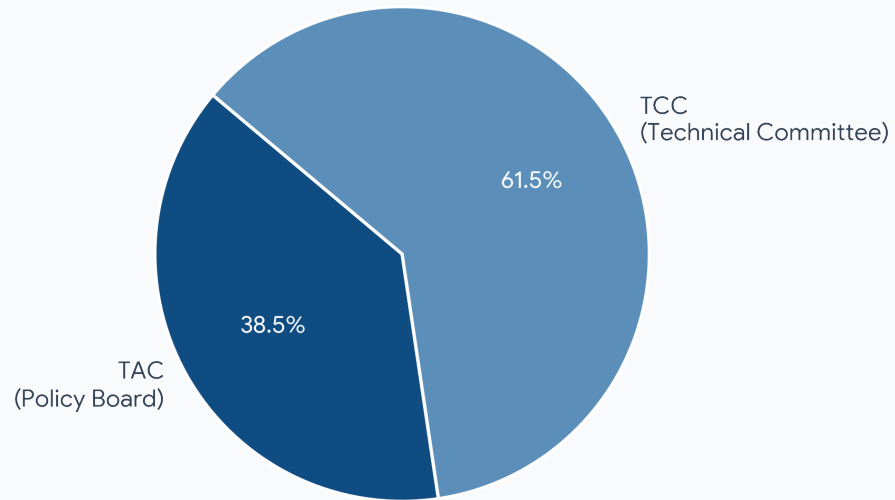
BOARD ACTION REQUESTED: None.

Suggested Motion: *n/a*

Greater Hickory MPO

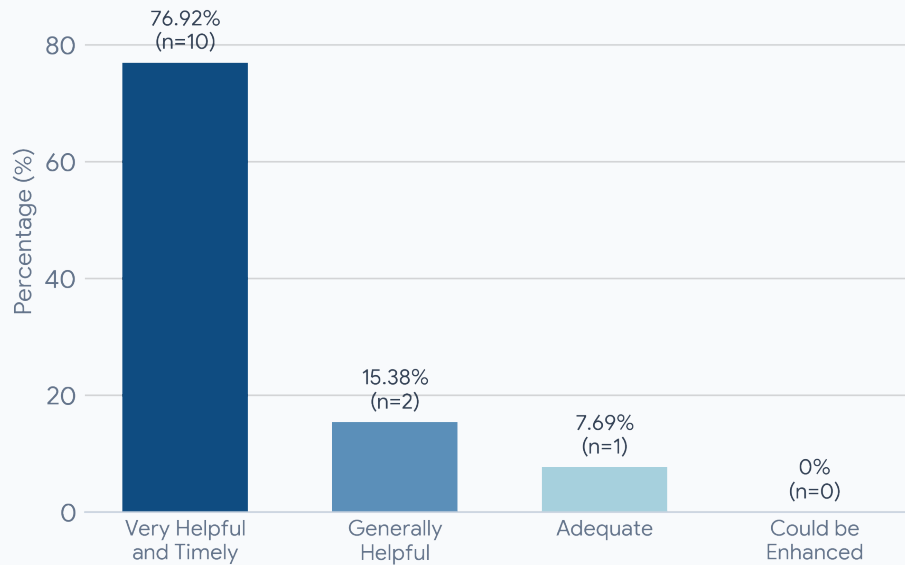
TCC & TAC Survey Results

1. Which committee do you serve on?



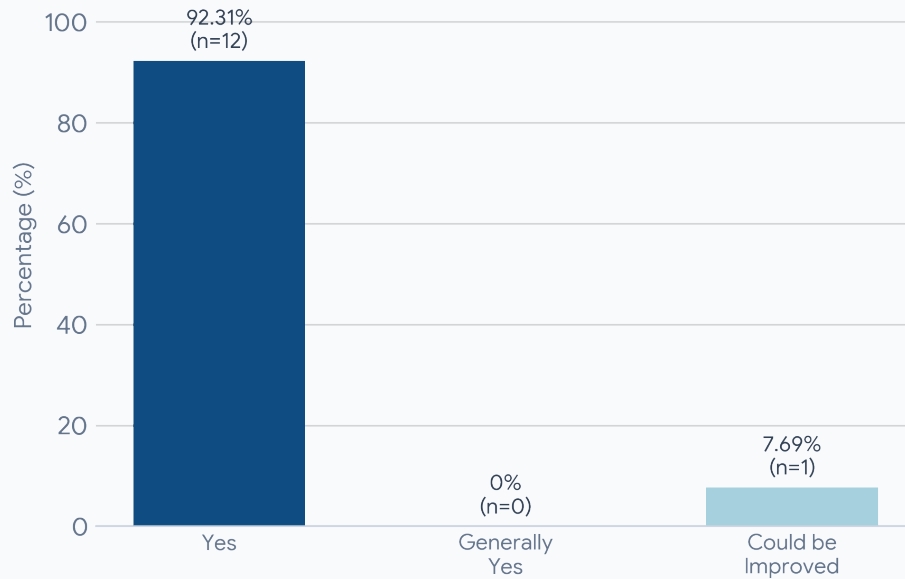
Answer Choice	Count	Percentage
TAC (Policy Board)	5	38.46%
TCC (Technical Committee)	8	61.54%

