



Western Piedmont Council of Governments

Greater Hickory Metropolitan Planning Organization

Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC)

Wednesday, August 26, 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	Barbara Beatty		
Consent Agenda Items:			
A. Minutes of July 22, 2026 Meeting	Barbara Beatty	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
Prioritization 8: Regional Tier Local Input Points	Averi Ritchie & Casey Fullbright	Attachment III	Approve via Consensus
Arrowood Bridge Replacement Resolution of Support	Averi Ritchie	Attachment IV	Approve via Resolution
Traffic Analysis Zones (TAZs) Interactive Mapping Tool Demo (Updated Features)	Casey Fullbright & Andrew Webb	Attachment V	Presentation
Section 5310 Project Applications	Casey Fullbright	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	Barbara Beatty		
Adjournment			
Next Meeting: September 23, 2026	Barbara Beatty		



**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, July 22nd, 2026 @ 2:30 PM In-person meeting and via online participation

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

					College
			VACANT		Drexel
WPCOG, FHWA & GUEST			NC DOT STAFF		
Averi Ritchie - WPCOG			Michael Poe - Div 11		
Casey Fullbright - WPCOG			Travis Chrisawn - Div 11		
Katelyn Smith - WPCOG			Mark Stafford - Div 12		
Taylor Dellinger - WPCOG			Travis Jordan - Div 12		
Anthony Starr - WPCOG			Stephen Sparks - Div 13		
Andrew Webb - WPCOG			Dean Leadbetter - Div 11 & 12		
Brad Lail - NCDOT BOT			Reuben Crummy - NC DOT TPD		
Meagan Phillips - NCDOT BOT			Hasan Obias - NC DOT TPD		
Brandon Whitaker - Guest					

Call to Order / Ethics Awareness / Introductions: Chair Guess called the meeting to order and welcomed all present. Introductions were conducted. A motion was made by Chair Guess and seconded by Ms. Patton to allow online attendees to vote (Mr. Beal, Mr. Whitaker, and Ms. Phillips).

Action Items:

I. Approval of Consent Agenda: Chair Guess presented the consent agenda, which included the Minutes of the June 24, 2026 Meeting and the Transportation Improvement Program Revisions for Release. Upon a motion made by Ms. Patton and a second by Mr. Townsend, the Committee approved the consent agenda.

II. Transportation Improvement Program Revisions for Approval: Ms. Ritchie presented the Transportation Improvement Program Revisions for Approval. Upon a motion made by Ms. Hill and seconded by Mr. Canrobert, the committee adopted the revisions via resolution.

III. Prioritization 8: Regional Tier Local Input Points: Ms. Ritchie and Mr. Fullbright presented the Regional Tier Local Input Points. MPO staff evaluated the Regional Impact projects using the Greater Hickory MPO's adopted Local Input Point Assignment Methodology, which assigns points based on quantitative scores and public support. The item was formally opened for public comment.

IV. Traffic Analysis Zones (TAZs) 2024 Estimates: Mr. Dellinger presented the Traffic Analysis Zones (TAZs) 2024 Estimates. MPO staff completed the collection and estimation of 2024 baseline TAZ data for housing, population, and employment using 2020 Census data, regional building permits, and Data Axle business data. The committee approved the estimates via consensus.

V. Traffic Analysis Zones (TAZs) Interactive Mapping Tool Demo: Mr. Fullbright and Mr. Webb provided a presentation and demonstration of the Traffic Analysis Zones (TAZs) Interactive Mapping Tool. The web-based tool allows local government

representatives to review existing conditions and enter projected housing units and employment growth for each zone through the year 2055. MPO staff will host training sessions for local government representatives prior to the start of the projection process.

VI. Locally Administered Projects Program (LAPP) Discussion: GHMPO Staff facilitated a discussion regarding potential policies and administrative practices for the Locally Administered Projects Program (LAPP). The discussion sought feedback from the committee on policy concepts to help improve consistency, transparency, and program administration for future updates.

NCDOT Updates –

NCDOT Board Updates: Mr. Lail provided updates regarding I-77 legislation.

Division 11: Mr. Poe reported that Hurricane Helene repairs are 93% complete with \$293 million spent. The Edgemont Church Road bridge was discussed, along with \$10.3 million spent in Caldwell County. A public meeting will be held in Granite Falls for the U-6161 access project involving Dudley Shoals and the US 321 access road. Hudson intersection projects have scheduled let dates in September, with active construction and resurfacing ongoing.

Division 12: Mr. Stafford Provided updates regarding the Church Road intersection project and ongoing work on NC 127.

Division 13: Mr. Sparks reported on current construction resurfacing and a bridge project.

NCDOT-TPD: Mr. Crummy reported that there were no new updates.

NCDOT-IMD: It was reported that there were no new updates.

