



# Western Piedmont Council of Governments

Greater Hickory Metropolitan Planning Organization

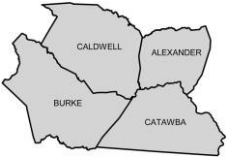
## Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC)

Wednesday, May 27, 2026, 2:30 PM

WPCOG Offices—1880 2nd Ave NW

[wpcog.org/metropolitan-planning-org](http://wpcog.org/metropolitan-planning-org)

Agenda Item	Presenter	Attachment	Action
Call to Order /Ethics Awareness/ Introductions	Hank Guess		
Consent Agenda Items:			
A. Minutes of April 22, 2026 Meeting	Hank Guess	<a href="#">Attachment I</a>	Approve Consent Agenda Items
B. Transportation Improvement Program Revisions for Release			
Transportation Improvement Program Revisions for Approval	Averi Ritchie	<a href="#">Attachment II</a>	Adopt via Resolution
Locally Administered Project Program: Spring 2026 Project Applications	Daniel Odom	<a href="#">Attachment III</a>	Presentation & Release for Public Comment
WNC Passenger Rail Update	Jason Myers, NCDOT Rail Division	<a href="#">Attachment IV</a>	Presentation
2055 Metropolitan Transportation Plan Introduction	Averi Ritchie	<a href="#">Attachment V</a>	Presentation
NCDOT Board Updates	Brad Lail, Meagan Phillips		
Division 11	Michael Poe		
Division 12	Mark Stafford		
Division 13	Tim Anderson		
Transportation Planning Division	Reuben Crummy		
Integrated Mobility Division	Nikki Elsheimer		
Reminders	Averi Ritchie		
Public Comment / Announcements	Hank Guess		
Adjournment	Hank Guess		
Next Meeting: June 24, 2026			



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

1880 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue NW, PO Box 9026

Hickory, NC 28603



**MINUTES**

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

**METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE (TAC)**

Wednesday, April 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2026, 2:30 PM In-person meeting and via Zoom

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

			VACANT		Cedar Rock
			VACANT		Connelly Springs
			VACANT		Sawmills
			VACANT		Rutherford College
			VACANT		Drexel
<b><u>WPCOG, FHWA &amp; GUEST</u></b>			<b><u>NC DOT STAFF</u></b>		
Averi Ritchie – WPCOG			Ruben Crummy – NC DOT TPD		
Casey Fullbright - WPCOG			Sean Sizemore – Div 11		
Anthony Starr - WPCOG			Michael Poe- Div 11		
Alison Alexander – WPCOG			Travis Chrisawn – Div 11		
Renee Carswell – City Clerk Morganton			Mark Stafford – Div 12		
			Travis Jordan – Div 12		
			Dough Phillips – Div 13		
			Stephan Sparks – Div 13		
			Dean Leadbetter – Div 11 & 12		
			Gabriel Johnson – Div 13		
			Brad Lail – NCDOT BOT		
			Brandon Whitaker – Div 11		

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

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

### **Action Items:**

- I. Approval of Consent Agenda:** Chairman Guess called for a motion to approve the consent agenda, which included the Minutes of the February 25, 2026 meeting and the Transportation Improvement Program Revisions for Release. Upon a motion made by Mr. Simms and a second by Mrs. Patton, 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. Patton and seconded by Mr. Canrobert, the committee unanimously approved the revisions.
  
- III. TCC/TAC & Public Survey Results:** Ms. Ritchie and Mr. Fullbright presented the TCC/TAC and Public Survey Results, highlighting feedback gathered for the upcoming federal recertification review. The committee survey indicated strong satisfaction with MPO staff and coordination, though members suggested improvements like increased social media presence, less technical websites, and simplified fact sheets. The public survey revealed a general unfamiliarity with MPO plans and highlighted a strong community desire for better communication, improved active transportation infrastructure, and enhanced regional transit options.

