



Western Piedmont Council of Governments

Greater Hickory Metropolitan Planning Organization

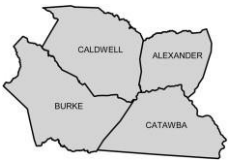
Technical Coordinating Committee (TCC)

Wednesday, April 22, 2026, 1:00 PM

WPCOG Offices—1880 2nd Ave NW

wpcog.org/metropolitan-planning-org

Agenda Item	Presenter	Attachment	Action
Call to Order /Introductions	Randy Williams		
Consent Agenda Items:			
A. Minutes of March 25, 2026 Meeting	Randy Williams	Attachment I	Approve Consent Agenda Items
B. Transportation Improvement Program Revisions for Release			
Transportation Improvement Program Revisions for Approval	Averi Ritchie	Attachment II	Adopt via Resolution
TCC/TAC & Public Survey Results	Averi Ritchie & Casey Fullbright	Attachment III	Presentation
TCC Chair Elections	Randy Williams	Attachment IV	Adopt by Resolution
NCDOT Updates			
Division 11	Sean Sizemore		
Division 12	Travis Jordan		
Division 13	Doug Phillips		
Transportation Planning Division	Reuben Crummy		
Integrated Mobility Division	Nikki Elsheimer		
Reminders	Averi Ritchie		
Public Comment / Announcements	Randy Williams		
Adjournment			
Next Meeting: May 27, 2026	Randy Williams		



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 (TCC)

Wednesday, March 25th, 2026 @ 1:00 PM In-person meeting and via Zoom

Present			Absent		
First Name	Last Name	Representing	First Name	Last Name	Representing
Daniel	Cobb	Town of Granite Falls	Michael	Berley	City of Morganton
John	Marshall	City of Hickory	Patrick	Reach	Alexander County
Blake	Wright	Town of Maiden	Brian	Burgess	Alexander/Taylorsville
Erik	Schlichting	City of Conover	Patrick	Creech	Alexander County
Laurie	LoCicero	Catawba County	Randy	Feirabend	Town of Cahah's Mtn
Wendy	Smith	Town of Morganton	Hannah	Williams	City of Lenoir
Rick	Justice	Town of Rhodhiss	Chris	Timberlake	Catawba County
Bradley	Kirkley	Burke County	Randy	Williams	City of Newton
Steve	Miller	City of Hickory	Nathan	Hester	Town of Taylorsville
Wilson	Elliott	City of Hickory	Shelly	Stevens	Caldwell County
Caroline	Kone	City of Hickory	Chris	Timberlake	Catawba County
Karen	Dickerson	City of Hickory	Danny	Hipps	Town of Catawba
Michael	Rapp	Town of Valdese	Wayne	Rash	Caldwell County
Patrick	Dickinson	City of Morganton	Jon	Hogan	City of Lenoir
Bryce	Carter	City of Claremont	Bill	Carroll	Town of Drexel

Greg	Wilson	Town of Granite Falls	Amy	Bucknam	Alexander County
Jon	Greer	Town of Hudson	Logan	Shook	Town of Hildebran
Dustin	Milsap	Town of Sawmills	Bonnie	Caudie	Town of Gamewell
<u>WPCOG, FHWA & GUEST</u>			<u>NC DOT STAFF</u>		
Averi Ritchie – WPCOG			Dean Ledbetter – Div 11 & 12		
Casey Fullbright – WPCOG			Ruben Crummy – NC DOT TPD		
Daniel Odom - WPCOG			Sean Sizemore – Div 11		
Rusty Bost – Labella Associates			Travis Chrisawn – Div 11		
			Brandon Whitaker – Div 11		
			Anson Merrithew – Div 11		
			Travis Jordan – Div 12		
			Dough Philips Div 13		
			Stephan Sparks – Div 13		
			Thomas Smith – Div 13		
			Steven Cannon – Div 13		
			Nikki Elsheimer - IMD		

Call to Order/ Introductions: Vice Chair Wright called the meeting to order at 1:06 PM and welcomed all present. Introductions were conducted, followed by the Introduction of online viewers.

Action Items:

- I. Approval of Consent Agenda:** Vice Chair Wright called for a motion to approve the consent agenda, which included the Minutes of the February 25, 2026 meeting and the Transportation Improvement Program Revisions for Release. Upon a motion made by Mr. Schlichting and a second by Mrs. Smith, the Committee unanimously 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 Mrs. Smith and seconded by Mr. Schlichting, the committee unanimously approved the revisions.

- III. Transit State of Good Repairs Performance Measures:** Ms. Ritchie presented the Transit State of Good Repairs Performance Measures. Upon a motion made by Mr. Greer and seconded by Mr. Schlichting, the committee unanimously adopted the measures.

- IV. Local Input Point Methodology for Prioritization 8:** Mr. Fullbright presented the Local Input Point Methodology for Prioritization 8. The committee reached consensus to approve the methodology.

- V. Resolution of Support for IMD Multimodal Planning Grant-City of Hickory:** Ms. Ritchie presented the Resolution of Support for the IMD Multimodal Planning Grant for the City of Hickory. Upon a motion made by Mrs. Smith and seconded by Mr. Schlichting, the committee unanimously approved the resolution of support.

- VI. LAPP 2026-Spring Call for New Projects:** Mr. Odom presented the Locally Administered Project Program (LAPP) 2026 Spring Call for New Projects. The committee reached consensus to release the call for projects for public comment.

NCDOT Update –

Division 11: Mr. Sizemore stated that no new updates were available.

Division 12: Mr. Jordan reported that resurfacing projects are

currently starting.

Division 13: Mr. Phillips provided construction updates, noting that paving is underway. He also reported that the Connelly Springs Road bridge project is clearing and currently working through permitting and phasing.