Reminders: Ms. Ritchie provided reminders to the committee. A multimodal grant opportunity through the safety division closes on August 13th. Reminders were also given regarding a Safe Routes to School survey, I-77 legislation, and a 5310 call for projects.

Public Comment/Announcements: None

Adjournment: Upon a motion made by Chair Guess and seconded by Ms. Patton, the meeting was adjourned at 3:55 PM. The next meeting will be Wednesday, August 26, 2026.

Respectfully Submitted,

Barbara Beatty, TAC Vice

Chairman

Averi Ritchie, TAC Secretary

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

MEETING DATE: August 26, 2026

SUBJECT: Transportation Improvement Program Revisions for Release

PRESENTER: Averil 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

GREATER HICKORY METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

STIP ADDITIONS

* BL-0189 CATAWBA PROJ.CATEGORY EXEMPT	- GREATER HICKORY METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION	5TH STREET NORTH EAST; 5TH STREET NORTH EAST AND 10TH AVENUE DRIVE NORTH EAST. CONSTRUCT NEW SIDEWALK, PEDESTRIAN SIGNAL INFRASTRUCTURE AND ENHANCED CROSSWALK VISIBILITY. <u>ADD PROJECT AT THE REQUEST OF THE MPO.</u>	ENGINEERING	FY 2027 -	\$200,000	(CMAQ)
				FY 2027 -	\$50,000	(L(M))
			RIGHT-OF-WAY	FY 2028 -	\$200,000	(CMAQ)
				FY 2028 -	\$50,000	(L(M))
			UTILITIES	FY 2028 -	\$40,000	(CMAQ)
				FY 2028 -	\$10,000	(L(M))
			CONSTRUCTION	FY 2029 -	\$1,400,000	(CMAQ)
				FY 2029 -	\$350,000	(L(M))
					\$2,300,000	
* BL-0190 CALDWELL PROJ.CATEGORY DIVISION	- GREATER HICKORY METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION	SR 1425 (HARPER AVENUE); RIDGE STREET TO US 64 (MORGANTON BOULEVARD) CONSTRUCT SIDEWALK AND CORRIDOR IMPROVEMENTS. <u>ADD PROJECT AT THE REQUEST OF THE MPO.</u>	ENGINEERING	FY 2027 -	\$1,347,000	(BGDA)
				FY 2027 -	\$337,000	(L(M))
			RIGHT-OF-WAY	FY 2029 -	\$177,000	(BGDA)
				FY 2029 -	\$44,000	(L(M))
			UTILITIES	FY 2029 -	\$111,000	(BGDA)
				FY 2029 -	\$27,000	(L(M))
					\$2,043,000	
* HL-0187 CATAWBA PROJ.CATEGORY DIVISION	- GREATER HICKORY METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION	13TH AVENUE DRIVE SOUTH EAST; CONNECT TWO EXISTING SECTIONS OF 13TH AVENUE DRIVE SOUTH EAST. CONSTRUCT NEW ROADWAY SEGMENT AND SIDEWALK. <u>ADD PROJECT AT THE REQUEST OF THE MPO.</u>	ENGINEERING	FY 2027 -	\$240,000	(T(DA))
				FY 2027 -	\$60,000	(L(M))
			RIGHT-OF-WAY	FY 2028 -	\$80,000	(T(DA))
				FY 2028 -	\$20,000	(L(M))
			UTILITIES	FY 2028 -	\$80,000	(T(DA))
				FY 2028 -	\$20,000	(L(M))
					\$500,000	
* HS-2611D WILKES PROJ.CATEGORY REGIONAL	- GREATER HICKORY METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION	NC 18 SOUTH; FROM THE CALDWELL/WILKES COUNTY LINE TO NC 16 IN MORAVIAN FALLS. UPGRADE GUARDRAIL AND END UNITS. <u>ADD PROJECT BREAK AT THE REQUEST OF TRANSPORTATION MOBILITY AND SAFETY DIVISION.</u>	CONSTRUCTION	FY 2026 -	\$648,000	(HSIP)
				FY 2026 -	\$162,000	(T(M))
					\$810,000	

* INDICATES FEDERAL AMENDMENT

REVISIONS TO THE 2026-2035 STIP
HIGHWAY PROGRAM

GREATER HICKORY METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

STIP ADDITIONS

* HS-2611E CALDWELL PROJ.CATEGORY DIVISION	- GREATER HICKORY METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION	SR 1115 (DRY POND ROAD); FROM EAST OF FREEMASON CREEK STRUCTURE TO WEST OF FREEMASON CREEK STRUCTURE. INSTALL GUARDRAIL.	CONSTRUCTION	FY 2026 - \$76,000 (HSIP) FY 2026 - \$19,000 (T(M)) \$95,000
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**ADD PROJECT BREAK AT THE REQUEST OF
TRANSPORTATION MOBILITY AND SAFETY DIVISION.**

