



Western Piedmont Council of Governments

Greater Hickory Metropolitan Planning Organization

Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC)

Wednesday, January 21, 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 December 10, 2025 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
Fiscal Year 2027 Local Assessments	Averi Ritchie	Attachment III	Recommend for Ap-
Draft FY 2027 Unified Planning Work Program Summary	Averi Ritchie	Attachment IV	Release for Public Comment
2026 MPO Meeting Calendar Modification	Averi Ritchie	Attachment V	Approve Calendar
5303 STIP Amendment	Averi Ritchie	Attachment VI	Release for Public Comment
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: February 25, 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, December 10th, 2025 @ 2:30 PM In-person meeting and via Zoom

Present			Absent		
First Name	Last Name	Representing	First Name	Last Name	Representing
Martin	Townsend	Town of Granite Falls	Larry	Yoder	Alexander County
Barbara	Beatty	Catawba County	Ike	Perkins	City of Lenoir
Mark	Canrobert	City of Conover	Beth	Rudisill	Town of Maiden
Richard	Andrews	Town of Cajah's Mountain	Jody	York	Town of Hildebran
Wendy	Cato	City of Morganton	Donald	Robinson	Town of Catawba
Mike	Stroud	Burke County	Les	Morrow	City of Claremont
Melinda	Zimmerman	Town of Valdese	Holly	Crafton-Lay	Town of Maiden
Jack	Simms	Town of Taylorsville	Genita	Hill	Town of Long View
Hank	Guess	City of Hickory	Donna	Price	Town of Rhodhiss
Mary	Furtado	Catawba County	Roy	Johnson	City Newton
			Barry	Mitchell	Town of Hudson
			Jill	Patton	City of Hickory
			VACANT		Brookford
			VACANT		Gamewell
			VACANT		Glen Alpine
			VACANT		Caldwell County

			VACANT		Cedar Rock
			VACANT		Connelly Springs
			VACANT		Sawmills
			VACANT		Rutherford College
			VACANT		Drexel
<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		
Alison Alexander – WPCOG			Michael Poe- Div 11		
Daniel Odom – WPCOG			Travis Chrisawn – Div 11		
Michael Bowman - WPRTA			Brandon Whitaker – Div 11		
Patti Nelson- WPRTA			Anil Panicker – Div 12		
Bob Post – Hickory Paths			Travis Jordan – Div 12		
Anthony Starr - WPCOG			Mark Stafford – Div 12		
			Dough Phillips – Div 13		
			Tim Anderson – Div 13		
			Stephan Sparks – Div 13		

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 Wendy Cato, Brandon Whitaker, Ruben Crummy, Patti Nelson, Renee Carswell and Stephen Sparks. Chairman Guess canvassed the committee for any objections to online participants. Upon a motion made by Chairman Guess and seconded by Mr. Townsend, online participation was approved.

Action Items:

Action Items:

- I. Approval of Consent Agenda:** Chairman Guess called for a motion to approve the consent agenda. Upon a motion made by Mr. Townsend and a second by Mrs. Beatty, the board unanimously approved the consent agenda.
- II. Transportation Improvement Program Revisions for Approval:** Ms. Ritchie presented the State Transportation Improvement Program revisions, highlighting several additions and modifications to statewide and Greater Hickory MPO projects, including pedestrian and bicycle improvements, multiple highway-rail grade crossing safety projects, rumble strip installations in Burke and Caldwell Counties, and updates to multi-use path and sidewalk projects in Hickory, Conover, Long View, and Maiden. She also reviewed select project cost adjustments, schedule accelerations, and one project deletion. Upon a motion made by Msr. Beatty and seconded by Mr. Canrobert, the committee unanimously approved the Transportation Improvement Program Revisions.
- III. Annual Update of Safety Performance Measures:** Ms. Ritchie presented the 2026 Highway Safety Performance Targets, noting that NCDOT establishes annual goals for fatalities, fatality rates, serious injuries, and non-motorized crashes as part of the Highway Safety Improvement Program. She explained that both statewide and MPO-specific targets are based on five-year rolling averages and reflect the Strategic Highway Safety Plan goal of reducing fatal and serious injury crashes by half by 2035. The Greater Hickory MPO has historically supported the State's targets and continues planning and programming efforts consistent with NCDOT's safety objectives. The proposed 2026 targets were provided for release to the public in November. Upon a motion made by Mr. Simms and seconded by Mr. Canrobert, the committee unanimously approved the Annual Update of Safety Performance Measures.
- IV. Annual Update of FY 2025 Public Transportation Agency Safety Plan (PTASP):** Ms. Ritchie presented the 2025 Transit Safety Performance Targets developed by the Western Piedmont Regional Transit Authority (WPRTA) in accordance with the Federal Transit Administration's Public Transportation Agency Safety Plan (PTASP) Final Rule. She explained that transit agencies receiving federal Urbanized Area Formula funds must establish annual safety targets addressing fatalities, injuries, safety events, and system reliability, with MPOs required to adopt or support those targets within 180 days. The 2024 and 2025 performance metrics, based on National Transit Database reporting, reflect zero fatalities across all modes and track injury rates, safety events, and miles between major failures for both fixed-route and demand-response services. These targets support federal safety requirements and guide future MPO planning efforts. The committee released the FY 2025 PTASP Transit Safety Performance Targets for public comment in November. Upon a motion made by Mrs. Beatty and seconded by Mr. Townsend, the committee unanimously approved the Annual Update of FY 2025 Public Transportation Agency Safety Plan.

V. Approve 2026 MPO Meeting Calendar: Ms. Ritchie presented the 2026 MPO meeting calendar for the committee's review. Upon a motion made by Chairman Guess and seconded by Mr. Canrobert, the committee unanimously approved the 2026 MPO meeting calendar.

VI. LAP Supplemental Requests: Mr. Odom presented an update on the LAP supplemental funding request, noting that the fall LAP call closed with no requests for supplemental funding. He reported that \$2 million would roll over into the spring call, bringing the total available funding to \$7 million, with the spring call anticipated in March.

NCDOT Update –

- **Division 11:** Mr. Chrisawn stated that the completion date of the Pinewood Rd project has been pushed out until August of 2027. The Mission Rd intersection project has been awarded and construction is possible in spring of 2026.
- **Division 12:** Mr. Stafford provided updates in the packet, with no new projects occurring at this time. Signals and timing have been fixed at Slanting Bridge Rd and NC 150.
- **Division 13:** Mr. Phillips reported that the Lake Rhodhiss Bridge project is currently in the surveying stage and that grading has begun on the Burke Industrial Drive project as the contractor has mobilized.
- **NCDOT-TPD:** None
- **NCDOT-IMD:** None

Reminders: Ms. Ritchie reminded members to provide notice about newly elected officials and their committee appointments to TAC. There will be a new member orientation in late January.

Public Comment/Announcements: None

Adjournment: Chairman Guess adjourned the meeting at 3:00 p.m. The next meeting will be Wednesday, January 21st, 2026.

Respectfully Submitted,

Hank Guess, TAC Chairman

Averi Ritchie, TAC Secretary

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

MEETING DATE: January 21, 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 MODIFICATIONS

TA-6665 STATEWIDE PROJ.CATEGORY PUBLIC TRANS	- STATEWIDE PROJECT	STATEWIDE, SYSTEMWIDE. FUNDING FOR 5311 CAPITAL PROJECTS FOR RURAL AREAS. <u>ADD FUNDS IN FY 26 AT THE REQUEST OF THE INTEGRATED MOBILITY DIVISION.</u>	CAPITAL	FY 2026 - \$10,000,000 (S) FY 2026 - \$10,000,000 (L) FY 2026 - <u>\$20,000,000</u> (5311) \$40,000,000
TC-0018 STATEWIDE PROJ.CATEGORY PUBLIC TRANS	- STATEWIDE PROJECT	NCDOT, SYSTEMWIDE. FUNDING FOR 5310 CAPITAL PROJECTS FOR RURAL AND URBAN AREAS. <u>ADD FUNDS IN FY 26 AT THE REQUEST OF THE INTEGRATED MOBILITY DIVISION.</u>	CAPITAL	FY 2026 - \$3,000,000 (S) FY 2026 - \$3,000,000 (L) FY 2026 - <u>\$6,000,000</u> (5310) \$12,000,000
TC-0021 STATEWIDE PROJ.CATEGORY PUBLIC TRANS	- STATEWIDE PROJECT	NCDOT, SYSTEMWIDE. FUNDING FOR 5339 STATEWIDE RURAL. <u>ADD FUNDS IN FY 26 AT THE REQUEST OF THE INTEGRATED MOBILITY DIVISION.</u>	CAPITAL	FY 2026 - \$7,000,000 (S) FY 2026 - \$7,000,000 (L) FY 2026 - <u>\$11,000,000</u> (5339) \$25,000,000
TM-0028 STATEWIDE PROJ.CATEGORY PUBLIC TRANS	- STATEWIDE PROJECT	NCDOT, VARIOUS LOCATIONS. FUNDING FOR OPERATING ASSISTANCE FOR FTA GRANTS. <u>ADD FUNDS IN FY 26 AT THE REQUEST OF THE INTEGRATED MOBILITY DIVISION.</u>	OPERATIONS	FY 2026 - \$17,000,000 (L) FY 2026 - <u>\$17,000,000</u> (5311) \$34,000,000