### **NCDOT Update –**

- **BOT –** Mr. Lail announced the BOT is discussing plans to host their fall meeting in Western North Carolina.
- **Division 11:** Mr. Poe stated that resurfacing has started and no mowing will occur due to “No Mow May”.
- **Division 12:** Mr. Stafford reported that there were no major new updates and mentioned “Now Mow May”.
- **Division 13:** Mr. Phillips reviewed the project development list, noting that paving is underway, the Burke Industrial access is now waiting on vegetation and the Connelly Springs bridge project has finished clearing.
- **NCDOT-TPD:** Mr. Crummy reported that the GHMPO Comprehensive Transportation Plan (CTP) was adopted by the Board of Transportation on April 2nd.
- **NCDOT-IMD:** None.

**Reminders:** None

**Public Comment/Announcements:** None

**Adjournment:** Upon a motion made by Mrs. Beatty and a second by Mrs. Patton, Chairman Guess adjourned the meeting at 3:04 PM. The next meeting will be Wednesday, May 27<sup>th</sup>, 2026.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Hank Guess, TAC Chairman

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Averi Ritchie, TAC Secretary

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

**MEETING DATE:** May 27, 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

GREATER HICKORY METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

STIP MODIFICATIONS

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

\* INDICATES FEDERAL AMENDMENT

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

**MEETING DATE:** May 27, 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

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))
<b>PROJ.CATEGORY</b>		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))
		<b><u>MODIFY FUNDING AT THE REQUEST OF THE DIVISION</u></b>		FY 2028 -	\$3,000,000	(CMAQ)
		<b><u>OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMMING.</u></b>		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)
<b>PROJ.CATEGORY</b>		<b><u>MODIFY PRELIMINARY ENGINEERING FUNDING FROM</u></b>		FY 2029 -	\$500,000	(T)
DIVISION		<b><u>FEDERAL TO STATE.</u></b>		FY 2030 -	\$500,000	(T)
					\$2,000,000	

\* INDICATES FEDERAL AMENDMENT

Thursday, April 2, 2026

REVISIONS TO THE 2026-2035 STIP  
HIGHWAY PROGRAM

GREATER HICKORY METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

STIP MODIFICATIONS

* C-5196 CATAWBA <b>PROJ.CATEGORY</b> DIVISION	- GREATER HICKORY METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION	16TH STREET (SANDY RIDGE ROAD), 21ST AVENUE NE INTERSECTION IN HICKORY. CONSTRUCT ROUNDBOUT. <b><u>COST INCREASE EXCEEDING \$2 MILLION AND 25% THRESHOLDS.</u></b>	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 <b>PROJ.CATEGORY</b> DIVISION	- GREATER HICKORY METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION	COLLEGE STREET, NORTH GREEN STREET TO US 70 IN MORGANTON. CONSTRUCT MULTI-USE PATH. <b><u>COST INCREASE EXCEEDING \$2 MILLION AND 25% THRESHOLDS.</u></b>	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



**GREATER HICKORY  
METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION (MPO)**  
1880 2<sup>nd</sup> 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 27th day of May, 2026.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Hank Guess  
Greater Hickory MPO TAC Chair

\_\_\_\_\_  
Averi Ritchie  
Greater Hickory MPO TAC Secretary

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

**MEETING DATE: May 27, 2026**

**SUBJECT: Locally Administered Project Program – Spring 2026 Call for New Projects**

**PRESENTER: Daniel Odom, Planning Manger**

**ATTACHMENTS: LAPP 2026 – Spring Call for New Projects**

**SUMMARY OF REQUEST:**

The Western Piedmont Council of Governments (WPCOG) and Greater Hickory Metropolitan Planning Organization (GHMPO) receive roughly \$3.5 million annually in federal transportation grant funding for multimodal projects (pedestrian, transit, small intersection). These funds are managed through the Locally Administered Projects Program (LAPP). The Spring Call for Projects was opened in March and closed May 8<sup>th</sup>.

The following applications were received and are described in detail within the attachment:

- City of Hickory
  - 5<sup>th</sup> Street NE and 10<sup>th</sup> Avenue Drive NE Intersection Improvements
  - 13<sup>th</sup> Avenue Drive SE Connector
- City of Lenoir
  - Harper Avenue Streetscape

Proposed funding scenarios are also included within the attachment. At this time, the funding situation is highly fluid as work on funding sources and necessary funding adjustments are in progress.