2. How would you describe the information and materials provided by MPO staff to support your role?



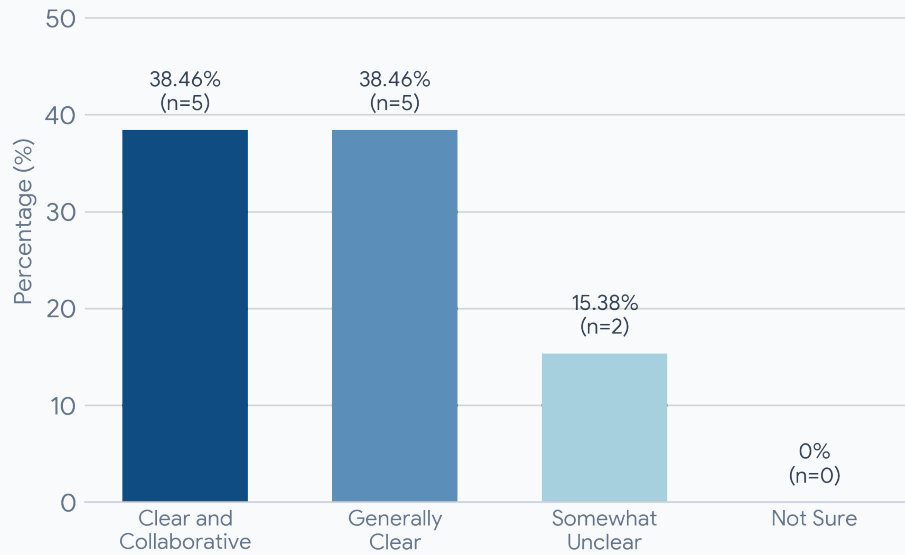
Answer Choice	Count	Percentage
Very Helpful and Timely	10	76.92%
Generally Helpful	2	15.38%
Adequate	1	7.69%
Could be Enhanced	0	0%

3. Do current meeting schedules and formats provide sufficient opportunity for review and discussion of materials?



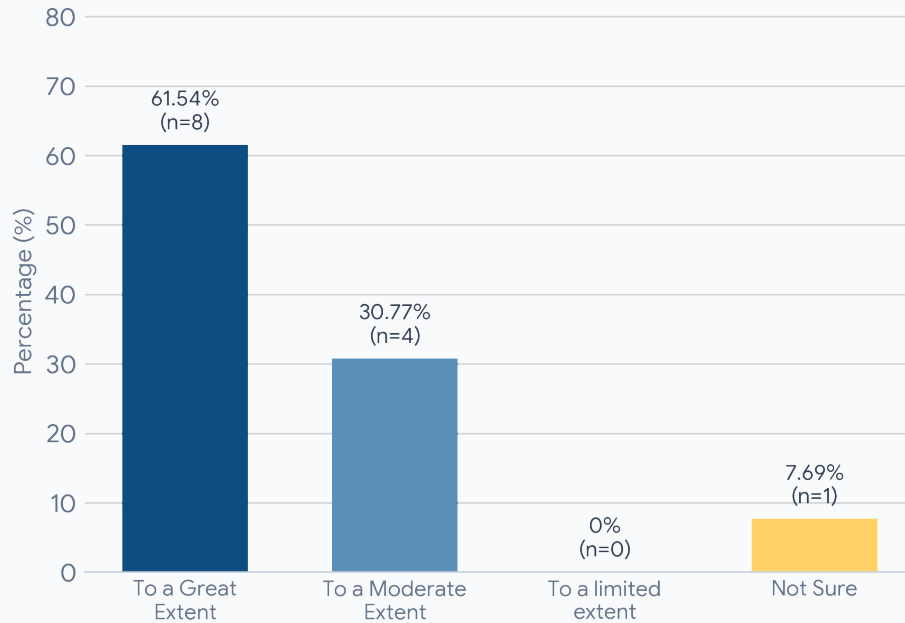
Answer Choice	Count	Percentage
Yes	12	92.31%
Generally Yes	0	0%
Could be Improved	1	7.69%