* INDICATES FEDERAL AMENDMENT

Thursday, January 8, 2026

REVISIONS TO THE 2026-2035 STIP HIGHWAY PROGRAM

STATEWIDE PROJECT

STIP MODIFICATIONS

TM-0029 STATEWIDE PROJ.CATEGORY PUBLIC TRANS	- STATEWIDE PROJECT	NCDOT, VARIOUS LOCATIONS. 5311 STATE ADMINISTRATIVE FUNDS FOR FTA GRANTS. <u>ADD FUNDS IN FY 26 AT THE REQUEST OF THE INTEGRATED MOBILITY DIVISION.</u>	ADMINISTRATIVE	FY 2026 -	<u>\$6,000,000</u> \$6,000,000	(5311)
TM-0032 STATEWIDE PROJ.CATEGORY PUBLIC TRANS	- STATEWIDE PROJECT	NCDOT, VARIOUS LOCATIONS. 5311(F) INTERCITY BUS FUNDS FOR FTA GRANTS. <u>ADD FUNDS IN FY 26 AT THE REQUEST OF THE INTEGRATED MOBILITY DIVISION.</u>	OPERATIONS	FY 2026 - FY 2026 - FY 2026 -	<u>\$2,000,000</u> <u>\$8,000,000</u> <u>\$10,000,000</u> \$20,000,000	(S) (L) (5311)
TO-0004 STATEWIDE PROJ.CATEGORY PUBLIC TRANS	- STATEWIDE PROJECT	STATEWIDE, SYSTEMWIDE. SYSTEM SAFETY OVERSIGHT GRANT FOR RAIL DIVISION NCDOT. <u>ADD FUNDS IN FY 26 AT THE REQUEST OF THE INTEGRATED MOBILITY DIVISION.</u>	CAPITAL	FY 2026 - FY 2026 -	<u>\$400,000</u> <u>\$1,000,000</u> \$1,400,000	(S) (SSO)
TQ-6954 STATEWIDE PROJ.CATEGORY PUBLIC TRANS	- STATEWIDE PROJECT	STATEWIDE, SYSTEMWIDE. FUNDING FOR SECTION 5310 FOR RURAL PROJECT. <u>ADD FUNDS IN FY 26 AT THE REQUEST OF THE INTEGRATED MOBILITY DIVISION.</u>	OPERATIONS	FY 2026 - FY 2026 -	<u>\$3,000,000</u> <u>\$3,000,000</u> \$6,000,000	(L) (5310)

* INDICATES FEDERAL AMENDMENT

Thursday, January 8, 2026

REVISIONS TO THE 2026-2035 STIP
HIGHWAY PROGRAM

STATEWIDE PROJECT

STIP MODIFICATIONS

TU-0011	- STATEWIDE PROJECT	NCDOT, SYSTEMWIDE. NCDOT-IMD STATEWIDE	PLANNING	FY 2026 -	\$900,000	(S)
STATEWIDE		METROPOLITAN PLANNING (SECTION 5303 AND 5304)		FY 2026 -	\$900,000	(L)
PROJ.CATEGORY		PROGRAM FUNDS TO SUPPORT THE INTEGRATED		FY 2026 -	<u>\$4,200,000</u>	(5303)
PUBLIC TRANS		MOBILITY DIVISION URBAN TRANSIT TECHNICAL			\$6,000,000	
		ASSISTANCE AND PLANNING ACTIVITIES				
		<u>ADD FUNDS IN FY 26 AT THE REQUEST OF THE</u>				
		<u>INTEGRATED MOBILITY DIVISION.</u>				

* INDICATES FEDERAL AMENDMENT

Thursday, January 8, 2026

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

MEETING DATE: **January 21, 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 2024-2033 STIP AND 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>TO ALLOW ADDITIONAL TIME FOR PLANNING AND DESIGN, DELAY RIGHT-OF-WAY AND UTILITIES FROM FY 25 TO FY 26 AND DELAY CONSTRUCTION FROM FY 26 TO FY 27.</u>	RIGHT-OF-WAY	FY 2026 -	\$1,405,000	(CMAQ)
				FY 2026 -	\$351,000	(L)
			UTILITIES	FY 2026 -	\$880,000	(CMAQ)
				FY 2026 -	\$220,000	(L)
			CONSTRUCTION	FY 2027 -	\$1,992,000	(CMAQ)
* 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>ADD UTILITIES IN FY 26 NOT PREVIOUSLY PROGRAMMED.</u>	RIGHT-OF-WAY	FY 2026 -	\$152,000	(TAANY)
				FY 2026 -	\$38,000	(L)
			UTILITIES	FY 2026 -	\$8,000	(TAANY)
				FY 2026 -	\$2,000	(L)
			CONSTRUCTION	FY 2026 -	\$58,000	(TAANY)
I-5990 BURKE PROJ.CATEGORY DIVISION	- GREATER HICKORY METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION	I-40, SR 1761 (OLD NC 10) EXIT 118 INTERCHANGE. CONSTRUCT INTERCHANGE IMPROVEMENTS. <u>TO ALLOW ADDITIONAL TIME FOR PLANNING AND DESIGN, DELAY RIGHT-OF-WAY AND UTILITIES FROM FY 26 TO FY 27.</u>		FY 2026 -	\$1,460,000	(L)
				FY 2027 -	\$5,782,000	(TAANY)
					\$7,500,000	
			RIGHT-OF-WAY	FY 2027 -	\$1,556,000	(NHP)
				FY 2028 -	\$444,000	(NHP)
RX-2012C CATAWBA PROJ.CATEGORY DIVISION	- GREATER HICKORY METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION	CENTER STREET, NORFOLK SOUTHERN CROSSING 729571M IN HICKORY. CONSTRUCT SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS. <u>TO ALLOW ADDITIONAL TIME FOR PLANNING AND DESIGN, DELAY CONSTRUCTION FROM FY 25 TO FY 26.</u>		FY 2029 -	\$250,000	(NHP)
				FY 2030 -	\$250,000	(NHP)
			UTILITIES	FY 2027 -	\$550,000	(NHP)
				FY 2028 -	\$550,000	(NHP)
			CONSTRUCTION	FY 2027 -	\$6,732,000	(NHP)
				FY 2028 -	\$8,118,000	(NHP)
				FY 2029 -	\$4,950,000	(NHP)
					\$23,400,000	
			CONSTRUCTION	FY 2026 -	\$492,000	(RR)
					\$492,000	

* INDICATES FEDERAL AMENDMENT



**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 2024-2033 & 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 2024-2033 & 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 FYs 2024-2033 & FY 2026-2035 be modified as listed above on this, the 21st day of January, 2026.

Hank Guess
Greater Hickory MPO TAC Chair

Averi Ritchie
Greater Hickory MPO TAC Secretary

**REQUEST FOR ACTION
TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

MEETING DATE: January 21, 2026

SUBJECT: FY 2027 Transportation Assessments for MPO Work Program

SUMMARY OF REQUEST:

WPCOG serves as the lead planning agency for the Greater Hickory MPO. Each year, the WPCOG assesses dues to its local governments. The Policy Board of the WPCOG approves the overall dues, but the Transportation Advisory Committee has purview over the portion used to fulfill the required local match for Federal transportation funding.