**BOARD ACTION REQUESTED: Release for Public Comment**

**Suggested Motion: None**



**Western Piedmont**  
Council of Governments

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# Locally Administered Project Program: Spring 2026 Project Applications

GHMPO TCC and TAC

May 27, 2026

# New Project Applications

- **City of Hickory**

- 5th Street NE and 10th Ave Drive NE Intersection Improvements
- 13th Ave Drive SE Connector

- **City of Lenoir**

- Harper Avenue Streetscape Project

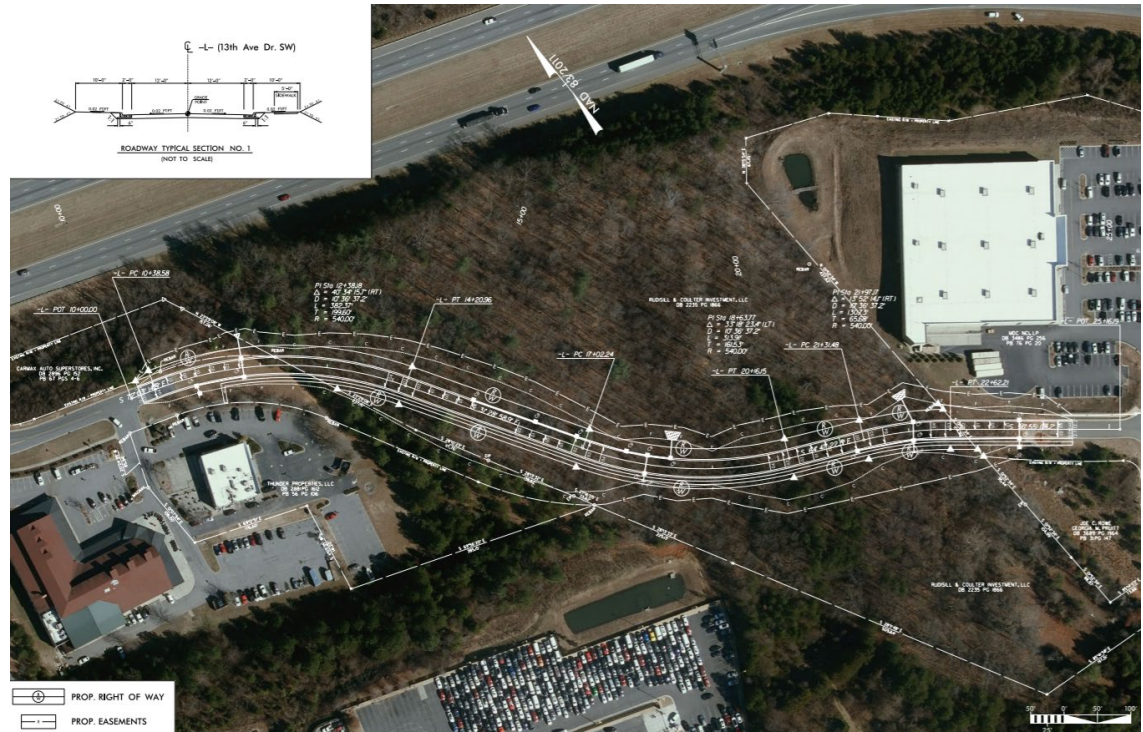
# 5th Street NE and 10th Avenue Drive NE Intersection Improvements

- **Description:** This project will improve pedestrian safety and accessibility at the intersection of 5th Street NE and 10th Avenue Drive NE through the installation of pedestrian signal infrastructure, enhanced crosswalk visibility, and new sidewalk construction.
- **Total Federal Funding:** \$1.84 Million
- **Total Cost:** \$2.3 Million
- **Project Score:** 79