4. How would you describe the project prioritization and planning process (MTP/TIP)?



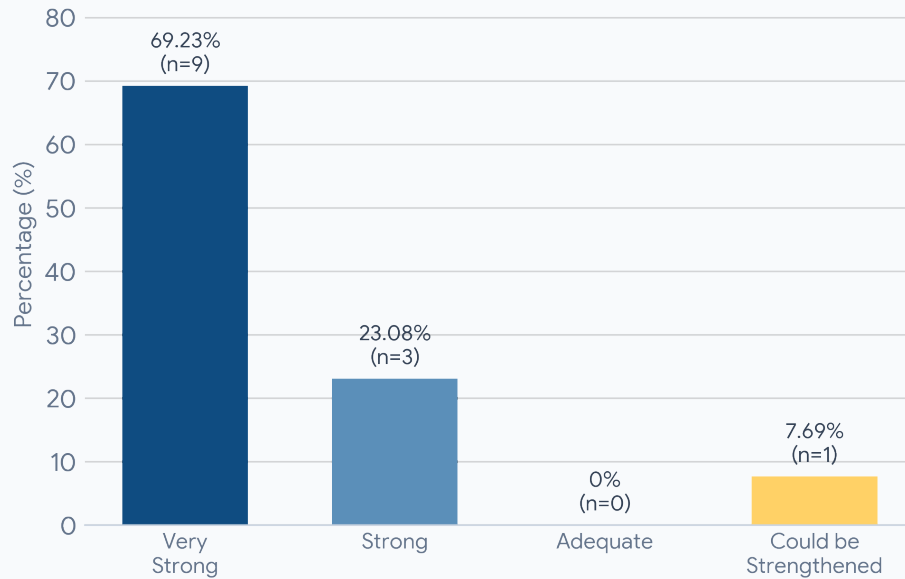
Answer Choice	Count	Percentage
Clear and Collaborative	5	38.46%
Generally Clear	5	38.46%
Somewhat Unclear	2	15.38%
Not Sure	0	0%

5. To what extent do you feel transportation investments reflect regional and local needs?



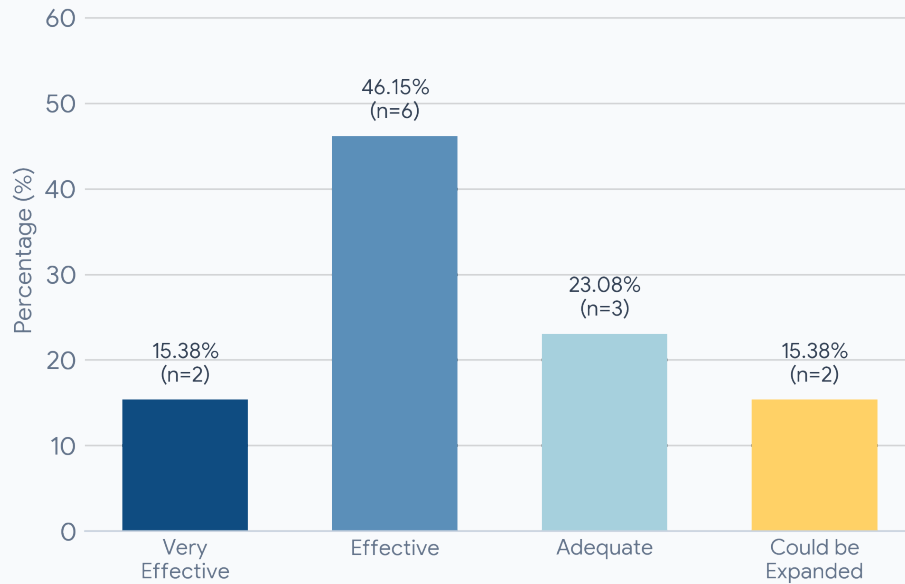
Answer Choice	Count	Percentage
To a Great Extent	8	61.54%
To a Moderate Extent	4	30.77%
To a limited extent	0	0%
Not Sure	1	7.69%

6. How would you describe coordination between the MPO and partner agencies (NCDOT, Greenway Transit, local governments)?