NCDOT-TPD: Mr. Crummy reported that there is no traffic forecast in progress, but the GHMPO Comprehensive Transportation Plan (CTP) has been submitted for adoption. He also noted that a new director is in place.

NCDOT-IMD: Ms. Elsheimer informed the committee that the multimodal planning grant closes on April 13th.

Reminders: Ms. Ritchie reminded members that TAC ethics forms are due on April 15th. She also reminded the committee about the upcoming Federal recertification audit and related surveys.

Public Comment/Announcements: None

Adjournment: Vice Chair Wright adjourned the meeting at 1:31 PM.
The next meeting will be Wednesday, April 22nd, 2026.

Respectfully Submitted,

Blake Wright, MPO/TCC Vice Chair

Averi Ritchie, TAC Secretary

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

MEETING DATE: April 22, 2026

SUBJECT: Transportation Improvement Program Revisions for Release

PRESENTER: Averi Ritchie, Transportation Planning Director

ATTACHMENTS: Transportation Improvement Program Revisions for Release

SUMMARY OF REQUEST:

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

BOARD ACTION REQUESTED: Release for public comment.

Suggested Motion: *Approval to release for public comment*

REVISIONS TO THE 2026-2035 STIP
HIGHWAY PROGRAM

STATEWIDE PROJECT

STIP ADDITIONS

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

NORTH CAROLINA CLEAN ENERGY TECHNOLOGY CENTER, SYSTEMWIDE CONDUCT A CLEAN-FUEL ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY OUTREACH AND AWARENESS PROGRAM IN ALL CMAQ-ELIGIBLE COUNTIES.
ADD PROJECT AT THE REQUEST OF DIVISION OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMMING.

IMPLEMENTATION

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

* INDICATES FEDERAL AMENDMENT

REVISIONS TO THE 2026-2035 STIP
HIGHWAY PROGRAM

STATEWIDE PROJECT

STIP MODIFICATIONS

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

* INDICATES FEDERAL AMENDMENT

REVISIONS TO THE 2026-2035 STIP
HIGHWAY PROGRAM

GREATER HICKORY METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

STIP MODIFICATIONS

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

* INDICATES FEDERAL AMENDMENT

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

MEETING DATE: April 22, 2026

SUBJECT: Transportation Improvement Program Revisions for Approval

PRESENTER: Averi Ritchie, Transportation Planning Director

ATTACHMENTS: Transportation Improvement Program Revisions for Approval

SUMMARY OF REQUEST:

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

BOARD ACTION REQUESTED: Recommend for approval.

Suggested Motion: *Motion to approve*

REVISIONS TO THE 2026-2035 STIP
HIGHWAY PROGRAM

GREATER HICKORY METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

STIP ADDITIONS

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

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

* INDICATES FEDERAL AMENDMENT

REVISIONS TO THE 2026-2035 STIP
HIGHWAY PROGRAM

GREATER HICKORY METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

STIP MODIFICATIONS

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

* INDICATES FEDERAL AMENDMENT

TOWN of VALDESE

RESOLUTION

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

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

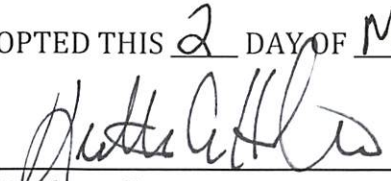
WHEREAS, the Town of Valdese submitted an application and funding was programmed for Preliminary Engineering, Right-of-Way & Utility Acquisition, and Construction for a curb and gutter sidewalk along Massel Avenue SE, Valdese starting at Rodoret Street S and ending at Carolina Street SE, identified as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

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

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


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

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



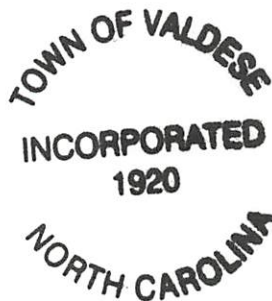
Keith Huffman, Mayor

ATTEST:



Jessica Lail, Town Clerk

(corporate seal)





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



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

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

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

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

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

Hank Guess
Greater Hickory MPO TAC Chair

Averi Ritchie
Greater Hickory MPO TAC Secretary

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

MEETING DATE: April 22, 2026

SUBJECT: TCC/TAC & Public Survey Results

PRESENTER: Averri Ritchie & Casey Fullbright

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

SUMMARY OF REQUEST:

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

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

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

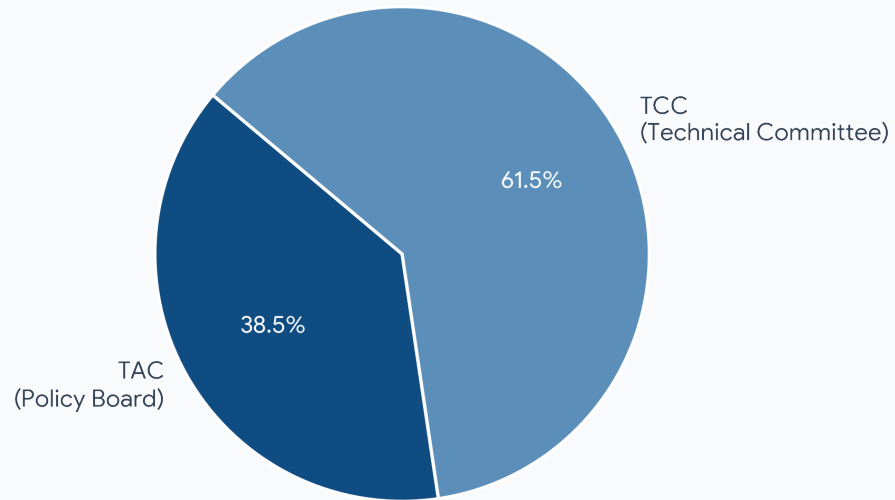
BOARD ACTION REQUESTED: None.