STIP MODIFICATIONS

* BL-0002 CALDWELL PROJ.CATEGORY DIVISION	- GREATER HICKORY METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION	HUDSON US 321A (MAIN STREET); SR 1952 (CEDAR VALLEY ROAD) TO SR 1156 (LEGION ROAD) IN HUDSON. CONSTRUCT PEDESTRIAN CROSSING IMPROVEMENTS.	ENGINEERING	FY 2026 - \$40,000 (TAANY) FY 2026 - \$10,000 (L(M))
			RIGHT-OF-WAY	FY 2026 - \$19,000 (BGDA) FY 2026 - \$5,000 (L(M))
		<u>TO ALLOW ADDITIONAL TIME FOR PLANNING AND DESIGN, DELAY CONSTRUCTION FROM FY 26 TO FY 27. ADD UTILITIES IN FY 26 NOT PREVIOUSLY PROGRAMMED.</u>	UTILITIES	FY 2026 - \$8,000 (BGDA) FY 2026 - \$2,000 (L(M))
			CONSTRUCTION	FY 2027 - \$312,000 (TAANY) FY 2027 - \$78,000 (L(M)) \$474,000
BR-0151 BURKE PROJ.CATEGORY DIVISION	- GREATER HICKORY METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION	SR 1002 (HENRY RIVER ROAD); SR1002 (HENRY RIVER ROAD) OVER I-40. REPLACE BRIDGE.	RIGHT-OF-WAY	FY 2028 - \$500,000 (HFB)
			UTILITIES	FY 2028 - \$100,000 (HFB)
		<u>TO ALLOW ADDITIONAL TIME FOR PLANNING AND DESIGN, DELAY RIGHT-OF-WAY FROM FY 27 TO FY 28 AND CONSTRUCTION FROM FY 28 TO FY 29. ADD UTILITIES IN FY 28 NOT PREVIOUSLY PROGRAMMED.</u>	CONSTRUCTION	FY 2029 - \$416,000 (BGDA) FY 2029 - \$104,000 (L(M)) FY 2029 - \$312,000 (L) FY 2029 - \$11,568,000 (HFB) \$13,000,000

RX-2012F CATAWBA PROJ.CATEGORY DIVISION	- GREATER HICKORY METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION	SR 1358 (FOURTH STREET SOUTHWEST); NORFOLK SOUTHERN CROSSING 729568E IN HICKORY. CONSTRUCT SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS.	CONSTRUCTION	FY 2027 - \$775,000 (RR) \$775,000
		<u>TO ALLOW ADDITIONAL TIME FOR PLANNING AND DESIGN, DELAY CONSTRUCTION FROM FY 26 TO FY 27.</u>		

* INDICATES FEDERAL AMENDMENT

Thursday, August 6, 2026

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

MEETING DATE: August 26, 2026

SUBJECT: Transportation Improvement Program Revisions for Approval

PRESENTER: Averil 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

* RX-2412F CATAWBA PROJ.CATEGORY DIVISION	- GREATER HICKORY METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION	31ST STREET SW; NORFOLK SOUTHERN RAILROAD CROSSING 729552H IN LONG VIEW. CONSTRUCT HIGHWAY-RAIL GRADE CROSSING SAFETY. <u>ADD PROJECT AT THE REQUEST OF THE RAIL DIVISION.</u>	CONSTRUCTION	FY 2027 -	\$650,000 (RR) \$650,000
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STIP MODIFICATIONS

B-6041 CATAWBA PROJ.CATEGORY STATEWIDE	- GREATER HICKORY METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION	I-40; BRIDGES 170177 AND 170178 OVER LYLE CREEK. REPLACE BRIDGES. <u>TO ALLOW ADDITIONAL TIME FOR PLANNING AND DESIGN, DELAY RIGHT-OF-WAY FROM FY 26 TO FY 28.</u>	RIGHT-OF-WAY	FY 2028 -	\$232,000 (BFP)
				FY 2028 -	\$58,000 (T(M))
			CONSTRUCTION	FY 2032 -	\$3,874,000 (BFP)
				FY 2032 -	\$968,000 (T(M))
				FY 2033 -	\$5,810,000 (BFP)
				FY 2033 -	\$1,453,000 (T(M))
				FY 2034 -	\$4,950,000 (BFP)
				FY 2034 -	\$1,237,000 (T(M))
				FY 2035 -	\$3,658,000 (BFP)
				FY 2035 -	\$915,000 (T(M))
				AFTER FY 2035 -	\$3,228,000 (BFP)
				AFTER FY 2035 -	\$807,000 (T(M))
					\$27,190,000
* BR-0130 BURKE PROJ.CATEGORY STATEWIDE	- GREATER HICKORY METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION	I-40; BRIDGES 110114 AND 110120 OVER SILVER CREEK. REPLACE BRIDGES. <u>ADD RIGHT-OF-WAY IN FY 27 NOT PREVIOUSLY PROGRAMED.</u>	RIGHT-OF-WAY	FY 2027 -	\$85,000 (BFP)
				FY 2027 -	\$21,000 (T(M))
			CONSTRUCTION	FY 2031 -	\$4,720,000 (BFP)
				FY 2031 -	\$1,180,000 (T(M))
				FY 2032 -	\$4,720,000 (BFP)
				FY 2032 -	\$1,180,000 (T(M))
					\$11,906,000