Answer Choice	Count	Percentage
Very Strong	9	69.23%
Strong	3	23.08%
Adequate	0	0%
Could be Strengthened	1	7.69%

7. How effective are current public involvement efforts at reaching communities in your jurisdiction?



Answer Choice	Count	Percentage
Very Effective	2	15.38%
Effective	6	46.15%
Adequate	3	23.08%
Could be Expanded	2	15.38%

8. What opportunities exist to further enhance transportation planning or coordination in the region?

Summary of Results

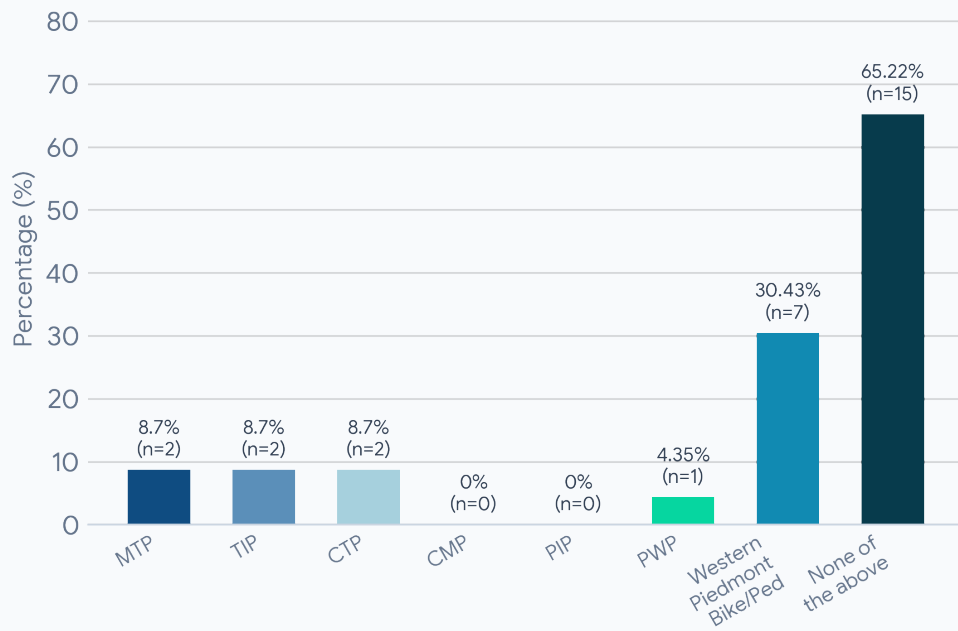
Respondents see strong potential to further enhance transportation planning and coordination by making information more accessible and engaging for the broader community. Key suggestions include increasing social media presence, developing a more public-friendly and less technical website landing page, and utilizing simple fact sheets with fewer acronyms to capture public interest. Additionally, members expressed a desire for optimized meeting schedules and streamlined project requirements with partner agencies. These process improvements aim to encourage focused collaboration and ensure projects remain affordable and feasible for jurisdictions of all sizes.

Questions?