Suggested Motion: *n/a*

Greater Hickory MPO

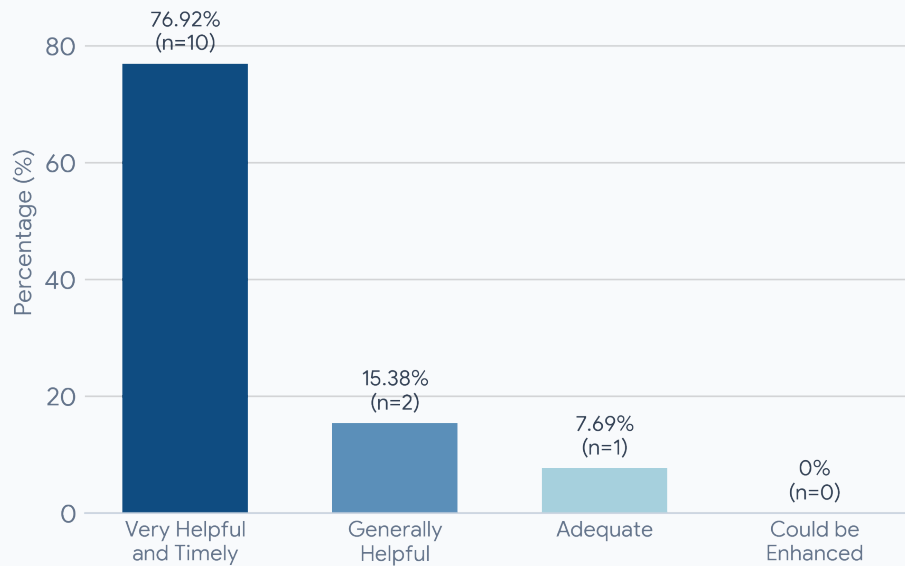
TCC & TAC Survey Results

1. Which committee do you serve on?



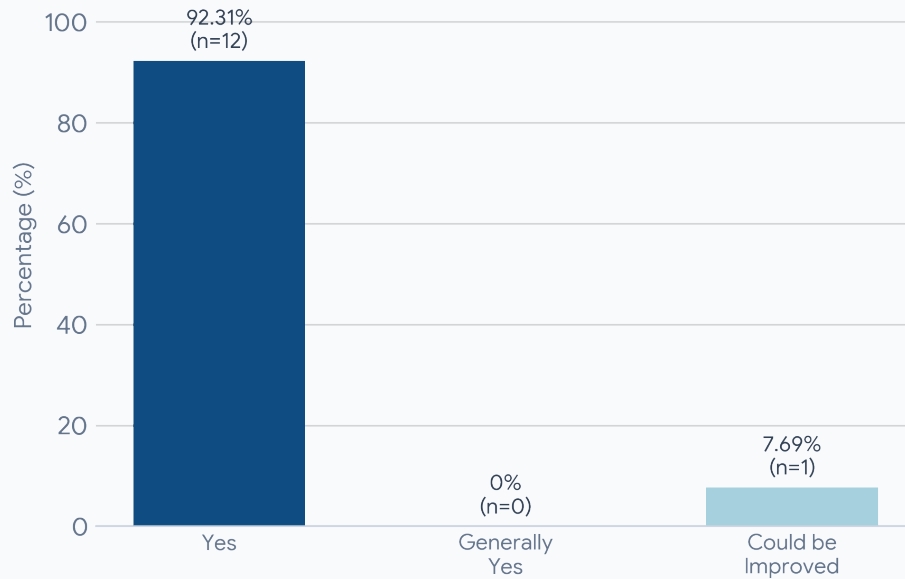
Answer Choice	Count	Percentage
TAC (Policy Board)	5	38.46%
TCC (Technical Committee)	8	61.54%

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



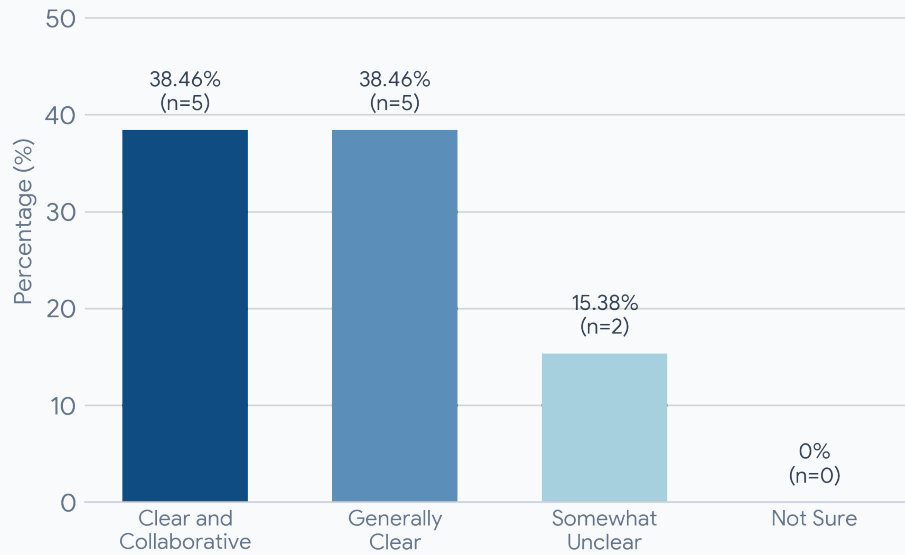
Answer Choice	Count	Percentage
Very Helpful and Timely	10	76.92%
Generally Helpful	2	15.38%
Adequate	1	7.69%
Could be Enhanced	0	0%