MPO-Transportation Planning

The MPO planning function is a federally mandated activity to maintain highway funds eligibility. The transportation planning/MPO assessments column is the matching requirement for local governments within the Greater Hickory MPO Planning Boundary (PL), based on 2024 city, town, or unincorporated county population estimates. These matching funds are a minimum of 20 percent of the total PL funds in the Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) for the MPO for FY 2026-27. PL funds have increased from \$319,100 to \$344,000. Funding is based on a population formula that compares growth rates for each MPO across the state. The Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act has a PL set aside for Increasing Safe & Accessible Transportation Options. The Act requires each MPO to use a portion of its PL funds on specified planning activities to increase safe and accessible options for multiple travel modes for people of all ages and abilities. This separate and additional allocation of PL funds is in the amount of \$6,500, with no local match requirement. The MPO budget includes funding sources from Federal Highway Administration (FHWA). Highway Infrastructure Programs - Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act Funding (HIP-CRRSAA) is included for staff salary and consultant services. HIP-CRRSAA is 100% federal funding; there is no local match for this funding source. This funding will be utilized to fulfill the multimodal planning initiatives introduced by new federal planning requirements. Other Highway program funding will remain at the same levels, including \$80,000 in Statewide Planning Research (SPR) and \$100,000 in Surface Transportation Block Grant – Direct Attributable (STBG-DA) funding.

Per NCDOT-IMD, 5303 funding is increasing from \$56,432 to \$67,356. This funding is for transit planning initiatives and requires 10% local and 10% state matches. Other 5307 funding is administered by Western Piedmont Regional Transit Authority and does not require local matches from WPCOG.

BOARD ACTION REQUESTED: Staff requests TAC to review and approve the FY 2026 MPO assessments.

Suggested Motion: *I move that the TAC approve the assessments as presented.*



STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

JOSH STEIN
GOVERNOR

DANIEL H. JOHNSON
SECRETARY

November 3, 2025

Ms. Averi Ritchie, AICP, Transportation Planning Manager
Western Piedmont Council of Governments
P.O. Box 9026
Hickory, North Carolina 28603-9026

Subject: Greater Hickory MPO, FY 2027 PL Work Program Allocation

Dear Ms. Ritchie:

There are \$7,796,558 in PL funds available for distribution in FY 2027 and an additional \$831,954 of unused funds from closure of previous years' accounts (after accounting for SAP system charges). These funds have been allocated using the current PL fund allocation formula and are available for programming for your FY 2027 PL program that begins July 1, 2026.

For FY27, the MPO is allocated to receive Federal PL funds as follows.

Program name	80% Federal funds	20% local match	Total work plan Federal PL + local match for PL funds *
Metropolitan Planning	\$344,000	\$86,000	\$430,000
Safe & Acc Transp. Options – Metro Planning set aside	\$6,500 (100% Federal)	No local match necessary	\$6,500
Total PL FY27	\$ 350,500	\$86,000	\$436,500

(*Total does not include other sources of Federal, State, or local funding such as STBG-DA funds.).

In 2022, the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act has added a new Metro Planning set-aside for Increasing Safe & Accessible Transportation Options. The Act requires each MPO to use at least 2.5% of its PL funds on specified planning activities to increase safe and accessible options for multiple travel modes for people of all ages and abilities. [§ 11206(b)]. The 2.5% set aside is provided by a separate allocation of PL funds (federal program code Y410). The MPO's share of this amount is distributed using the same allocation formula. A full list of eligible activities can be found in [§ 11206(c)] <https://www.congress.gov/bills/117th-congress/house-bill/3684/text> and FHWA's fact sheet can be found at [this link](#). These set-aside funds will have a separate WBS number and therefore any expenditures must be noted separately on an invoice and have a separate description of work. Please program these funds in your UPWP by adding a new row (so that the funding amount is separately noted) below task code 2-B-II (Regional Planning) or Bike/Ped element of MTP. Also please add a new column to place this separate funding source.

If the MPO plans to program any STBG-DA funds for planning, you should coordinate with your appropriate TIP regional contact to have it added to the STIP, add it to your work plan and

Mailing Address:
NC DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
TRANSPORTATION PLANNING DIVISION
1554 MAIL SERVICE CENTER
RALEIGH, NC 27699-1554

Telephone: (919) 707-0900
Fax: (919) 733-9794
Customer Service: 1-877-368-4968
Website: www.ncdot.gov

Location:
1 SOUTH WILMINGTON STREET
RALEIGH, NC 27601



STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

JOSH STEIN
GOVERNOR

DANIEL H. JOHNSON
SECRETARY

coordinate with your TPD Coordinator to develop a STBG-DA funding agreement. Please copy myself and Daryl Vreeland (dvreeland@ncdot.gov) with this amount.

For auditing purposes, you should include the program name (Metropolitan Planning / PL 104(f) funds) and the CFDA Number (20.205-5) on your Schedule of Expenditures for Federal and State Awards. FY27 WBS and PO numbers will be transmitted in the future.

Your Draft (U)PWP for FY 2027 will be due on January 30, 2026 and your approved PWP should be submitted by March 27, 2026 online in .pdf format and include the cover letter, adoption resolution, summary budget table, and an item by item task description. The MPO is also required to complete an annual certification prior to the Department approving your FY 2027 PL program. The annual certification resolution (as well as the yearend report) should be uploaded as separate .pdf documents. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call or email me: (919) 707-0901, agpatel1@ncdot.gov.

Your work plan allocation also includes \$80,000 in Federal SPR funds (requiring \$20,000 local match) to cover planning activities in the former RPO areas that have been incorporated into the MPO. These funds should be billed separately from your normal PL invoice.

Sincerely,

Alpesh Patel

Alpesh Patel
Director, Transportation Planning Division

Mailing Address:
NC DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
TRANSPORTATION PLANNING DIVISION
1554 MAIL SERVICE CENTER
RALEIGH, NC 27699-1554

Telephone: (919) 707-0900
Fax: (919) 733-9794
Customer Service: 1-877-368-4968
Website: www.ncdot.gov

Location:
1 SOUTH WILMINGTON STREET
RALEIGH, NC 27601



Western Piedmont Council of Governments

Creative Regional Solutions Since 1968

DRAFT AMENDMENT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2026 - 2027 ASSESSMENTS

Local Government	2024 State Planning Population	MPO Transportation Planning*
Alexander County	33,597	\$15,126.34
Taylorsville	2,361	\$1,062.99
Burke County	57,472	\$25,875.55
Connelly Springs	1,570	\$706.86
Drexel	1,785	\$803.66
Glen Alpine	1,574	\$708.66
Hildebran	1,700	\$765.39
Morganton	18,206	\$8,196.87
Rutherford College	1,273	\$573.14
Valdese	5,003	\$2,252.50
Caldwell County	41,781	\$18,811.01
Cajah's Mountain	2,731	\$1,229.58
Cedar Rock	309	\$139.12
Gamewell	3,722	\$1,675.75
Granite Falls	5,146	\$2,316.88
Hudson	3,886	\$1,749.59
Lenoir	18,814	\$8,470.61
Rhodhiss	1,005	\$452.48
Sawmills	5,081	\$2,287.61
Catawba County	88,582	\$39,882.18
Brookford	455	\$204.85
Catawba	739	\$332.72
Claremont	1,774	\$798.71
Conover	8,907	\$4,010.19
Hickory	46,026	\$20,722.23
Long View	5,223	\$2,351.55
Maiden	3,975	\$1,789.66
Newton	13,465	\$6,062.33
Totals	376,162	\$169,359.00

MPO populations are based on population figures from the
NC Office of State Planning for 2024.

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

MEETING DATE: January 21, 2026

SUBJECT: Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) – Draft FY 2026-2027 Plan Summary

PRESENTER: Averi Ritchie, Transportation Planning Manager

ATTACHMENTS: Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) – Draft FY 2026-2027 Plan Summary

SUMMARY OF REQUEST:

A Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) is a key document for a Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO). It outlines the transportation planning activities and tasks the MPO will undertake over the next fiscal year. The UPWP details the planning studies, projects, and priorities to be addressed, along with the funding sources and responsible agencies. It ensures that transportation planning is coordinated, transparent, and aligned with federal, state, and local priorities. The UPWP also serves as a guide for allocating resources and managing transportation planning efforts to improve mobility and support sustainable growth in the metropolitan area.

BOARD ACTION REQUESTED: Approval to release for public comment.

Suggested Motion: *Consensus.*

Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) – Draft FY 2026-2027 Plan Summary

Purpose

The Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) outlines transportation planning tasks to be conducted during the fiscal year. The UPWP sets the budget for these items and identifies the funding sources. MPO staff is responsible for ensuring completion of the planning tasks identified in the UPWP.