Greater Hickory MPO

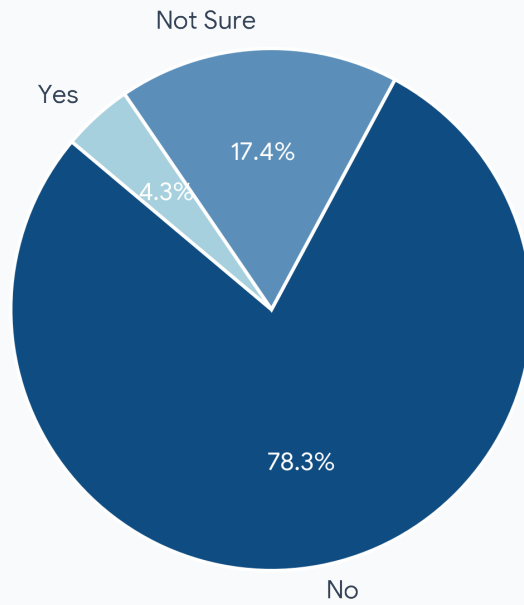
Public Survey Results

1. Which of the following plans or efforts are you familiar with?



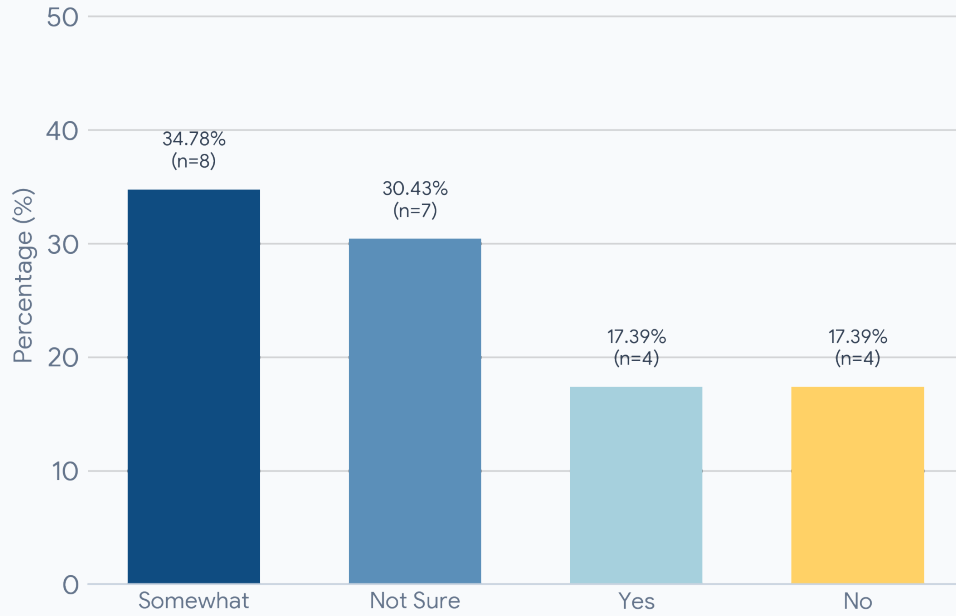
Answer Choice	Count	Percentage
MTP	2	8.7%
TIP	2	8.7%
CTP	2	8.7%
CMP	0	0%
PIP	0	0%
PWP	1	4.35%
Western Piedmont Bike/ Ped	7	30.43%
None of the above	15	65.22%

2. Have you participated in any MPO-related planning efforts or activities?



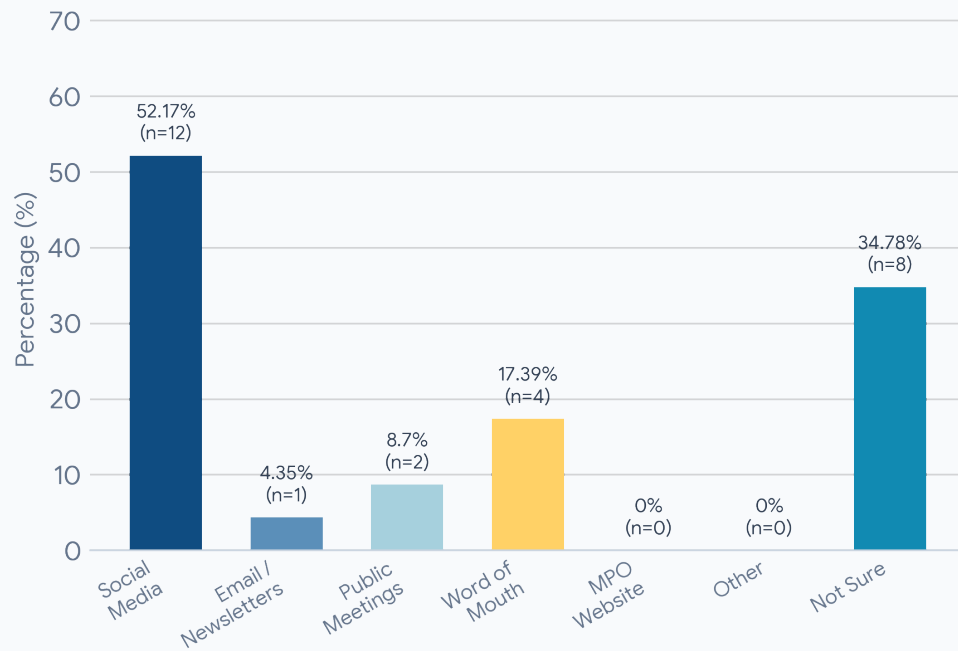
Answer Choice	Count	Percentage
No	18	78.26%
Not Sure	4	17.39%
Yes	1	4.35%