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



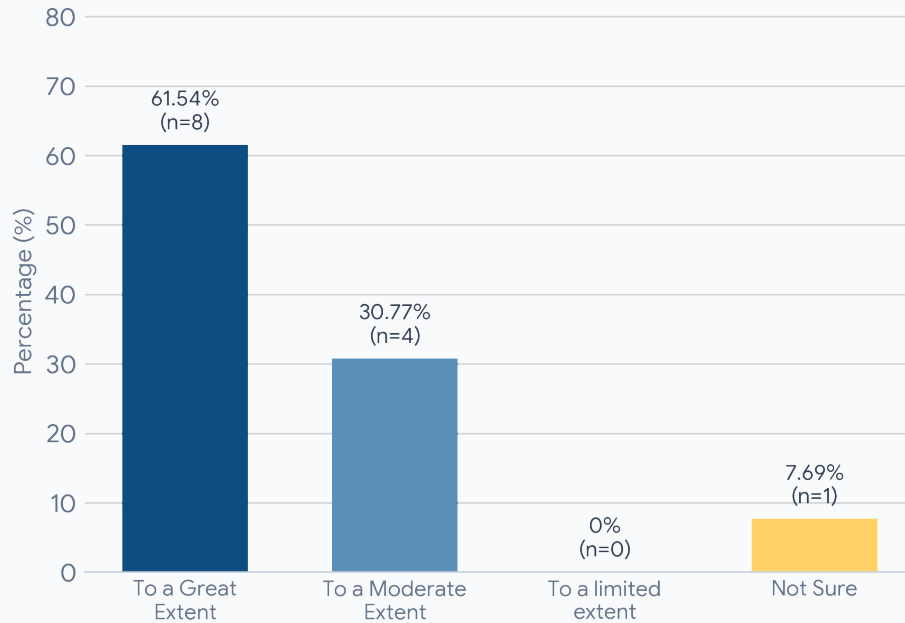
Answer Choice	Count	Percentage
Yes	12	92.31%
Generally Yes	0	0%
Could be Improved	1	7.69%

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



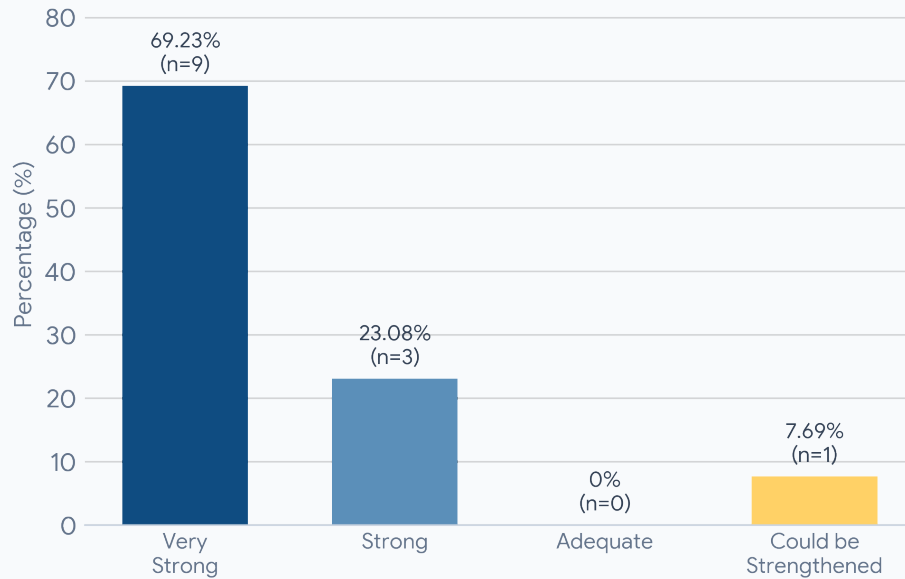
Answer Choice	Count	Percentage
Clear and Collaborative	5	38.46%
Generally Clear	5	38.46%
Somewhat Unclear	2	15.38%
Not Sure	0	0%

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



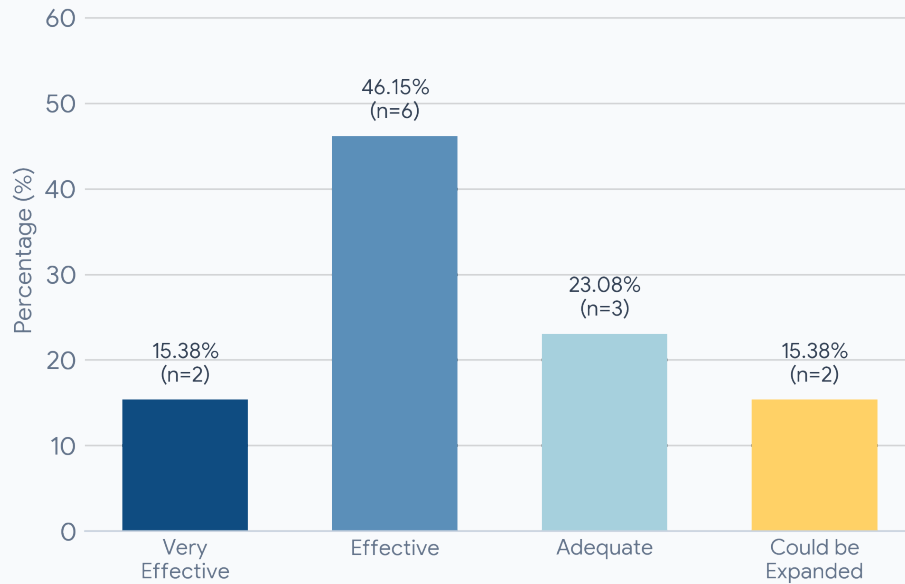
Answer Choice	Count	Percentage
To a Great Extent	8	61.54%
To a Moderate Extent	4	30.77%
To a limited extent	0	0%
Not Sure	1	7.69%