Federal Requirements

Federal planning initiatives have updated from last year. The Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) continues many planning factors previously in the FAST Act. This is achieved through a Continuing, Cooperative, and Comprehensive (3-C) transportation planning process that results in a long-range plan and short-range program of projects.

Federal Planning Initiatives

Major components that feed into the FY 2025-2026 UPWP include:

1. Performance-Based Planning and Programming (PBPP)

- Emphasize using data-driven, performance-based processes to set goals, targets, and evaluate investments.
- Integrate performance measures into planning documents, especially LRTPs and TIPs.
- Support linking planning decisions to performance outcomes.

2. Integration of Planning and Project Delivery

- Strengthen connections between long-range planning and project development processes.

3. Public Engagement and Stakeholder Collaboration

- Increase meaningful public involvement across all geographic and demographic groups.
- Foster collaboration with local governments, transit providers, freight stakeholders, and communities.

4. Multimodal and Connected Planning

- Emphasize planning that supports **all transportation modes** — walking, biking, freight, transit, aviation — as integral parts of the system.
- Connect land use, housing, economic development, and transportation planning.

5. Accessibility (*reflected in earlier guidance and efficiency goals*)

- Ensure access to opportunities across demographic groups.

6. Resilience and Adaptation Planning

- Encourage planning for resilience and adaptation to extreme weather events.
- Tie resilience into performance measures and prioritization.

7. Data and Tools for Better Decision Making

- Promote use of emerging analytical tools, visualization methods, and scenario planning.

- Support integration of new data sources into planning processes.

Main Work Tasks for FY 2026-2027

- FY 2026-2027 will be a work-intensive year for beginning the 2055 Metropolitan Transportation Plan and Comprehensive Transportation Plan updates. Though these plans will not be adopted until 2028, data collection and local government coordination is necessary for project methodology, purpose and needs sheets, complete streets policy incorporation, and other key items planned for the next long range plan update. Various chapters are planned to be presented to transportation Boards throughout the year, as well as new interactive mapping components for plan display.
- The GHMPO staff will assist DOT partners with STIP updates and funding changes as needed. Recently submitted projects will be investigated throughout Prioritization 8.0 using updated safety data and other metrics. MPO staff will use Board approved local methodology to determine best projects to support. MPO staff will also research and approve highway projects for Prioritization 9.0 express designs.
- The GHMPO staff will continue work on an economic expansion and accessibility tool. Work on this tool began in FY 26 and is due for adoption in FY 27. This interactive mapping tool will look at the highway and bike/pedestrian network to promote economic development using traffic signal data, average annual daily traffic (AADT) data, zoning regulations, traffic analysis zone data, the Congestion Management Process, disaster relief resources, etc. This tool will assist in accommodating growth on highway and bike/pedestrian networks to determine best practices for potential projects. This will also include an overview of bottleneck and/or traffic signal delays data for review.
- The GHMPO staff will begin ridership trend analysis for Western Piedmont Regional Transit Authority. This will assist in system-wide reroutes for the region. MPO staff will also begin mapping updates for the new automated passenger counter software.
- The GHMPO staff will oversee the implementation, maintenance, and updates for the region's adopted Western Piedmont Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan. This includes mapping updates and project scoring as needed.
- The GHMPO staff will oversee the adopted Western Piedmont Transportation Safety Plan (WPTSP). The WPTSP identifies areas of concern and high-risk areas using crash location and other safety data. The WPTSP covers all modes of transportation. The WPTSP will open the region to safety funding opportunities. GHMPO staff will coordinate safety improvements and funding opportunities with NCDOT and local governments. Funding application support will be offered as needed. The WPTSP will inform *Purpose and Needs* sheets in the upcoming Comprehensive Transportation Plan. Work on these sheets will begin in fiscal year 2026-2027.
 - The WPTSP established a Safety Subcommittee as part of the plan. Members of the committee are interdisciplinary and diverse in perspective. The Safety Subcommittee will be utilized to help guide necessary local input and safety improvement discussions. Local law enforcement will be utilized to assess crash data and potential projects. Meetings and coordination are ongoing.
- GHMPO staff will continue hosting new member orientations for TCC and TAC members.
- GHMPO staff will continue hosting walk audits as needed.
- GHMPO's Locally Administered Project Program (LAPP) will hold a call for new projects and a call for supplemental funding. Locally Administered Project administration assistance is still being offered to all local governments who pursue (LAPP) funding. MPO staff are currently administering 1 project on behalf of local government staff.
- GHMPO staff will utilize consultants to train MPO staff on Locally Administered Project administration assistance.
- GHMPO staff will continue to conduct educational events/trainings for new Locally Administered Project applicants following the Spring Call for Projects.
- GHMPO staff will continue reports on the Congestion Management Process (CMP). Staff will continue to meet with Divisions 11-13 DOT staff for input on potential projects identified in the CMP.
- GHMPO staff continue to conduct annual vehicle occupancy rate (VOR) counts throughout the region. All collected data is analyzed and shared with NCDOT partners.

- New public involvement strategies are ongoing with an outreach coordinator. Informational items and activities will be available at attended public events. Public meetings will be held in accessible locations to impacted populations. Virtual options are available for most meetings.
- GHMPO will continue to coordinate meetings with MPO staff, municipal staff, and NCDOT to assess transportation needs and promote shared initiatives.
- GHMPO will continue to coordinate STIP and MTIP changes as necessary.
- GHMPO staff will continue to assist Greenway Public Transportation in the programming of new projects, route planning, and other efforts as needed.
- GHMPO staff will complete the MOU and Bylaws updates.

Key Changes from FY 2025-2026 to FY 2026-2027

- PL funding is increasing from \$319,100 to \$344,000. Funding is based on a population formula that compares growth rates for each MPO across the state.
- 5303 funding is increasing from \$56,432 to \$67,356. This funding is for transit planning initiatives and requires 10% local and 10% state matches. Other 5307 funding is administered by Western Piedmont Regional Transit Authority and does not require local matches from WPCOG.

Other Important Items to Note:

- The MPO PL budget includes a funding source from FHWA: Highway Infrastructure Programs - Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act Funding (HIP- CRRSAA). This funding source is included for staff salary and consultant services. HIP-CRRSAA is 100% federal funding.

* Ongoing projects from FY 23 (HIP-CRRSAA) are listed at the bottom of the overall budget chart. These are ongoing accounts that must be shown separately. Though funding is still being utilized, the funding is shown separate from the FY 2027 balances.