# 13th Ave Drive SE Connector

- **Description:** This project will construct a new roadway segment connecting two existing sections of 13th Avenue Drive SE, creating a continuous corridor between Lenoir Rhyne Boulevard (Exit 125) and McDonald Parkway (Exit 126). The connector is approximately 0.28 miles (1,450 feet).
- **Total Federal Funding:** \$4 Million
- **Total Cost:** \$5 Million
- **Project Score:** 73.6



# Harper Avenue Sidewalk

- **Description:** The project proposes sidewalk on both sides of the Harper Avenue Corridor from Ridge Street to Morganton Blvd for approximately .6 miles, as well as a revamped stormwater drainage system to minimize local flooding. The sidewalk will be 6 feet wide with a variable 5 to 6 foot wide brick paver separation from the street. The brick area will contain metal benches, pedestrian lighting, street trees, trash bins, and bike racks.
- **Total Federal Funding:** \$7.95 Million
- **Total Cost:** \$9.937 Million
- **Project Score:** 78.9

Harper Avenue Sidewalk & Greenway Connections



# Total Funding Requested

Project Title	Score	Total Federal Funding	Total Local Match	Total Project Funding
5th Street NE and 10th Ave Drive Intersection Improvements	79	\$1.84MM	\$460,000	\$2.3MM
Harper Ave Streetscape	78.9	\$7.95MM	\$1.98M	\$9.937MM
13th Ave Drive SE Connector	73.6	\$4MM	\$1MM	\$5MM
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>\$13.79MM</b>		<b>\$17.237MM</b>

Target Investment for Spring  
2026 Call: \$6.5M

# Proposed Funding Scenario

Project Title	Score	Total Federal Funding	Total Local Match	Total Project Funding
5th Street NE and 10th Ave Drive Intersection Improvements	79	\$1.84M	\$460,000	\$2.3MM
Harper Ave Streetscape (Preconstruction Only)	78.9	\$1.1MM	\$274,000	\$1.37MM
13th Ave Drive SE Connector (Preconstruction Only)	73.6	\$1.2M	\$300,000	\$1.5MM
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>\$4.140MM</b>		<b>\$5.17MM</b>

Funds remaining through FY  
2031: \$8.81M



**Western Piedmont**  
Council of Governments

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Questions?

**REQUEST FOR BOARD ACTION  
WESTERN PIEDMONT COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS  
POLICY BOARD**

**MEETING DATE:** May 27, 2026

**SUBJECT:** WNC Passenger Rail Update

**PRESENTER:** Jason Myers, NCDOT Rail Programs Manager – NCDOT Rail Division

**ATTACHMENTS:** WNC Passenger Rail Update Presentation

**SUMMARY OF REQUEST:**

The Salisbury to Asheville passenger rail corridor continues to advance through the early stages of development. The corridor was recently awarded a \$500,000 Corridor Identification and Development (CID) grant, which represents an important step toward evaluating the feasibility of reestablishing passenger rail service in western North Carolina.

The CID grant supports the development of a Service Development Plan (SDP), which is currently underway. This effort will assess potential ridership, service options, infrastructure needs, operational considerations, and overall costs associated with implementing passenger rail along the corridor.

Revitalizing passenger rail service remains a growing regional and statewide priority, particularly as communities seek to improve mobility options, support economic development, and enhance connectivity across western North Carolina.

Jason Myers, from the NCDOT Rail Division, will be present to provide an update on the corridor and ongoing planning efforts.

**BOARD ACTION REQUESTED:** Informational item only.

**Suggested Motion:** n/a

**REQUEST FOR BOARD ACTION  
WESTERN PIEDMONT COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS  
POLICY BOARD**

**MEETING DATE:** May 27, 2026

**SUBJECT:** 2055 Metropolitan Transportation Plan Update

**PRESENTER:** Averi Ritchie, Transportation Planning Director

**ATTACHMENTS:** 2055 Metropolitan Transportation Plan Update

**SUMMARY OF REQUEST:**

The Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) is a federally required, long-range planning document that guides transportation investments across the region over a 20+ year horizon. Developed by the Greater Hickory Metropolitan Planning Organization (GHMPO), the MTP identifies multimodal transportation needs—including highway, bicycle and pedestrian, transit, freight, and rail—and prioritizes projects based on data-driven analysis and available funding. The plan must be fiscally constrained and reflects both regional goals and local government priorities.