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



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

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



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

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

Summary of Results

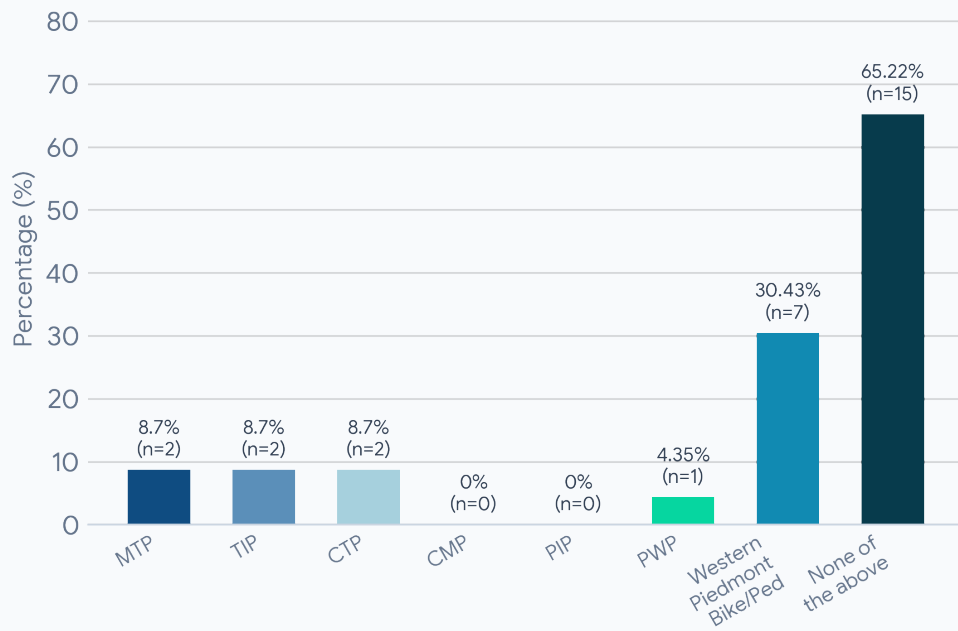
Respondents see strong potential to further enhance transportation planning and coordination by making information more accessible and engaging for the broader community. Key suggestions include increasing social media presence, developing a more public-friendly and less technical website landing page,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

Questions?

Greater Hickory MPO

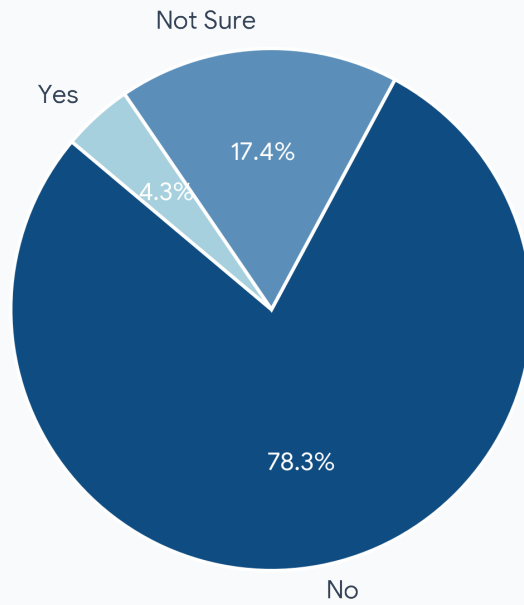
Public Survey Results

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



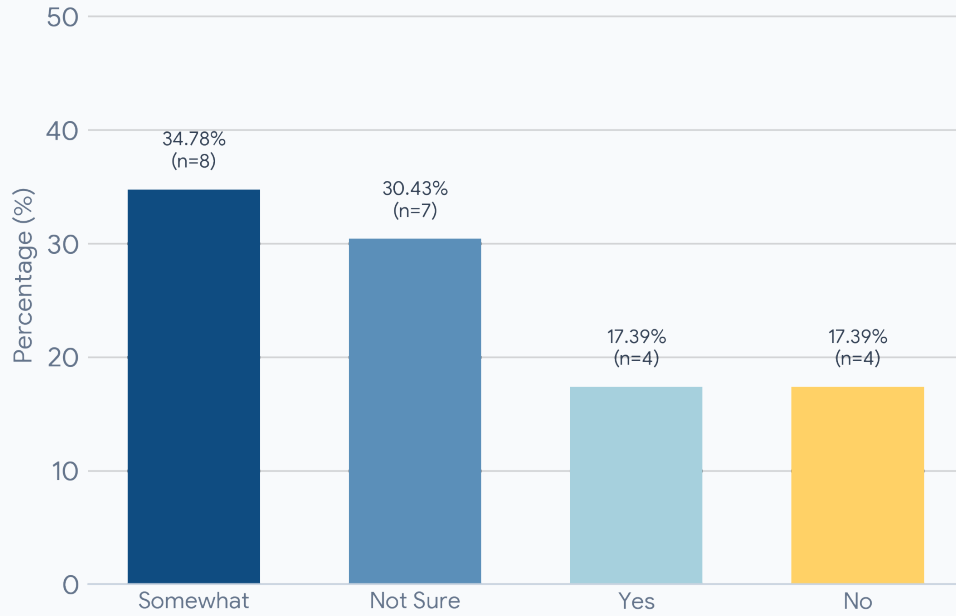
Answer Choice	Count	Percentage
MTP	2	8.7%
TIP	2	8.7%
CTP	2	8.7%
CMP	0	0%
PIP	0	0%
PWP	1	4.35%
Western Piedmont Bike/ Ped	7	30.43%
None of the above	15	65.22%