FTA CODE	TASK CODE	TASK DESCRIPTION	Local/FHWA PL/SPR/DA Budget	Section 104(f) PL Funds (Metropolitan Planning)			Section 104(f) PL Funds (Safe & Accessible Trans. Options)		NCDOT Planning - SPR			STBG-DA Funds			HIP-CRRSAA Funds	Transit Planning - 5303				SECTION 5307		
				Local (20%)	Federal 80%	Fund Total	Federal (100%)	Fund Total	State (20%)	Federal (80%)	Fund Total	Local (20%)	Federal (80%)	Fund Total		Local (10%)	State (10%)	Federal (80%)	Fund Total	Local (20%)	FTA (80%)	5307 Total
	II-A	Data & Support	\$ 116,377	\$ 23,275	\$ 93,102	\$ 116,377										\$ 1,136	\$ 1,137	\$ 9,095	\$ 11,368			
44.24.00	II-A-1	Networks & Systems	\$ 50,570	\$ 10,114	\$ 40,456	\$ 50,570										\$ 1,136	\$ 1,137	\$ 9,095	\$ 11,368			
44.23.01	II-A-2	Travelers & Behavior	\$ 46,820	\$ 9,364	\$ 37,456	\$ 46,820																
44.23.02	II-A-3	Transp. Modeling	\$ 18,987	\$ 3,797	\$ 15,190	\$ 18,987																
	II-B	Planning Process	\$ 280,347	\$ 29,769	\$ 119,078	\$ 148,847	\$ 6,500	\$ 6,500				\$ 25,000	\$ 100,000	\$ 125,000		\$ 3,711	\$ 3,711	\$ 29,689	\$ 37,112	\$ 35,580	\$ 172,320	\$ 207,900
44.22.00	II-B-1	Targeted Planning	\$ 120,745	\$ 24,149	\$ 96,596	\$ 120,745										\$ 1,295	\$ 1,295	\$ 10,358	\$ 12,948	\$ 30,000	\$ 150,000	\$ 180,000
44.23.01	II-B-2a	Regional Planning	\$ 125,000									\$ 25,000	\$ 100,000	\$ 125,000		\$ 2,416	\$ 2,416	\$ 19,331	\$ 24,164	\$ 5,580	\$ 22,320	\$ 27,900
	II-B-2b	Safe & Acc. Trans. Options	\$ 6,500				\$ 6,500	\$ 6,500														
44.27.00	II-B-3	Special Studies	\$ 28,102	\$ 5,620	\$ 22,482	\$ 28,102																
	III-A	Planning Work Prgm	\$ 26,536	\$ 5,308	\$ 21,228	\$ 26,536										\$ 670	\$ 670	\$ 5,358	\$ 6,698			
44.21.00	III-A-1	Work Program	\$ 11,393	\$ 2,279	\$ 9,114	\$ 11,393										\$ 670	\$ 670	\$ 5,358	\$ 6,698			
44.24.00	III-A-2	Metrics & Measures	\$ 15,143	\$ 3,029	\$ 12,114	\$ 15,143																
	III-B	TIP	\$ 35,208	\$ 7,042	\$ 28,166	\$ 35,208										\$ 795	\$ 794	\$ 6,358	\$ 7,947			
44.25.00	III-B-1	Prioritization	\$ 8,625	\$ 1,725	\$ 6,900	\$ 8,625																
44.25.00	III-B-2	Metropolitan TIP	\$ 15,190	\$ 3,038	\$ 12,152	\$ 15,190										\$ 795	\$ 794	\$ 6,358	\$ 7,947			
44.25.00	III-B-3	Merger/Proj. Dev't	\$ 11,393	\$ 2,279	\$ 9,114	\$ 11,393																
	III-C	Civil Rgts. Cmp./Regs	\$ 49,867	\$ 9,973	\$ 39,894	\$ 49,867																
44.27.00	III-C-1	Title VI Compliance	\$ 14,440	\$ 2,888	\$ 11,552	\$ 14,440																
44.27.00	III-C-2	Environ'l Justice																				
44.27.00	III-C-3	Minority Enterprise	\$ -																			
44.27.00	III-C-4	Planning for Elderly	\$ 7,595	\$ 1,519	\$ 6,076	\$ 7,595																
44.27.00	III-C-5	Safety/Drug Control	\$ -																			
44.27.00	III-C-6	Public Involvement	\$ 27,832	\$ 5,566	\$ 22,266	\$ 27,832																
44.27.00	III-C-7	Private Sector Particip	\$ -																			
	III-D	State & Extra-Reg'l	\$ 53,165	\$ 10,633	\$ 42,532	\$ 53,165										\$ 681	\$ 681	\$ 5,448	\$ 6,810	\$ 52,010	\$ 208,040	\$ 260,050
44.27.00	III-D-1	State & Extra-Reg'l	\$ 53,165	\$ 10,633	\$ 42,532	\$ 53,165										\$ 681	\$ 681	\$ 5,448	\$ 6,810	\$ 52,010	\$ 208,040	\$ 260,050
	III-E	Mgt. Ops, Admin	\$ 100,000						\$ 20,000	\$ 80,000	\$ 100,000					\$ 1,426	\$ 1,426	\$ 11,408	\$ 14,260	\$ 4,010	\$ 16,040	\$ 20,050
44.27.00		Mgt. Prgm. Adm	\$ 100,000						\$ 20,000	\$ 80,000	\$ 100,000					\$ 1,426	\$ 1,426	\$ 11,408	\$ 14,260	\$ 4,010	\$ 16,040	\$ 20,050
	TOTALS		\$ 661,500	\$ 86,000	\$ 344,000	\$ 430,000	\$ 6,500	\$ 6,500	\$ 20,000	\$ 80,000	\$ 100,000	\$ 25,000	\$ 100,000	\$ 125,000		\$ 8,419	\$ 8,419	\$ 67,356	\$ 84,195	\$ 91,600	\$ 396,400	\$ 488,000
		Continuing Planning Activities																				
FY 23 Acct.		LAPP Coordination	1,022,026												1,022,026							
FY 23 Acct.		Consultant Services	364,000												364,000							
	TOTALS		1,386,026												1,386,026							

FHWA FUNDS			
Grant	Federal 80%	Local 20%	Total
PL (104)			
Metropolitan Planning	\$344,000	\$86,000	\$430,000
Safe & Acc. Trans. Options	\$6,500	\$0	\$6,500
SPR	\$80,000	\$20,000	\$100,000
STP-DA	\$100,000	\$25,000	\$125,000
TOTALS	\$530,500	\$131,000	\$661,500

HIP-CRRSAA Funds	
TOTALS	1,429,000
SAP Charges	42974 (-)
Fed 100%	1,386,026

Highway Safety Improvement Program	
State 100%	200,000
Totals	\$200,000

FTA FUNDS			
Grant	Fed 80%	Local 10%	State 10%
5303	\$67,356	\$8,419	\$8,419
5307	\$396,400	\$91,600	
TOTALS	\$463,756	\$100,019	\$8,419

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

MEETING DATE: January 21, 2026

SUBJECT: TCC/TAC 2026 Meeting Schedule Modification

PRESENTER: Averil Ritchie, Transportation Planning Manager

ATTACHMENTS: TCC/TAC 2026 Meeting Schedule Modification

SUMMARY OF REQUEST:

For the transportation boards in 2026, our meeting calendar will be structured to ensure consistent and efficient discussions on key transportation issues. Meetings will be held monthly with some potential cancellations. An asterisk indicates the potential cancellation of a meeting. Meetings will only be held on those dates if unanticipated action is requested of the MPO throughout the year. Meetings are generally the 4th Wednesday of every month, however, some meeting dates are modified to accommodate holidays and conferences.

For this agenda item, we request the November meeting date be moved to the following week, on November 18.

BOARD ACTION REQUESTED: Approval of meeting schedule

Suggested Motion: *I motion to approve the 2026 TCC/TAC meeting schedule modification.*

TCC Technical Coordinating Committee 2026 Calendar (Local Government Staff)	
Day	Date at 1:00 PM
<u>3rd</u> Wed	January 21
4th Wed	February 25
4th Wed	March 25
<u>4th</u> Wed	April 22
4th Wed	May 27
4th Wed	June 24
4th Wed	July 22
4th Wed	August 26
4th Wed	September 23
4th Wed	October 28*
<u>3rd</u> Wed	November 18
<u>2nd</u> Wed	December 9

TAC Transportation Advisory Committee 2026 Calendar (Elected Officials)	
Day	Date at 2:30 PM
<u>3rd</u> Wed	January 21
4th Wed	February 25
4th Wed	March 25
<u>4th</u> Wed	April 22
4th Wed	May 27
4th Wed	June 24
4th Wed	July 22
4th Wed	August 26
4th Wed	September 23
4th Wed	October 28*
<u>3rd</u> Wed	November 18
<u>2nd</u> Wed	December 9

*Indicates the likely cancelation of a meeting. Meetings will only be held on those dates if unanticipated action is requested of the MPO throughout the year.

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

MEETING DATE: January 21, 2026

SUBJECT: 5303 STIP Amendment

PRESENTER: Averi Ritchie, Transportation Planning Manager

ATTACHMENTS: 5303 STIP Amendment

SUMMARY OF REQUEST:

The 5303 funding is a federal grant provided by the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) to support Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs) in carrying out transportation planning activities. This funding is part of the broader Federal Transit Act and is specifically designated for the planning of public transportation systems within metropolitan areas. It helps MPOs develop and implement long-range transportation plans, transit studies, and other planning tasks to improve transit services, accessibility, and coordination. The funds are matched with state and local resources, and they ensure that transportation planning efforts are data-driven, efficient, and responsive to community needs.

GHMPO must update the TIP to show funding amounts received each fiscal year.

BOARD ACTION REQUESTED: Release for Public Comment.