The MTP is important because it serves as the foundation for future transportation funding and project implementation. Projects must be included in the MTP to be eligible for state and federal funding programs, making it a critical tool for advancing regional priorities, improving mobility, and supporting economic development. The next update to the MTP is currently underway, with adoption scheduled for July 2028.

**BOARD ACTION REQUESTED:** Informational item only.

**Suggested Motion:** n/a



**Western Piedmont**  
Council of Governments

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# 2055 Metropolitan Transportation Plan Introduction

May 27, 2026

# Metropolitan Transportation Plan

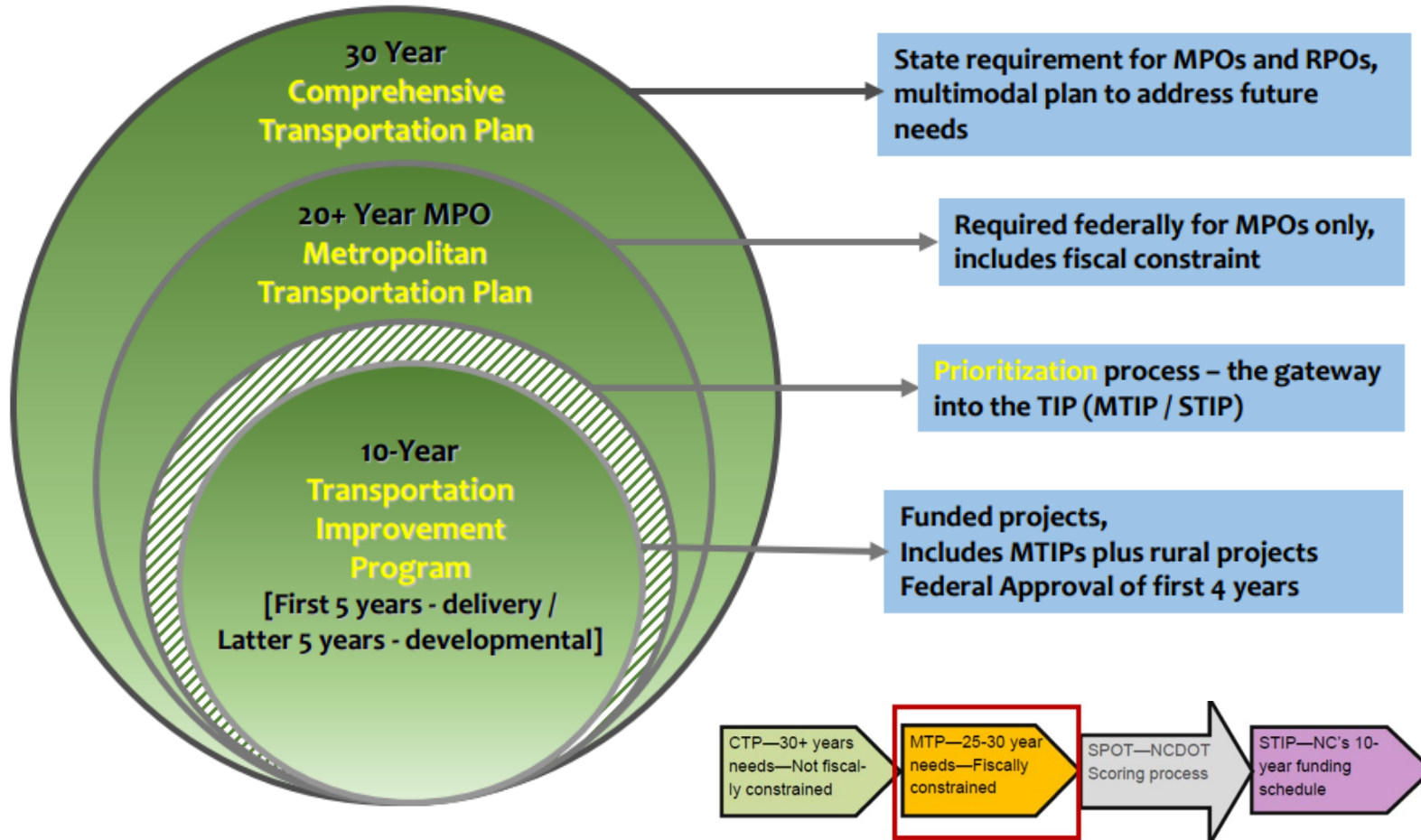
- Multi modal coverage
- Travel Demand Modeling
- Includes long-term and short-term policies, strategies, and actions
- Covers capital improvements and operations
- Addresses movement of people and goods
- At least a 20-year planning horizon at time of adoption
- Financially constrained
- **Key: Does the MTP reflect the region's long-term vision for the future?**