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



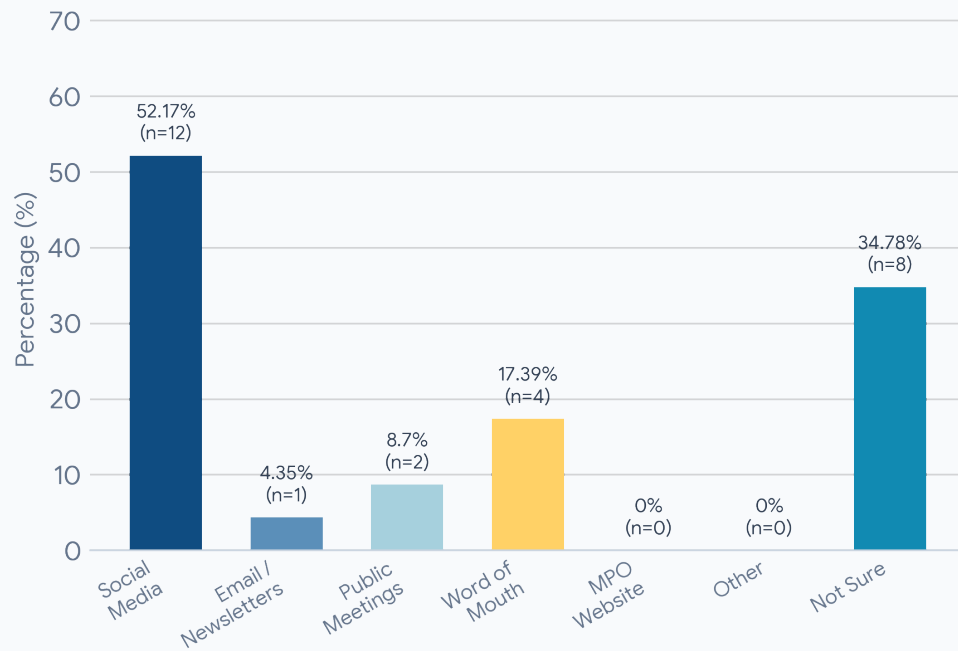
Answer Choice	Count	Percentage
No	18	78.26%
Not Sure	4	17.39%
Yes	1	4.35%

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



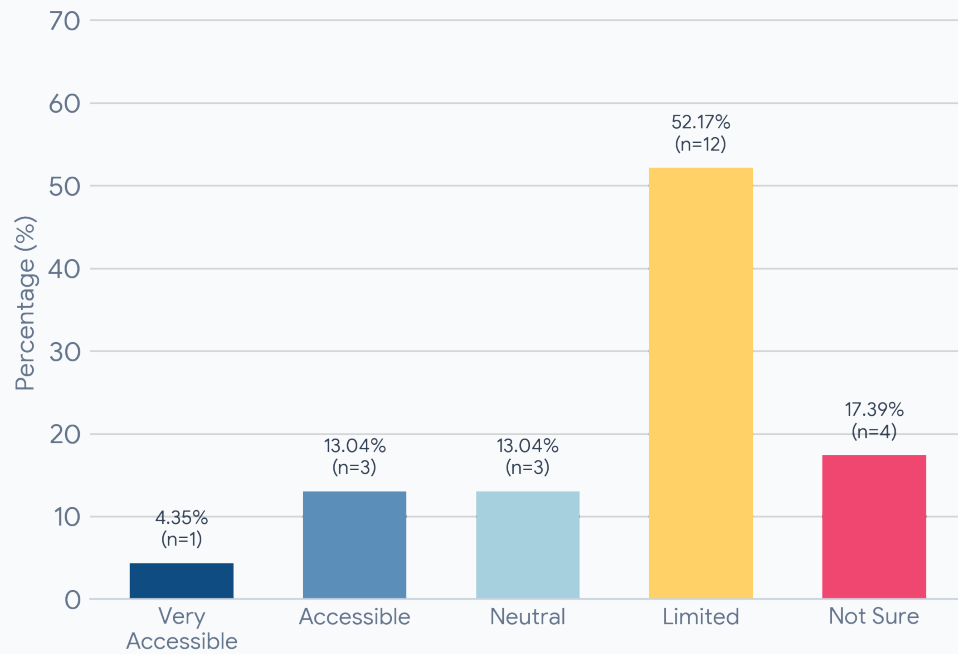
Answer Choice	Count	Percentage
Somewhat	8	34.78%
Not Sure	7	30.43%
Yes	4	17.39%
No	4	17.39%