Suggested Motion: *None.*



STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

INTEGRATED MOBILITY DIVISION
State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP)
Amendment Request Form
STIP: 2026-2035

STIP#	Transit Partner	Description	FTA	FUND	FY26	FY27
TP-5106	Western Piedmont Council of Governments	Planning Assistance	FUZ	5303	68	68
			Local	L	9	9
			State	S	9	9

Greater Hickory MPO
Transportation Update
January 2026

Division 11 Projects Under Development – Caldwell Co.								
<u>TIP</u>	<u>ROUTE</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>ROW YEAR</u>	<u>CONST YEAR</u>	<u>TOTAL PROJECT COST</u>	<u>Status</u>	<u>Final Assigned Manager</u>	<u>Funding: S/F</u>
BL-0002	US 321A (MAIN STREET)	US 321A (MAIN STREET), CONSTRUCT PEDESTRIAN CROSSING IMPROVEMENTS FROM SR 1952 (CEDAR VALLEY ROAD) TO SR 1156 (LEGION ROAD).	2026	2026	\$464,000	Planning	Division	F
BL-0065	NS	Lenoir Greenway, Harper Avenue to Morganton Boulevard. Extend multi-use path.	2026	2027	\$2,449,000	Planning	LAP	F
BP11-R008	SR 1545 (COTTRELL HILL ROAD)	Replace Bridge 130011 on SR 1545 over Zachs Fork Creek in Caldwell County	2025	2027	\$1,575,000	Utilities	Division	S
BP11-R025	SR 1927 (OLD MORGANTON ROAD)	Replace Bridge 130332 on SR 1927 over Abington Creek in Caldwell County	2026	2029	\$1,475,000	R/W	Division	S
BP11-R040	SR 1719 (CEDAR VALLEY CHURCH ROAD)	Replace Bridge 130048 on SR 1719 over Upper Little River in Caldwell County	2025	2026	\$1,175,000	February 2026 Let	Division	S
BP11-R042	SR 1328 (BROWN MOUNTAIN BEACH ROAD)	Replace Bridge 130322 on SR 1328 over Este Mill Creek in Caldwell County	2027	2028	\$950,000	Planning	Division	S
BP11-R048	SR 1571	Replace Bridge 130342 on SR 1571 over Kings Creek in Caldwell County	2026	2027	\$1,300,000	Planning	Division	S
HB-0056	SR 1514	SR 1514, REPLACE BRIDGE 130 OVER YADKIN RIVER.	2025	2026	\$2,150,000	R/W	Division	F
HB-0057	SR 1356	SR 1356, REPLACE BRIDGE 185 OVER JOHNS RIVER.	2025	2026	\$2,100,000	R/W	Division	F
HB-0058	SR 1356	SR 1356, REPLACE BRIDGE 186 OVER JOHNS RIVER.	2025	2026	\$1,820,000	R/W	Division	F
HB-0059	SR 1356	SR 1356, REPLACE BRIDGE 275 OVER JOHNS RIVER.	2025	2026	\$1,860,000	R/W	Division	F
HB-0060	SR 1356	SR 1356, REPLACE BRIDGE 317 OVER JOHNS RIVER.	2025	2026	\$2,330,000	R/W	Division	F

Greater Hickory MPO
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HB-0061	SR 1574	SR 1574, REPLACE BRIDGE 349 OVER JONES CREEK.	2025	2026	\$1,680,000	R/W	Division	F
R-3430CA	SR 1001 (CONNELLY SPRINGS ROAD)	SR 1001 (CONNELLY SPRINGS ROAD) FROM CATAWBA RIVER TO SR 1933 (SOUTH-WEST BOULEVARD). MODERNIZE ROADWAY TO INCLUDE BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN ACCOMMODATIONS.	2029	2033	\$73,507,000	Planning	Central	F
R-3430CB	SR 1001 (CONNELLY SPRINGS ROAD)	SR 1001 (CONNELLY SPRINGS ROAD) FROM CATAWBA RIVER TO SR 1933 (SOUTH-WEST BOULEVARD). MODERNIZE ROADWAY TO INCLUDE BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN ACCOMMODATIONS.	2030	2034	\$69,292,000	Planning	Central	F
U-4700CA	US 321	SR 1160 (MOUNT HERMAN ROAD). UPGRADE INTERSECTION TO SUPERSTREET DESIGN. - WITHIN THE LIMITS OF U-4700 C.	2019	2026	\$8,620,000	July 2026 Let	Division	F
U-4700CB	US 321	AT SR 1809/1952 (PINE MOUNTAIN ROAD). UPGRADE INTERSECTION TO SUPERSTREET DESIGN.	2019	2026	\$17,000,000	July 2026 Let	Division	F
U-6034	US 321 ALT	DUKE STREET TO PINEWOODS ROAD	2025	2029	\$46,300,000	R/W	Division	F
U-6157	SR 1130 (CAJAH MOUNTAIN ROAD)	SR 1130 (CAJAH MOUNTAIN ROAD) FROM SR 1001 (CONNELLY SPRINGS ROAD) TO US 321A	2025	2029	\$68,300,000	R/W	Division	F
U-6161	US 321	US 321 FROM SR 1002 (DUDLEY SHOALS ROAD) GRADE SEPARATION. CONSTRUCT RAMP ONTO US 321 SOUTHBOUND.	2026	2028	\$8,570,000	Planning	Division	F

Greater Hickory MPO
Transportation Update
January 2026

Division 11 Projects Under Construction								
<u>Contract Number</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>TIP#</u>	<u>Route</u>	<u>Location Description</u>	<u>Contract Amount</u>	<u>Contractor</u>	<u>Construction Progress %</u>	<u>Completion Date</u>
C204844	CALDWELL	U-6036	SR 1109 (PINWOOD ROAD)	FROM US 321 TO SR-1252 (BERT HUFFMAN ROAD)	\$11,480,140.98	JAMES R VANNOY & SONS CONSTRUCTION COMPANY INC	38 %	7/27
C204840	CALDWELL	U-4700CC	US 321 and SR 1108 (Mission Road)	INTERSECTION AT US-321 AND SR-1108 (MISSION RD).	\$13,348,559.10	HEI CIVIL CAROLINAS LLC	0%	4/28
DK00436	CALDWELL	DF18311. 2014030.PR	SR 1358 (Edgemont Church Place)	REPLACE BRIDGE NO. 161 OVER WILSON CREEK	\$1,641,926.67	JAMES R VANNOY & SONS CONSTRUCTION COMPANY INC	0%	4/27

January 2026 Status Report for Division 12 Projects in Greater Hickory MPO.

PROJECT ID	COUNTY(S)	ROUTE/CITY	DESCRIPTION	PHASE & YEAR (2026 - 2035 STIP)	PROJECT MANAGER/ CONTACT	STATUS
DL00338	ALEXANDER	SR 1108, SR 1110, SR 1150, SR 1235, SR 1409, SR 1422	RESURFACING FOR 13.174 MILES.	ROW: NA UTL: NA CON: 2025	Jonathan Barnette (704) 380-6040	UNDERWAY, 57 % COMPLETE.
DL00352/ U- 6041	ALEXANDER	US 64	SR 1124 (CHURCH ROAD). ADD LEFT TURN LANE ON WESTBOUND US 64/NC 90.	ROW: 2024 UTL: 2024 CON: 2025	Lee Bryson (980) 552-4233	PROJECT HAS BEEN LET. CONSTRUCTION TO BEGIN SOON.
DL00356	ALEXANDER	SR 1337, SR 1302, SR 1628, SR 1637	RESURFACING FOR 35.66 MILES.	ROW: NA UTL: NA CON: 2025	Jonathan Barnette (704) 380-6040	WORK NOT STARTED.
R-3603A	ALEXANDER, CATAWBA	NC 127	SR 1400 (CLONINGER MILL ROAD) TO SR 1156 (RICHEY ROAD). UPGRADE TWO LANES AND PROVIDE SOME MULTI- LANE CURB AND GUTTER.	ROW: 2030 UTL: 2030 CON: 2034	Verrol McLeary (919) 707-6044	DESIGN WORK IN PROGRESS.
C204977	ALEXANDER, CATAWBA	BRIDGE #170091 OVER THE CATAWBA RIVER ON NC-127 AND BRIDGE # 170139 OVER THE CATAWBA RIVER ON NC-16.	BRIDGE REHABILITATION.	ROW: NA UTL: NA CON: 2025	Eric Conner (828) 468-6260	WORK NOT STARTED.