# Why the MTP Matters

- Establishes regional transportation priorities
- Identifies projects eligible for future funding
- Aligns local goals with state and federal programs
- Supports safety, mobility, and economic development

# How it all works...

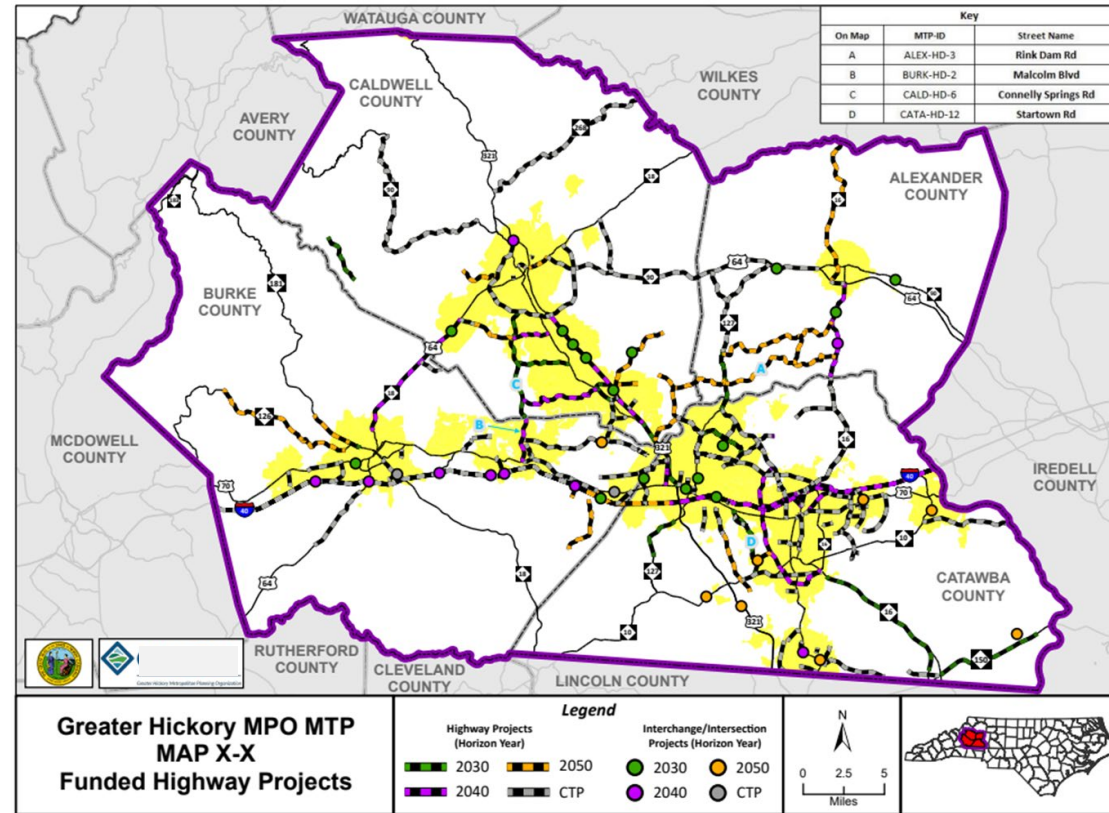


# Role of TCC & TAC

- TCC: Provides technical review and recommendations
- TAC: Sets policy direction and adopts the plan
- Both guide project prioritization and decision-making
- Provide local project input
- Participate in prioritization discussions
- Ensure alignment with community goals
- Support public engagement efforts