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



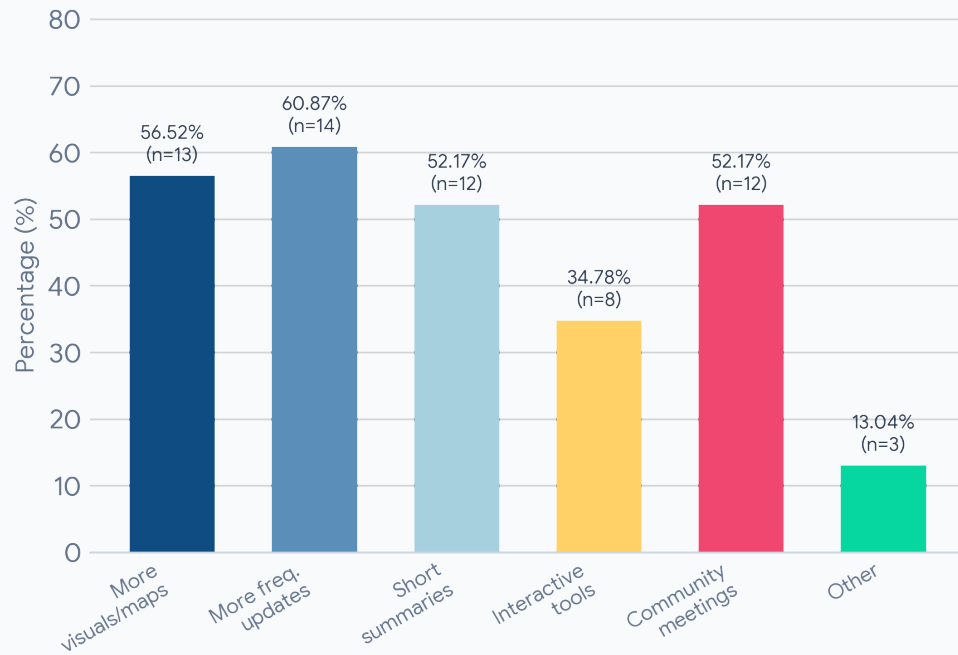
Answer Choice	Count	Percentage
Social Media	12	52.17%
Email / Newsletters	1	4.35%
Public Meetings	2	8.7%
Word of Mouth	4	17.39%
MPO Website	0	0%
Other	0	0%
Not Sure	8	34.78%

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



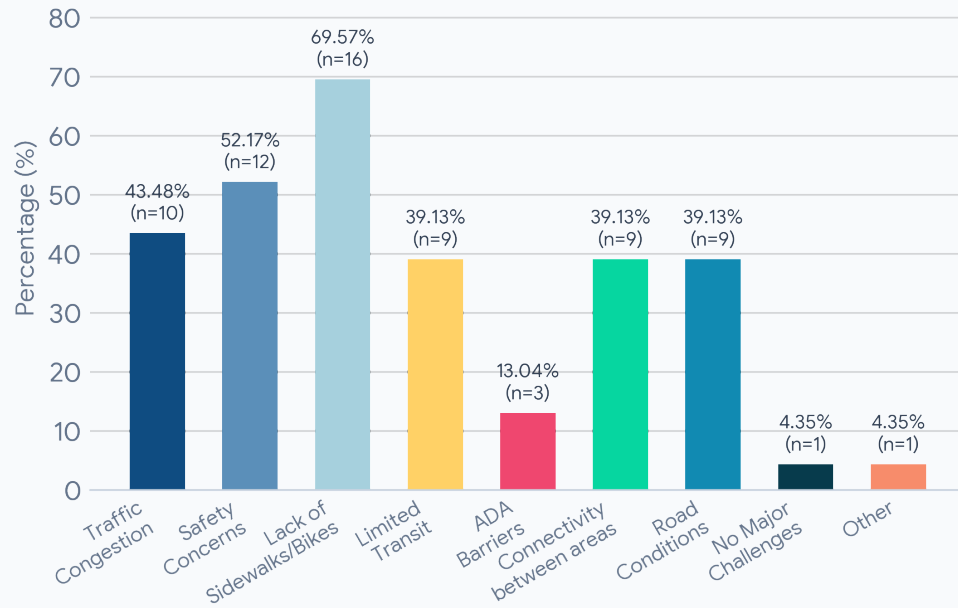
Answer Choice	Count	Percentage
Very Accessible	1	4.35%
Accessible	3	13.04%
Neutral	3	13.04%
Limited	12	52.17%
Not Sure	4	17.39%

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



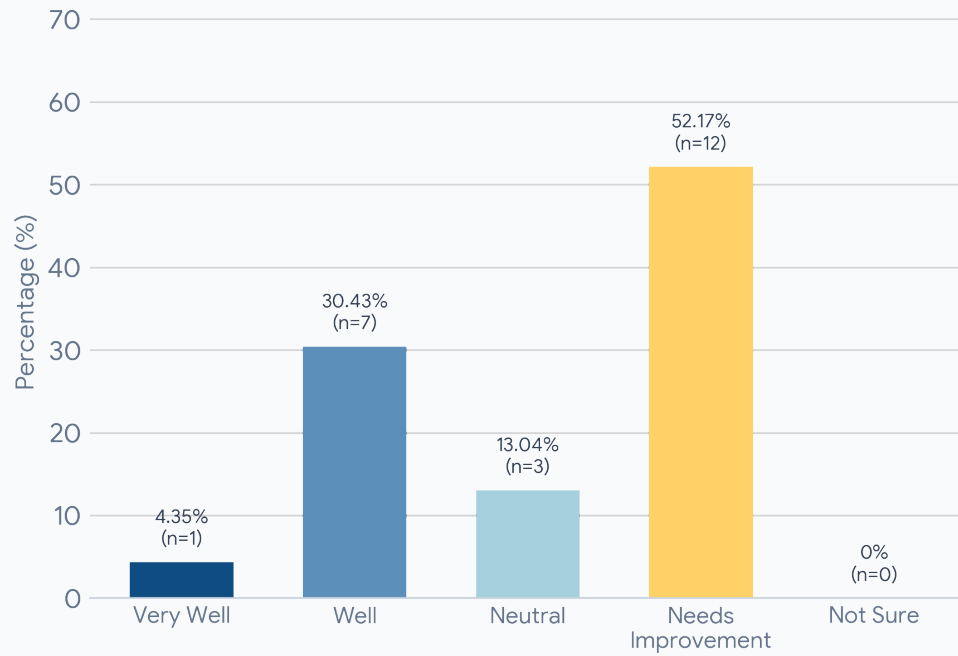
Answer Choice	Count	Percentage
More visuals/maps	13	56.52%
More freq. updates	14	60.87%
Short summaries	12	52.17%
Interactive tools	8	34.78%
Community meetings	12	52.17%
Other	3	13.04%