3. Do you feel there are opportunities available to participate in transportation planning efforts in your region?



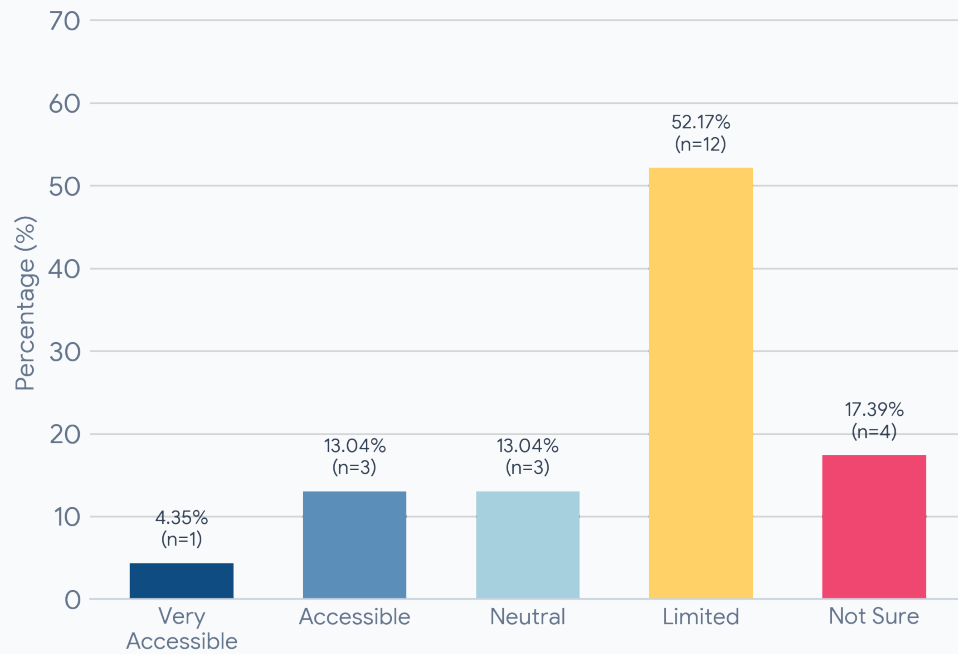
Answer Choice	Count	Percentage
Somewhat	8	34.78%
Not Sure	7	30.43%
Yes	4	17.39%
No	4	17.39%

4. How have you received information about transportation plans or projects?



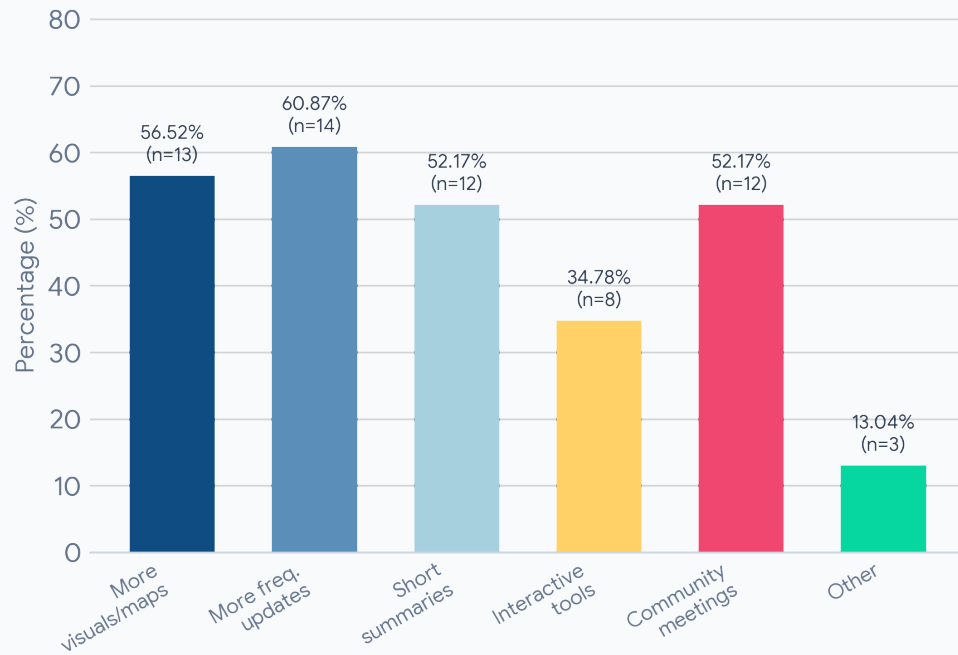
Answer Choice	Count	Percentage
Social Media	12	52.17%
Email / Newsletters	1	4.35%
Public Meetings	2	8.7%
Word of Mouth	4	17.39%
MPO Website	0	0%
Other	0	0%
Not Sure	8	34.78%