# 2050 MTP

- Update of prior 2045 MTP
- Covers 25-30 years (projects split into horizon years)
- Fiscally Constrained
- Plan Chapters & Appendices
  - Goals and Objectives
  - Natural Environment
  - Financial Plan
  - Highways and Roadways
  - Bicycle and Pedestrian
  - Transportation Integrity (Part 1 & 2)
  - Congestion Management
  - System Resiliency
  - Freight
  - Aviation
  - Health
  - Performance Measures
  - Public Involvement and Title VI
  - Safety and Security
  - Population and Employment
  - Public Transportation
  - Appendices
    - Project Background
    - Transportation Integrity Explorer
    - CTP Project List
    - CTP Maps



# How Projects are Evaluated

- Submitted by local governments and partners
- Evaluated using data-driven methodology
- Factors include safety, congestion, and economic impact

# What's New for 2055

- Enhanced data tools and interactive mapping components
- Integration of economic accessibility analysis
- Focus on multimodal and safety outcomes
- Greater transparency in project scoring – methodology for new and existing projects

# Draft Timeline

## 2026 – Foundation & Data Development

- **Jan–June:** Baseline data collection
- **May–July:** TAZ tool completion, kickoff, and baseline approval
- **June:** Goals, Policies & Vision
- **Aug–Sept:**
  - Local government training & input
  - Safety & Security + Natural Environment chapters
- **Sept–Oct:** TAZ coordination meetings with local governments
- **October:** CMP (including passenger rail)
- **December:** TAZ projections & Economic Tool development

# Draft Timeline

## 2027 – Analysis & Chapter Development

- **Jan–May:**
  - Performance Measures
  - Aviation, Freight, Existing & Future Conditions
  - System Resilience (CHADME update)
- **July:** Travel Demand Model (initial run)
- **Aug–Sept:** Transit + Bike & Pedestrian chapters
- **Sept–Dec:** Local government roadway recommendation workshops
- **Oct–Nov:** Public Involvement Plan updates
- **December:** Economics chapter refinement

# Draft Timeline

## 2028 – Final Plan Development & Adoption

- **January:** Public involvement
- **Feb–March:**
  - Title VI + financially constrained roadway recommendations
  - Document compilation and formatting
- **April:** Release draft plan (30-day comment period)
- **June:** Public meetings & comment period close
- **July:** Final MTP adoption



**Western Piedmont**  
Council of Governments

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Questions?



Greater Hickory MPO  
Transportation Update  
May 2026

<b>Division 11 Projects Under Development – Caldwell Co.</b>								
<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.	2028	2029	\$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	2028	\$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	2028	\$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	2028	2029	\$950,000	Planning	Division	S
BP11-R048	SR 1571	Replace Bridge 130342 on SR 1571 over Kings Creek in Caldwell County	2026	2027	\$1,735,000	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	2027	\$2,100,000	R/W	Division	F
HB-0058	SR 1356	SR 1356, REPLACE BRIDGE 186 OVER JOHNS RIVER.	2025	2027	\$1,820,000	R/W	Division	F
HB-0059	SR 1356	SR 1356, REPLACE BRIDGE 275 OVER JOHNS RIVER.	2025	2027	\$1,860,000	R/W	Division	F
HB-0060	SR 1356	SR 1356, REPLACE BRIDGE 317 OVER JOHNS RIVER.	2025	2027	\$2,330,000	R/W	Division	F



Greater Hickory MPO  
 Transportation Update  
 May 2026

<b>Division 11 Projects Under Construction</b>								
<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 (PINEWOOD ROAD)	FROM US 321 TO SR-1252 (BERT HUFFMAN ROAD)	\$11,480,140.98	JAMES R VANNOY & SONS CONSTRUCTION COMPANY INC	42 %	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	3%	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