* INDICATES FEDERAL AMENDMENT

REVISIONS TO THE 2026-2035 STIP
HIGHWAY PROGRAM

GREATER HICKORY METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

STIP MODIFICATIONS

U-6161	- GREATER HICKORY METROPOLITAN	US 321; SR 1002 (DUDLEY SHOALS ROAD) GRADE	RIGHT-OF-WAY	FY 2027 -	\$160,000	(NHP)
CALDWELL	PLANNING ORGANIZATION	SEPARATION. CONSTRUCT RAMP ONTO US 321		FY 2027 -	\$40,000	(T(M))
PROJ.CATEGORY		SOUTHBOUND.		FY 2028 -	\$560,000	(NHP)
DIVISION		<u>TO ALLOW ADDITIONAL TIME FOR PLANNING AND</u>		FY 2028 -	\$140,000	(T(M))
		<u>DESIGN, DELAY RIGHT-OF-WAY AND UTILITIES FROM</u>		FY 2029 -	\$560,000	(NHP)
		<u>FY 26 TO FY 27.</u>		FY 2029 -	\$140,000	(T(M))
				FY 2030 -	\$160,000	(NHP)
				FY 2030 -	\$40,000	(T(M))
				FY 2031 -	\$160,000	(NHP)
				FY 2031 -	\$40,000	(T(M))
			UTILITIES	FY 2027 -	\$216,000	(NHP)
				FY 2027 -	\$54,000	(T(M))
			CONSTRUCTION	FY 2028 -	\$1,512,000	(NHP)
				FY 2028 -	\$378,000	(T(M))
				FY 2029 -	\$2,621,000	(NHP)
				FY 2029 -	\$655,000	(T(M))
				FY 2030 -	\$907,000	(NHP)
				FY 2030 -	\$227,000	(T(M))
					\$8,570,000	

* INDICATES FEDERAL AMENDMENT

STIP ADDITIONS

* BL-0189 CATAWBA PROJ.CATEGORY EXEMPT	- GREATER HICKORY METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION	5TH STREET NORTH EAST; 5TH STREET NORTH EAST AND 10TH AVENUE DRIVE NORTH EAST. CONSTRUCT NEW SIDEWALK, PEDESTRIAN SIGNAL INFRASTRUCTURE AND ENHANCED CROSSWALK VISIBILITY. <u>ADD PROJECT AT THE REQUEST OF THE MPO.</u>	ENGINEERING	FY 2027 -	\$200,000	(CMAQ)
				FY 2027 -	\$50,000	(L(M))
			RIGHT-OF-WAY	FY 2028 -	\$200,000	(CMAQ)
				FY 2028 -	\$50,000	(L(M))
			UTILITIES	FY 2028 -	\$40,000	(CMAQ)
				FY 2028 -	\$10,000	(L(M))
			CONSTRUCTION	FY 2029 -	\$1,400,000	(CMAQ)
				FY 2029 -	\$350,000	(L(M))
					\$2,300,000	
* BL-0190 CALDWELL PROJ.CATEGORY DIVISION	- GREATER HICKORY METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION	SR 1425 (HARPER AVENUE); RIDGE STREET TO US 64 (MORGANTON BOULEVARD) CONSTRUCT SIDEWALK AND CORRIDOR IMPROVEMENTS. <u>ADD PROJECT AT THE REQUEST OF THE MPO.</u>	ENGINEERING	FY 2027 -	\$1,347,000	(BGDA)
				FY 2027 -	\$337,000	(L(M))
			RIGHT-OF-WAY	FY 2029 -	\$177,000	(BGDA)
				FY 2029 -	\$44,000	(L(M))
			UTILITIES	FY 2029 -	\$111,000	(BGDA)
				FY 2029 -	\$27,000	(L(M))
					\$2,043,000	
* HL-0187 CATAWBA PROJ.CATEGORY DIVISION	- GREATER HICKORY METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION	13TH AVENUE DRIVE SOUTH EAST; CONNECT TWO EXISTING SECTIONS OF 13TH AVENUE DRIVE SOUTH EAST. CONSTRUCT NEW ROADWAY SEGMENT AND SIDEWALK. <u>ADD PROJECT AT THE REQUEST OF THE MPO.</u>	ENGINEERING	FY 2027 -	\$240,000	(T(DA))
				FY 2027 -	\$60,000	(L(M))
			RIGHT-OF-WAY	FY 2028 -	\$80,000	(T(DA))
				FY 2028 -	\$20,000	(L(M))
			UTILITIES	FY 2028 -	\$80,000	(T(DA))
				FY 2028 -	\$20,000	(L(M))
					\$500,000	