5. How would you rate the availability of information about transportation plans and projects?



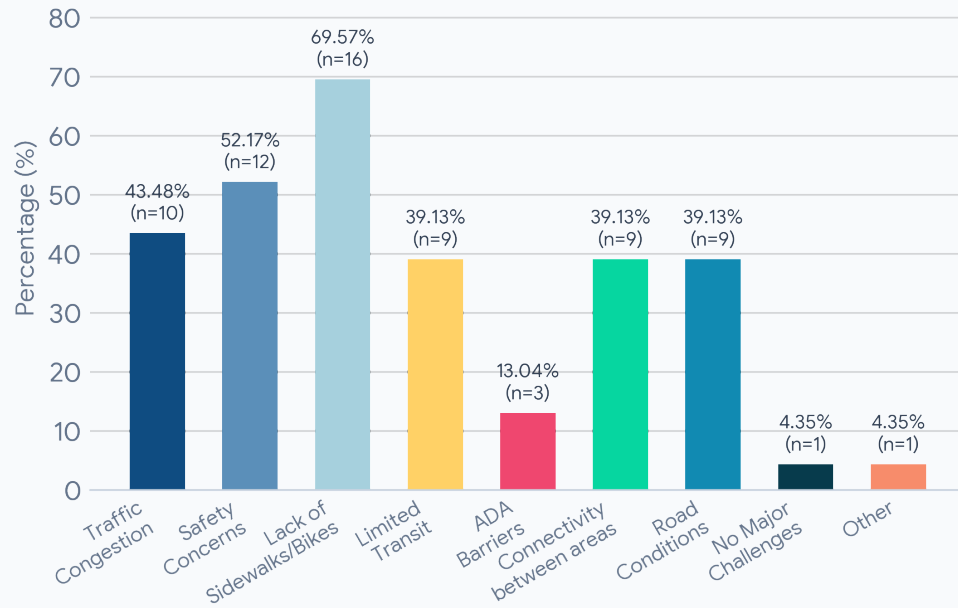
Answer Choice	Count	Percentage
Very Accessible	1	4.35%
Accessible	3	13.04%
Neutral	3	13.04%
Limited	12	52.17%
Not Sure	4	17.39%

6. What methods would make it easier for you to stay informed about transportation projects?



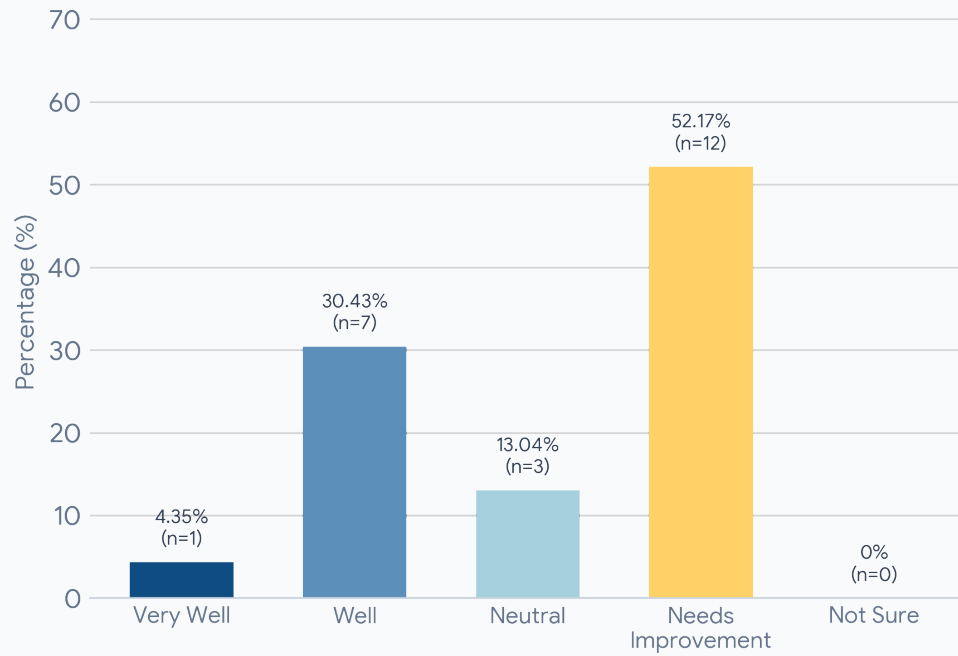
Answer Choice	Count	Percentage
More visuals/maps	13	56.52%
More freq. updates	14	60.87%
Short summaries	12	52.17%
Interactive tools	8	34.78%
Community meetings	12	52.17%
Other	3	13.04%