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



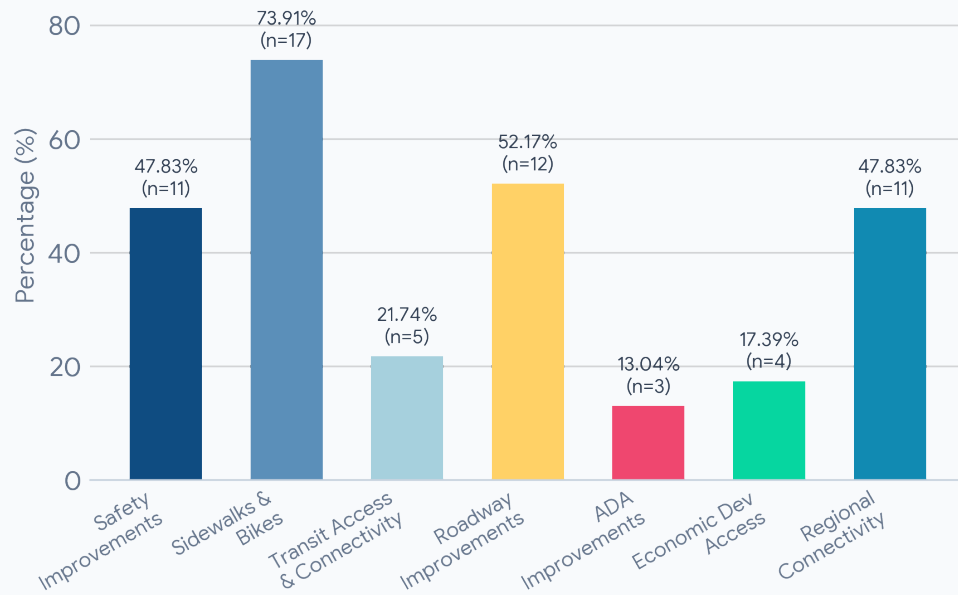
Answer Choice	Count	Percentage
Traffic Congestion	10	43.48%
Safety Concerns	12	52.17%
Lack of Sidewalks/Bikes	16	69.57%
Limited Transit	9	39.13%
ADA Barriers	3	13.04%
Connectivity between areas	9	39.13%
Road Conditions	9	39.13%
No Major Challenges	1	4.35%
Other	1	4.35%

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



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

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



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

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

Summary of Results

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

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

Summary of Results

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

Questions?

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

MEETING DATE: April 22, 2026

SUBJECT: Election of TCC Chair

PRESENTER: Randy Williams

ATTACHMENTS: Excerpt from TCC Bylaws & Resolution

SUMMARY OF REQUEST:

Per the attached Bylaws, a TCC Chair must be elected if the current Chair cannot complete the remainder of the appointed term. This officer must have served on the TCC one year prior and may serve consecutive two-year terms.

The current Chair of TCC is Randy Williams, Planning Director of Newton.

BOARD ACTION REQUESTED: TCC members must appoint a Chair.

Suggested Motion: *I move that the TCC appoint NAME as Chair.*

Section 2 – Terms of Office:

There shall be no limitation on the length of time members may serve on the TCC subject to the authorization to do so by their respective agency or local government.

Section 3 – Alternates:

Each member agency may appoint an alternate to its representative. That alternate member may serve as a full voting member during any meeting where that agency's representative is not in attendance.

ARTICLE IV – OFFICERS

Section 1 – Officers Defined:

The officers of the TCC shall consist of a Chair, and a Vice-Chair, who shall be elected by and from amongst voting TCC members.

Section 2 – Elections:

The Chair and Vice-Chair shall be elected and can remain in office until a successor has been duly elected. The newly elected Chair and Vice-Chair shall take office immediately following the election. The Chair must have served as a TCC member (delegate or alternate) for one full year immediately prior to election.

Additional elections may be held if either the Chair or Vice-Chair cannot carryout his/her duties and complete the remainder of the appointed term.

Section 3 – Terms of Office:

The term of office for officers shall be two years. Elections shall be held every two years and officers may serve consecutive two-year terms.

Section 4 – Duties of Officers:

The Chair shall call and preside at meetings and sub-committee meetings, and shall set the order of business (agenda) for each meeting. In the Chair's absence, the Vice-Chair shall preside and complete all other duties of the Chair. In the event that the Chair is unable to carryout his/her duties for the remainder of his/her term, the Vice-Chair shall carry out the functions of the Chair for the remainder of the term and a new Vice-Chair shall be elected.



**GREATER HICKORY
METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION (MPO)**
1880 2nd Avenue NW, PO Box 9026
Hickory, NC 2860



**RESOLUTION FOR THE ELECTION OF NEW CHAIR OF THE TECHNICAL
COORDINATING COMMITTEE**

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 Greater Hickory Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) is responsible for coordinating regional transportation planning and decision-making; and

WHEREAS, the current chairperson of the Greater Hickory MPO Technical Coordinating Committee cannot complete the term, and a new officer is needed to continue leading the organization; and

WHEREAS, the election of a new chairperson is in accordance with the MPO’s bylaws and procedures, and it is necessary to conduct elections to ensure the proper functioning of the organization; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Technical Coordinating Committee of the Greater Hickory MPO, that:

1. _____ is hereby elected as the new Chair of the Technical Coordinating Committee, effective April 22, 2026.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the newly elected chairperson is authorized to assume all responsibilities and duties of their respective positions as outlined in the MPO’s bylaws.

ADOPTED this 22nd of April, 2026.

Greater Hickory MPO TCC Chair

Averi Ritchie
Greater Hickory MPO TCC Secretary