**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 26th day of August, 2026.

Barbara Beatty
Greater Hickory MPO TAC Vice Chair

Averi Ritchie
Greater Hickory MPO TAC Secretary

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

MEETING DATE: August 26, 2026

SUBJECT: Prioritization 8: Regional Tier Local Input Points

PRESENTER: Averil Ritchie, Transportation Planning Director

ATTACHMENTS: Prioritization 8 Regional Tier Scoring Spreadsheet

SUMMARY OF REQUEST:

As part of Prioritization 8, MPO staff evaluated Regional Impact projects using the Greater Hickory MPO's adopted Local Input Point Assignment Methodology. The methodology assigns points based solely on two factors: the project's quantitative score and public support. The resulting scores provide an objective ranking of projects and serve as the basis for staff's recommendations for the assignment of local input points.

The attached spreadsheet summarizes each Regional Impact project's score according to the adopted methodology and illustrates the resulting project rankings. Staff is requesting the Transportation Coordinating Committee's recommendation and the Transportation Advisory Committee's approval to finalize the local input point assignments.

BOARD ACTION REQUESTED: Yes

Suggested Motion:

Motion to approve the regional tier local input point assignment.

**Draft 2028-2037 STIP Estimated Funding Availability
for Selecting Projects from Prioritization 8.0**
As of May 28, 2026

STI Funding Category	Funding Availability
Region A (Divisions 1 & 4)	\$100M
Region B (Divisions 2 & 3)	\$150M
Region C (Divisions 5 & 6)	\$551M
Region D (Divisions 7 & 9)	\$236M
Region E (Divisions 8 & 10)	\$246M
Region F (Divisions 11 & 12)	\$432M
Region G (Divisions 13 & 14)	\$122M
Division 1	\$228M
Division 2	\$159M
Division 3	\$31M
Division 4	\$29M
Division 5	\$125M
Division 6	\$186M
Division 7	\$106M
Division 8	-\$21M
Division 9	\$80M
Division 10	\$97M
Division 11	\$15M
Division 12	\$47M
Division 13	\$190M
Division 14	\$257M

Values are as of May 28, 2026, and will change due to, but not limited to:

- Variance adjustments (also known as the lookback law)
- Additional funding for ongoing activities
- Bid adjustments
- Cost changes for future projects
- Schedule changes
- Changes in anticipated revenues (including federal transportation re-authorization)

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

MEETING DATE: August 26, 2026

SUBJECT: Arrowood Bridge Replacement Resolution of Support

PRESENTER: Averi Ritchie, Transportation Planning Director

ATTACHMENTS: Arrowood Bridge Replacement Resolution of Support

SUMMARY OF REQUEST:

The City of Lenoir is seeking funding to replace the existing Arrowood Street Bridge over Lower Creek, located near the intersection of Arrowood Street and Wilkesboro Boulevard (NC 18). The aging bridge has been identified for replacement due to its deteriorating condition and vulnerability to flooding. Arrowood Street provides primary access to Hibriten High School, William Lenoir Middle School, and a nearby residential area, making the bridge an important local transportation connection. The proposed project would replace the existing structure with a new bridge designed to current standards and improve the resiliency and reliability of this critical access route.

BOARD ACTION REQUESTED: Motion to approve the resolution of support for Arrowood Bridge replacement.



GREATER HICKORY METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT FOR THE ARROWOOD STREET BRIDGE REPLACEMENT PROJECT

WHEREAS, the City of Lenoir is seeking funding for the replacement of the Arrowood Street Bridge over Lower Creek; and

WHEREAS, the existing bridge has been identified for replacement due to its age, deteriorating condition, and vulnerability to flooding; and

WHEREAS, Arrowood Street serves as a primary access route to Hibriten High School, William Lenoir Middle School, and a nearby residential area; and

WHEREAS, replacement of the existing bridge will improve the safety, reliability, and resiliency of this important local transportation connection and provide a structure designed to current engineering standards; and

WHEREAS, the proposed project supports the goals and initiatives of the Greater Hickory Metropolitan Planning Organization's 2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan by promoting a safe, reliable, and resilient regional transportation system; and

WHEREAS, the Greater Hickory Metropolitan Planning Organization recognizes the importance of maintaining safe and reliable transportation infrastructure throughout the region;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Greater Hickory Metropolitan Planning Organization Transportation Advisory Committee hereby expresses its support for the City of Lenoir's Arrowood Street Bridge Replacement Project and its efforts to secure funding necessary to complete the project.