7. What transportation challenges, if any, have you experienced in your community?



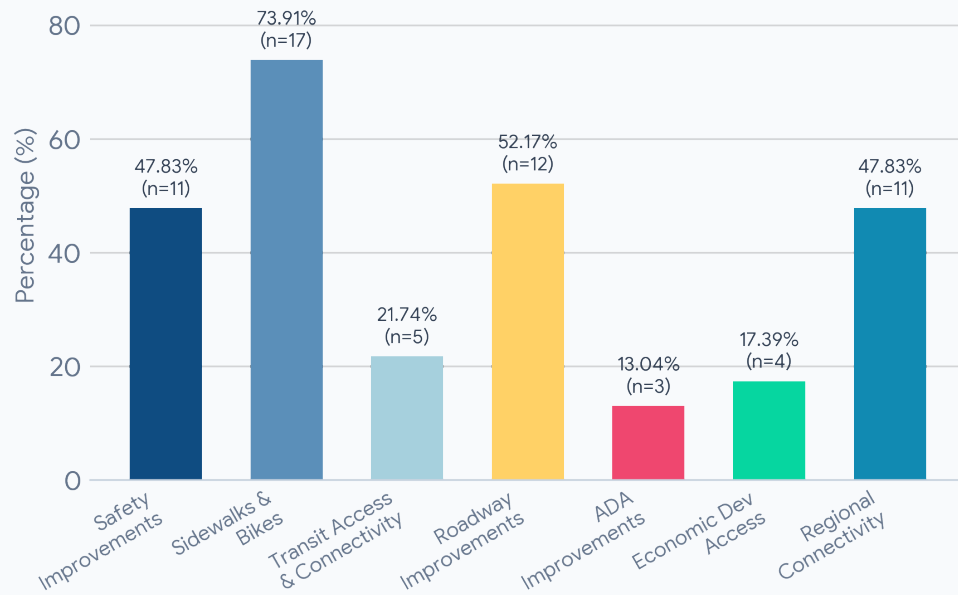
Answer Choice	Count	Percentage
Traffic Congestion	10	43.48%
Safety Concerns	12	52.17%
Lack of Sidewalks/Bikes	16	69.57%
Limited Transit	9	39.13%
ADA Barriers	3	13.04%
Connectivity between areas	9	39.13%
Road Conditions	9	39.13%
No Major Challenges	1	4.35%
Other	1	4.35%

8. How well do you feel the transportation system in your area supports your daily needs?



Answer Choice	Count	Percentage
Very Well	1	4.35%
Well	7	30.43%
Neutral	3	13.04%
Needs Improvement	12	52.17%
Not Sure	0	0%

9. What transportation improvements would you most like to see in your community?



Answer Choice	Count	Percentage
Safety Improvements	11	47.83%
Sidewalks & Bikes	17	73.91%
Transit Access & Connectivity	5	21.74%
Roadway Improvements	12	52.17%
ADA Improvements	3	13.04%
Economic Dev Access	4	17.39%
Regional Connectivity	11	47.83%

10. What transportation improvements would have the greatest positive impact in your community?

Summary of Results

Respondents highlighted the importance of active transportation, emphasizing the need for expanded sidewalks, bike trails, and greenways, as well as improved ADA accessibility. Addressing specific roadway improvements—such as upgrading interchanges along I-40, enhancing heavily congested intersections, and optimizing traffic signal timing—was noted as key for better vehicular flow. Additionally, there is a strong interest in improving regional public transit connectivity and establishing passenger rail options, accompanied by a need for better public communication regarding the transportation services already available.

11. Is there anything else you would like to share regarding transportation in your region?

Summary of Results

Community members emphasized the necessity of expanding and actively promoting accessible public transportation options to ensure all residents can reliably reach jobs and essential services. Participants also expressed a strong desire for regional passenger rail connectivity to major hubs and airports. Furthermore, improving the overall safety of local roads—such as widening lanes and adding supportive shoulders—alongside enhancing access to recreational areas, were identified as important priorities for the region's transportation future.

Questions?