PROJECT ID	COUNTY(S)	ROUTE/CITY	DESCRIPTION	PHASE & YEAR (2026 - 2035 STIP)	PROJECT MANAGER/ CONTACT	STATUS
C204919	CATAWBA	ONE SECTION OF US-70, AND TWENTY FOUR SECTIONS OF SECONDARY ROADS.	RESURFACING FOR 19.747 MILES.	ROW: NA UTL: NA CON: 2024	Travis Jordan (704) 748-2400	UNDERWAY, 95 % COMPLETE.
C205048	CATAWBA	1 SECTION OF NC-10, AND 53 SECTIONS OF SECONDARY ROADS.	RESURFACING FOR 20.75 MILES.	ROW: NA UTL: NA CON: 2025	Travis Jordan (704) 748-2400	WORK NOT STARTED.
DL00349	CATAWBA	BRIDGE NO. 55 OVER JACOB FORK RIVER SR 1139 (FINGER BRIDGE ROAD).	BRIDGE REPLACEMENT.	ROW: NA UTL: NA CON: 2025	Eric Conner (828) 468-6260	PROJECT IS A DESIGN BUILD PROJECT, DESIGN UNDERWAY, 22 % COMPLETE.
DL00345	CATAWBA	VARIOUS SECONDARY ROADS.	RESURFACING FOR 22.22 MILES.	ROW: NA UTL: NA CON: 2024	Travis Jordan (704) 748-2400	PROJECT COMPLETE, 100%.
DL00360	CATAWBA	SR 1003, SR 1833 AND SR 1885.	RESURFACING FOR 10.54 MILES.	ROW: NA UTL: NA CON: 2025	Travis Jordan (704) 748-2400	WORK NOT STARTED.
B-5847	CATAWBA	SR 1709 (ROCK BARN ROAD)	REPLACE BRIDGE 170173 OVER I-40.	ROW: 2023 UTL: NA CON: 2031	David Stutts (919) 707-6442	THE PROJECT PROPOSES ROUNDABOUT AT THE RAMP TERMINALS AND ALSO CONSIDERING A MULTIUSE PATH AND SIDEWALKS OVER I-40. RIGHT OF WAY IN PROGRESS.

PROJECT ID	COUNTY(S)	ROUTE/CITY	DESCRIPTION	PHASE & YEAR (2026 - 2035 STIP)	PROJECT MANAGER/ CONTACT	STATUS
B-6041	CATAWBA	I-40	REPLACE BRIDGE 170177 AND 170178 OVER LYLE CREEK.	ROW: 2026 UTL: NA CON: 2032	Wesley Cartner (919) 707-6039	PLANNING AND DESIGN UNDERWAY.
I-5716	CATAWBA	I-40	SR 1007 (LENOIR RHYNE BOULEVARD) INTERCHANGE. CONSTRUCT INTERCHANGE IMPROVEMENTS.	ROW: 2019 UTL: NA CON: 2026	Gerald Loughry (919) 707-6020	RIGHT-OF-WAY ACQUISITION IS COMPLETE. PROJECT EXPECTED TO BE LET IN JULY OF 2026.
R-5113	CATAWBA	SR 1005 (STARTOWN ROAD)	US 70 TO NC 10. WIDEN TO MULTI-LANES.	FUNDED FOR PRELIMINARY ENGINEERING ONLY	Wesley Cartner (919) 707-6039	PROJECT IS CURRENTLY INACTIVE.
U-2307B	CATAWBA	29TH AVENUE NE	SR 1453 (SPRINGS ROAD) TO NC 127. WIDEN TO MULTI-LANES.	ROW: 2026 UTL: 2026 CON: 2029	Olivia Pilkington (919) 707-6029	PLANNING AND DESIGN IS ONGOING. PUBLIC MEETING HELD ON 11/19/2024.
U-2530A	CATAWBA	NC 127	SR 1132 (HUFFMAN FARM ROAD) TO SR 1008 (ZION CHURCH ROAD). WIDEN TO MULTI-LANES.	ROW: 2025 UTL: 2025 CON: 2029	Bryan Sowell (980) 552-4221	ENGINEERING WORK IS ONGOING. PUBLIC MEETING HELD ON MARCH 21, 2024. RIGHT OF WAY ACQUISITION IN PROGRESS.
C205043, U-5777	CATAWBA	NC 127	1ST AVENUE SE TO 2ND AVENUE SE. ADD TURN LANES.	ROW: 2019 UTL: 2019 CON: 2025	Lee Bryson (980) 552-4233	UNDERWAY, 5 % COMPLETE.
U-6042	CATAWBA	SR 1124 (33RD STREET SW)	SR 1124 (33RD STREET SW) AND (34TH STREET NW). REALIGN INTERSECTION.	FUNDED FOR PRELIMINARY ENGINEERING ONLY	Bryan Sowell (980) 552-4221	PROJECT IS CURRENTLY INACTIVE.

PROJECT ID	COUNTY(S)	ROUTE/CITY	DESCRIPTION	PHASE & YEAR (2026 - 2035 STIP)	PROJECT MANAGER/ CONTACT	STATUS
DL00363/ HS-2012I, HS-2012M, SS-6212P, SS-6212Q	CATAWBA, GASTON	NC 10, SR 1005 & NC 150	RESURFACING FOR 18.72 MILES.	ROW: NA UTL: NA CON: 2025	Travis Jordan (704) 748-2400	PROJECT COMPLETE, 100%.
U-4700A	CATAWBA, CALDWELL, BURKE	US 321	NORTH OF US 70 IN HICKORY TO US 321A. WIDEN TO SIX LANES.	ROW: 2021 UTL: NA CON: 2027	Lee Bryson (980) 552-4233	RIGHT-OF-WAY ACQUISITION AND UTILITY RELOCATION UNDERWAY. WORK ON MULTIPLE DISCIPLINES ALSO UNDERWAY.
R-2307A	CATAWBA, LINCOLN	NC 150	RELOCATED NC 16 (STIP PROJECT R-2206) TO EAST OF SR 1840 (GREENWOOD ROAD). WIDEN TO 4-LANES WITH A BYPASS OF THE TERRELL HISTORIC DISTRICT BEING STUDIED.	FUNDED FOR PRELIMINARY ENGINEERING ONLY	Ritchie Naraidu (980) 552-4227	PRELIMINARY ENGINEERING WORK BEGAN IN FALL OF 2025.
C204348/ R-2307B/ I-5717	IREDELL, CATAWBA	NC 150	EAST OF SR 1840 (GREENWOOD ROAD) IN CATAWBA COUNTY TO WEST OF SR 1303/SR 1180 (PERTH ROAD/DOOLIE ROAD) IN IREDELL COUNTY. WIDEN TO 4-LANES. SR 1383/SR 1180 TO US 21 IN IREDELL COUNTY. WIDEN TO 6-LANES.	ROW: NA UTL: NA CON: 2025	Keith Anderson (980) 435-3290	UNDERWAY, 13 % COMPLETE.

PROJECT ID	COUNTY(S)	ROUTE/CITY	DESCRIPTION	PHASE & YEAR (2026 - 2035 STIP)	PROJECT MANAGER/ CONTACT	STATUS
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January 2026 Status Report for Division 12 Managed Projects in Burke County.

C204716	BURKE	US-64/US-70 IN MORGANTON.	REPLACE BRIDGE #99 OVER NORFOLK SOUTHERN RAILROAD.	ROW: NA UTL: NA CON: 2025	Keith Anderson (980) 435-3290	UNDERWAY, 72 % COMPLETE.
DM00440	BURKE	VARIOUS PRIMARY AND SECONDARY ROUTES.	RESURFACING FOR 13.62 MILES	ROW: NA UTL: NA CON: 2024	Travis Jordan (704) 748-2400	UNDERWAY, 93 % COMPLETE.
DM00441	BURKE	VARIOUS SECONDARY ROUTES.	RESURFACING FOR 17.16 MILES	ROW: NA UTL: NA CON: 2024	Travis Jordan (704) 748-2400	UNDERWAY, 78 % COMPLETE.
DM00442	BURKE	VARIOUS SECONDARY ROUTES.	PAVEMENT PRESERVATION IN BURKE AND RUTHERFORD COUNTIES.	ROW: NA UTL: NA CON: 2024	Travis Jordan (704) 748-2400	WORK NOT STARTED.
DM00449/ R-5967	BURKE	SR 1625 (9TH AVE DR NW)	9TH AVE DR NW WIDENING AT GOAT FARM RD 0.6 MILES	ROW: NA UTL: NA CON: 2024	Eric Conner (828) 468-6260	UNDERWAY, 61 % COMPLETE.