Upon a motion by _____ and a second by _____, this resolution was adopted by the Greater Hickory Metropolitan Planning Organization Transportation Advisory Committee on this 26th day of August, 2026.

Barbara Beatty, Vice Chair of Transportation Advisory Committee

Averi Ritchie, Secretary of Transportation Advisory Committee

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

MEETING DATE: August 26, 2026

SUBJECT: Traffic Analysis Zones (TAZs) Interactive Mapping Tool Demo

PRESENTER: Casey Fullbright, Transportation Planner & Andrew Webb, GIS Specialist

ATTACHMENTS: Traffic Analysis Zones (TAZs) Mapping Tool (Update)

SUMMARY OF REQUEST:

Following approval of the 2024 baseline Traffic Analysis Zone (TAZ) data, MPO staff will begin the 2055 housing and employment projection process in coordination with local governments throughout the region. To facilitate this effort, staff has developed an interactive, web-based TAZ projection tool that allows local government representatives to review existing conditions and enter projected housing units and employment growth for each Traffic Analysis Zone through the year 2055.

The interactive mapping tool has been designed to be intuitive and user-friendly, allowing participants to efficiently develop projections while viewing existing land use, transportation infrastructure, and other supporting mapping layers. MPO staff will host training sessions for local government representatives prior to the start of the projection process to demonstrate the tool's functionality, answer questions, and ensure consistency in the development of future growth projections. These projections will serve as a critical input to the regional travel demand model and the development of the 2055 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) and Comprehensive Transportation Plan (CTP).

This tool was presented at last month's meetings, however, a couple of minor updates were made to some of the selections. Staff will be covering those updates.

BOARD ACTION REQUESTED: n/a

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

MEETING DATE: August 26, 2026

SUBJECT: Section 5310 Project Applications

PRESENTER: Casey Fullbright, Transportation Planner

ATTACHMENTS: Section 5310 Project Applications (spreadsheet)

SUMMARY OF REQUEST:

The Federal Transit Administration's Section 5310 Enhanced Mobility of Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities Program provides funding to improve mobility for seniors and individuals with disabilities by supporting transportation services and improvements that address their specific needs. On behalf of Greenway Public Transportation, GHMPO staff conducted a competitive call for projects for FY 2028 and FY 2029 Section 5310 funding. GHMPO staff hosted an application workshop on July 14, 2026, to provide prospective applicants with information on program eligibility, requirements, and the application process. The call for projects closed on August 14, 2026, resulting in three applications for consideration.

BOARD ACTION REQUESTED: Motion to release the Section 5310 Project Application scores and requested funding amounts to the public.

August 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, 98% 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	Justin Johnson (704) 380-6050	UNDERWAY, 39% COMPLETE.
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.
C204977	ALEXANDER, CATAWBA	BRIDGE #170091 OVER THE CATAWBA RIVER ON NC-127 AND	BRIDGE REHABILITATION.	ROW: NA UTL: NA CON: 2025	Logan Carpenter (828) 468-6260	UNDERWAY, 31% COMPLETE.
DL00367	ALEXANDER	NC 16, NC 127, SR 1348	RESURFACING 13.19 MILES	ROW: NA UTL: NA CON: 2026	Travis Jordan (980) 405-6000	WORK NOT STARTED.
DL00371	ALEXANDER / CATAWBA	VARIOUS SECONDARY ROUTES	RESURFACING 6.3 MILES	ROW: NA UTL: NA CON: 2026	Travis Jordan (980) 405-6000	WORK NOT STARTED.
DL00374	ALEXANDER / IREDELL	VARIOUS SECONDARY ROUTES	RESURFACING 30.846 MILES	ROW: NA UTL: NA CON: 2026	Jonathan Barnette (704) 380-6040	UNDERWAY, 6% COMPLETE.