Division 13, GHMPO Construction Update, Jan 2025

Contract Number	County	TIP#	Work Description	Route	Location Description	Letting Date	Completion Date	Revised Completion Date	Completion Percent
C204716	Burke	B-5869	Bridge Replacement	US-64	BRIDGE #99 OVER NORFOLK SOUTHERN RAILROAD ON US-64/US-70 IN MORGANTON.	5/16/2023	2/8/2027	3/29/2027	72.72%
C204956	Burke, Caldwell	R-3430B	Bridge Replacement	SR-1001	BRIDGE #110010 OVER CATAWBA RIVER ON SR-1001 (CONNELLY SPRIN GS RD).	8/19/2025	3/30/2029		6.82%
C205096	Burke, McDowell		Resurfacing	SR-MULTI	20 SECTIONS OF SECONDARY ROADS.	5/20/2025	11/1/2026		13.22%
DM00387	Burke	HA-0001	Grading, Drainage, Paving, Curb and Gutter	-	NEW ACCESS ROAD INTO BURKE INDUSTRIAL PARK	5/28/2025	6/30/2026	7/30/2026	17.16%
DM00429	Burke	BP13-R033	Bridge Replacement	SR-1116	SR-1116 (JEETER CARSWELL RD) OVER DOUBLE BRANCH	11/19/2025	4/30/2027		0.00%
DM00440	Burke		Resurfacing	NC-18	VARIOUS PRIMARY AND SECONDARY ROUTES	6/19/2024	10/15/2025	11/5/2025	92.63%
DM00441	Burke		Resurfacing	-	VARIOUS SECONDARY ROUTES	2/7/2024	9/12/2025	10/3/2025	78.18%
DM00442	Burke, Rutherford		Pavement Preservation	-	VARIOUS SECONDARY ROUTES	3/6/2024	11/21/2025		0.00%
DM00449	Burke	R-5967	Road Widening, Waterline Construction	SR-1625	SR-1625 (9TH AVE DR NW)	1/3/2024	10/30/2026	11/25/2026	66.26%
DM00455	Burke, Madison, McDowell, Rutherford		Long Life Pavement Markings	NC-108, NC-114, NC-126, NC-181, NC-208, NC-209, NC-226ALT, NC-9, SR-VAR, US-221	VARIOUS PRIMARY AND SECONDARY ROUTES	8/7/2024	9/26/2025		6.56%

Division 13, GHMPO Project Development Update, Jan. 2026

Project ID	Project Manager Name	County	Description	R/W Acq. Begins	Let Date	Funding Program Description	STIP Status
HS-2413E	GABRIEL L. JOHNSON	BURKE	US 70, VARIOUS LOCATIONS. INSTALL RUMBLE STRIPES AND 6" LONG LIFE PAVEMENT MARKINGS.		2/18/2026	HIGHWAY - SAFETY	Delivery
SS-6213E	GABRIEL L. JOHNSON	BURKE	SR 1443 (Kirksey Drive) at SR 1512 (Amherst Road) in Morganton - install all way stop.		4/1/2026	SPOT SAFETY	
RX-2013C	NANCY HORNE	BURKE	HIGHWAY-RAILWAY GRADE CROSSING SIGNALS AND GATES ON HOGAN STREET AT NORFOLK SOUTHERN RAILWAY CROSSING 729506G IN MORGANTON, BURKE COUNTY, NC.		6/2/2026	RAIL - RAIL - HIGHWAY GRADE CROSSING IMPROVEMENT	Delivery
HS-2413H	GABRIEL L. JOHNSON	BURKE	MULTIPLE US, NC, AND SR ROUTES. INSTALL HORIZONTAL ALIGNMENTWARNING SIGNS.		6/3/2026	HIGHWAY - SAFETY	Delivery
BP13-R018	MARK HILL	BURKE	Replace bridge 316 on SR1962 over UT to Double Branch in Burke County	4/24/2025	7/15/2026	HIGHWAY FUND BRIDGE / BRIDGE PROGRAM	
HS-2413Q	GABRIEL L. JOHNSON	BURKE	SR 1786 (MILLER BRIDGE ROAD). NC 18 AND SR 1761 (OLD NC HIGHWAY 10). INSTALL RUMBLE STRIPES WITH 6 INCH LONG LIFE PAVEMENT MARKINGS.		10/30/2026	HIGHWAY - SAFETY	Delivery
HS-2413V	GABRIEL L. JOHNSON	BURKE	NC 181, SR 1414 (ST MARYS CHURCH ROAD) AND NC 183. INSTALL RUMBLE STRIPES WITH LONG LIFE PAVEMENT MARKINGS.		10/30/2026	HIGHWAY - SAFETY	Delivery
BL-0140A	GABRIEL L. JOHNSON	BURKE	LOVELADY ROAD, LAUREL STREET TO CRESCENT STREET IN VALDESE.CONSTRUCT SIDEWALK.		3/25/2027	BIKE & PED - LOCALLY SELECTED	Delivery
BL-0141	GABRIEL L. JOHNSON	BURKE	NC 126, BENFIELD'S LANDING BURKE ROAD TO EASTSIDE BURKE AVENUE IN NEBO. CONSTRUCT SIDEWALK.	5/29/2026	6/2/2027	BIKE & PED - LOCALLY SELECTED	Delivery
BR-0151	CLAUDIA G WILLIAMS	BURKE	REPLACE BRIDGE NO. 110173 ON SR 1002 (HENRY RIVER ROAD) OVER I-40 IN BURKE CO.(COMB W/I-5990).	10/5/2026	9/21/2027	HIGHWAY FUND BRIDGE / BRIDGE PROGRAM	
I-5990	BRENDAN MERITHEW	BURKE	I-40 AT EXIT 118 - SR 1761 (OLD NC 10). (COMB W/BR-0151). CONSTRUCT INTERCHANGE IMPROVEMENTS.	10/5/2026	9/21/2027	HIGHWAY - STI (PRIORITIZATION)	Delivery
EB-5978	GABRIEL L. JOHNSON	BURKE	COLLEGE STREET MULTIMODAL CONNECTOR TRAIL FROM NORTH GREEN STREET TO US 70 IN MORGANTON	9/18/2026	9/30/2027	BIKE & PED - STI (PRIORITIZATION)	Delivery
BR-0010	TYLER A. YELTON	BURKE	BRIDGE 110105 ON US 64, NC 18 OVER JOHNS RIVER	10/14/2025	10/19/2027	HIGHWAY FUND BRIDGE / BRIDGE PROGRAM	
BL-0166	GABRIEL L. JOHNSON	BURKE	MASSEL AVENUE, RODORET STREET TO CAROLINA STREET SE. CONSTRUCT SIDEWALK.	10/1/2027	10/1/2028	BIKE & PED - LOCALLY SELECTED	Delivery
BR-0180	CLAUDIA G WILLIAMS	BURKE	REPLACE BRIDGE 110346 ON SR1002 OVER HENRY FORK CREEK	12/1/2027	3/20/2029	HIGHWAY FUND BRIDGE / BRIDGE PROGRAM	
I-5891B	GABRIEL L. JOHNSON	BURKE	I-40 FROM MILE MARKER 105 TO MILE MARKER 112 PAVEMENT REHABILITATION AND BRIDGE REHABILITATION		3/20/2029	HIGHWAY - INTERSTATE MAINTENANCE	Delivery
U-5836	BRENDAN MERITHEW	BURKE	NC 181 FROM SR 1414 (ST. MARY'S CHURCH ROAD) TO MORGANTON ETJ WIDEN EXISTING ROADWAY	10/12/2026	6/18/2030	HIGHWAY - STI (PRIORITIZATION)	Delivery
BR-0130	GRAYSON P. FLOYD	BURKE	Replace Bridges 110114 and 110120 on I40 over Silver Creek.		1/21/2031	HIGHWAY FUND BRIDGE / BRIDGE PROGRAM	Delivery
BR-0259	TYLER A. YELTON	BURKE	Replace Bridge 110128 on US 70 over Southern Railroad in Burke County.	10/9/2027	1/21/2031	HIGHWAY FUND BRIDGE / BRIDGE PROGRAM	
BR-0068	GRAYSON P. FLOYD	BURKE	REPLACE BRIDGE 110103 ON NC 126 OVER CANOE CREEK	8/18/2023	10/21/2031	HIGHWAY FUND BRIDGE / BRIDGE PROGRAM	
BR-0149	GRAYSON P. FLOYD	BURKE	Replace 110063 on NC 181 over Irish Creek.	1/15/2027	10/21/2031	HIGHWAY FUND BRIDGE / BRIDGE PROGRAM	
R-3430A	WESLEY BROOKS CARTNER	BURKE	SR 1001 (MALCOLM BOULEVARD) FROM US 70 TO CATAWBA RIVER. MODERNIZE ROADWAY TO INCLUDE BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN ACCOMMODATIONS.		1/1/2040	HIGHWAY - STI (PRIORITIZATION)	Not Funded