PROJECT ID	COUNTY(S)	ROUTE/CITY	DESCRIPTION	PHASE & YEAR (2026 - 2035 STIP)	PROJECT MANAGER/ CONTACT	STATUS
DL00381	ALEXANDER	CULVERT REPLACEMENT ROCKY FACE BRANCH UNDER	CULVERT REPLACEMENT	ROW: NA UTL: NA CON: 2026	Justin Johnson (704) 380-6050	UNDERWAY, 24% COMPLETE.
C205048	CATAWBA	1 SECTION OF NC- 10, AND 53 SECTIONS OF SECONDARY	RESURFACING FOR 20.75 MILES.	ROW: NA UTL: NA CON: 2025	Travis Jordan (980) 405-6000	UNDERWAY, 59% COMPLETE.
DL00360	CATAWBA	SR 1003, SR 1833 AND SR 1885.	RESURFACING FOR 10.54 MILES.	ROW: NA UTL: NA CON: 2025	Travis Jordan (980) 405-6000	WORK NOT STARTED.
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, 19% COMPLETE.
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	ROW: NA UTL: NA CON: 2025	Keith Anderson (980) 435-3290	UNDERWAY, 21% COMPLETE.
C205171	CATAWBA	US 321 BUS & 7 SECTIONS OF SECONDARY RD.	RESURFACING 14.62 MILES	ROW: NA UTL: NA CON: 2026	Travis Jordan (980) 405-6000	WORK NOT STARTED.
DL00368	CATAWBA	VARIOUS SECONDARY ROUTES	RESURFACE 22.39 MILES	ROW: NA UTL: NA CON: 2026	Travis Jordan (980) 405-6000	WORK NOT STARTED.
DL00385	CATAWBA / LINCOLN	SR 1003	RESRUFACE 10.89 MILES.	ROW: NA UTL: NA CON: 2026	Travis Jordan (980) 405-6000	WORK NOT STARTED.

PROJECT ID	COUNTY(S)	ROUTE/CITY	DESCRIPTION	PHASE & YEAR (2026 - 2035 STIP)	PROJECT MANAGER/ CONTACT	STATUS
DL00349	CATAWBA	BRIDGE NO. 55 OVER JACOB FORK RIVER SR 1139 (FINGER	BRIDGE REPLACEMENT.	ROW: NA UTL: NA CON: 2025	Logan Carpenter (828) 468-6260	PROJECT IS A DESIGN BUILD PROJECT, DESIGN UNDERWAY, 98% COMPLETE.
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	RIGHT OF WAY ACQUISITION COMPLETE.
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	Nathan Adima (919) 707-6210	LET AUGUST 18, 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 FUNDED FOR PE ONLY.
U-2307B	CATAWBA	29TH AVENUE NE	SR 1453 (SPRINGS ROAD) TO NC 127. WIDEN TO MULTI- LANES.	ROW: 2026 UTL: 2026 CON: 2029	Nathan Adima (919)707-	PLANNING AND DESIGN IS ONGOING.
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	DESIGN ONGOING. . RIGHT OF WAY ACQUISITION IN PROGRESS.

PROJECT ID	COUNTY(S)	ROUTE/CITY	DESCRIPTION	PHASE & YEAR (2026 - 2035 STIP)	PROJECT MANAGER/ CONTACT	STATUS
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 FUNDED FOR PE ONLY. PLANNING AND DESIGN WILL RESUME ONCE R/W & CONSTRUCTION
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 COMPLETE AND UTILITY RELOCATION 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	FUNDED FOR PRELIMINARY ENGINEERING ONLY	Ritchie Naraidu (980) 552-4227	FUNDED FOR PE ONLY , PRELIMANRY PLANNING AND DESIGN UNDERWAY.

August 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, 82% COMPLETE.
DM00442	BURKE	VARIOUS SECONDARY ROUTES.	PAVEMENT PRESERVATION IN BURKE AND RUTHERFORD COUNTIES.	ROW: NA UTL: NA CON: 2024	Travis Jordan (980) 405-6000	UNDERWAY, 52% COMPLETE.
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	Logan Carpenter (828) 468-6260	UNDERWAY, 79 % COMPLETE.

NCDOT TPO NEWS



NCDOT TPO GHMPO Newsletter

August 2026

Traffic Forecasts (TF)

A Project Level Traffic Forecasting is an essential part of the planning process. There are no traffic forecasts currently underway in the GHMPO area. There is a map that provides information about past and current traffic forecasts: [NCDOT Traffic Forecasting Data Map](#)

"Connecting people, products and places safely and efficiently with customer focus, accountability and environmental sensitivity to enhance the economy and vitality of North Carolina...."

- NCDOT Mission Statement

Projects Near Me

The public has a new way to keep tabs on transportation projects that are underway or upcoming, whether they are in a nearby neighborhood or across the state.

The N.C. Department of Transportation recently launched an interactive [online tool called Projects Near Me](#), where people can explore a map featuring a wide range of state transportation project data.

The map is searchable by address, making it easy to find projects near any location, and by project identification number in the State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP). It can also display projects by county or NCDOT Highway Division.

Additional filters allow users to search the map by project type — aviation, bicycle and pedestrian, bridge and structure, ferry, highway, public transportation, rail, and other miscellaneous projects. The map can also display indicators for projects that are of high public interest, have public engagement, or are future projects.

Users can click on any map pin to display more project information, including a local map and description of the work, milestones for those that are committed for funding in the current STIP, and contact information.

The data behind the Projects Near Me map is subject to change as projects evolve. The map does not feature data on travel impacts associated with current transportation projects.

People should continue to use DriveNC.gov as the trusted source [for real-time traffic information across North Carolina](#).

Transportation Planning Division (Name Change)

The NCDOT Transportation Planning Division has officially changed its name to the Transportation Planning Office (TPO). The change complements the Capital Programming Office (CPO) name established for the programming group and provides a consistent approach to assist in bringing transportation planning and the programming groups together while reinforcing operations to better reflect our new organizational structure while continuing to provide a clear point of reference for those we work with.

Intercity Bus Service in North Carolina

The N.C. Department of Transportation recognizes the importance of providing intercity bus connections between urban and rural communities throughout North Carolina.

NCDOT provides funding for 13 routes that offer daily service for North Carolinians and provides connections to a larger national intercity bus network.

[NCDOT: Integrated Mobility Division - North Carolina Intercity Bus Service](#)

Contact Us

Reuben Crummy

NCDOT TPO

1 S. Wilmington Street
Raleigh, NC
(919) 707-0971 (office)

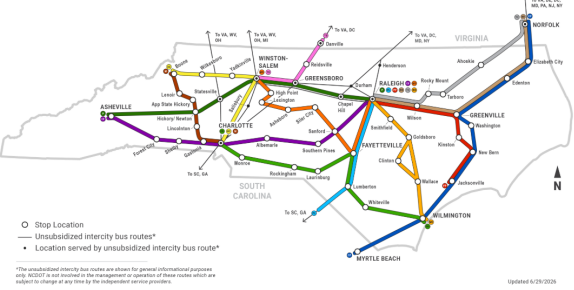
rcrummy@ncdot.gov

Website: www.ncdot.gov

Intercity Bus Service in North Carolina

ROUTES SUBSIDIZED AND MANAGED BY NCDOT

- Ashville to Raleigh via Hickory - Piedmont Pass
- Ashville to Raleigh - Cardinal Flyer
- Boone to Charlotte - Mountainliner
- Boone to Charlotte - High Country Gateway (*EXPANDED ROUTE*)
- Charlotte to Wilmington - Dogwood Dasher
- Norfolk to Myrtle Beach - Coastal Plains Connector
- Norfolk to Raleigh - Tidewater Connector
- Norfolk to Raleigh via Greenville - Rockfish Run (*NEW ROUTE*)
- Raleigh to Greenville to Jacksonville - Pirate's Passage
- Raleigh to Wilmington - Wave Rider
- Winston-Salem to Danville - Triad-Danville Express
- Winston-Salem to Fayetteville - Mid-State Express (*EXPANDED ROUTE*)
- Raleigh to South Carolina/Georgia - Pine Line (*NEW ROUTE*)



Updated 6/29/2025

Upcoming

Date

4th Quarter (Final) invoice and work summary due.

August 12, 2026

Annual performance report (end-of-year summary of work) due for FY26

August 12, 2026

NCDOT Statewide Plans:

To learn more, click on the following links or go to ncdot.gov and search using names in [blue](#) unless otherwise noted:

- [NC Moves 2050 Plan](#)
- [NCDOT Strategic Transportation Corridors](#)
- [NCDOT Comprehensive State Rail Plan \(25-Year Vision\)](#) Currently being updated
- [NC Statewide Multimodal Freight Plan \(2023\)](#)
- [NCDOT: Integrated Mobility Division - Great Trails State Plan](#)
- [NCDOT: Integrated Mobility Division - Statewide Strategic Plan](#)
- [NCDOT Resilience Strategy Report \(2021\)](#)
- [Statewide Pedestrian & Bicycle Plan \(2013\)](#)
- [Strategic Highway Safety Plan \(2024\)](#)

Other Plans:

- [N.C. Climate Risk Assessment and Resilience Plan by Department of Environmental Quality](#) (or Google search: 2020-Climate-Risk-Assessment-and-Resilience-Plan.pdf)
- [NC FIRST Commission](#)

Helpful Links:

To learn more, click on the following links or go to ncdot.gov and search using names in [blue](#) unless otherwise noted:

- NCDOT home page—ncdot.gov
- Real-Time Traffic—drivenc.gov | [North Carolina Traffic & Travel Information](#)
- Report a pothole—[NCDOT Contact Us Form](#) (ncdot.gov & search “Report a pothole”)
- NCDOT: State Transportation Improvement Program - ncdot.gov/sti
- Interactive Bicycle Routes Map—<https://www.ncdot.gov/bikeped/ncbikeways/default.aspx>—
- Links to all traffic count data information - [Traffic Survey Group \(connect.ncdot.gov & then search\)](#)
- NCDOT Interactive Traffic Volume Map—[Traffic Volume Maps \(ncdot.gov\)](#)
- Traffic Safety Data & Engineering—[NCDOT: Traffic Safety Data & Engineering](#)
- Federal Functional Classification Map—[NCDOT Functional Class Map \(ncdot.maps.arcgis.com\)](#)
- NCDOT Flickr Account: [NCDOTcommunications | Flickr](#)