



Western Piedmont Council of Governments

Greater Hickory Metropolitan Planning Organization

Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC)

Wednesday, March 26, 2025, 2:30 PM

WPCOG Offices—1880 2nd Ave NW

wpcog.org/metropolitan-planning-org

Agenda Item	Presenter	Attachment	Action
Call to Order /Ethics Awareness/ Introductions	Hank Guess		
Consent Agenda Items:			
A. Minutes of February 26, 2025 Meeting	Hank Guess	Attachment I	Approve Consent Agenda Items
B. Transportation Improvement Program Revisions for Release			
Board Officer Elections	Averi Ritchie	Attachment II	Adopt by Resolution
Open LAPP Call for Projects & Release Methodology Revisions	Averi Ritchie	Attachment III	Open Call & Release for Public Comment
Draft Western Piedmont Transportation Safety Plan	Jordan Powell, VHB	Attachment IV	Release for Public Comment
2025 MPO Meeting Schedule Modification	Averi Ritchie	Attachment V	Recommend for Approval
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	Bryan Lopez		
Reminders	Averi Ritchie		
Public Comment / Announcements	Hank Guess		
Adjournment			
Next Meeting: April 30, 2025	Hank Guess		



GREATER HICKORY METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION (MPO)

1880 2nd Avenue NW, PO Box 9026

Hickory, NC 28603



MINUTES

GREATER HICKORY METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION (GHMPO)

METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE (TAC)

Wednesday, February 26th, 2025 @ 2:30 PM In-person meeting and
via Zoom

Present			Absent		
First Name	Last Name	Representing	First Name	Last Name	Representing
Hank	Guess	City of Hickory	Larry	Yoder	Alexander County
Roy	Johnson	City Newton	Bruce	Eckard	City of Conover
Beth	Rudisill	Town of Maiden	Les	Morrow	City of Claremont
Jill	Patton	City of Hickory	Ike	Perkins	City of Lenoir
Martin	Townsend	Town of Granite Falls	Genita	Hill	Town of Long View
Jack	Simms	Town of Taylorsville	Jody	York	Town of Hildebran
Barry	Mitchell	Town of Hudson	VACANT		Glen Alpine
Barbara	Beatty	Catawba County	VACANT		Alexander County
Donna	Price	Town of Rhodhiss	VACANT		Long View
Glen	Harvey	Town of Valdese	VACANT		Brookford
			VACANT		Caldwell County
Mike	Stroud	Burke County	VACANT		Cedar Rock
Richard	Andrews	Town of Cahah's Mountain	VACANT		Connelly Springs
Wendy	Cato	City of Morganton	VACANT		Sawmills
			VACANT		Rutherford College

			VACANT		Drexel
			VACANT		Gamewell
			VACANT		Glen Alpine
<u>WPCOG, FHWA & GUEST</u>			<u>NC DOT STAFF</u>		
Averi Ritchie – WPCOG			Dean Ledbetter – Div 11 & 12		
Daniel Odom – WPCOG			Ruben Crummy – NC DOT TPD		
Duncan Cavanaugh – WPCOG			Sean Sizemore – Div 11		
Casey Fullbright – WPCOG			Michael Poe – Div 11		
Jordan Powell - VHB			Anil Panicker – Div 12		
Michael Bowman - WPRTA			Mark Stafford – Div 12		
			Brad Lail – Div 12		
			Travis Jordan – Div 12		
			Hannah Smith – Div 13		
			Stephan Sparks – Div 13		
			Mohammad Haidari – NC DOT		
			Buckey Galloway – NC DOT		

Call to Order/Ethics Awareness/ and Introductions: Vice Chair 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 Duncan Cavanaugh, Stephan Sparks, Wendy Cato, Hannah Smith, Anil Panicker and Meagan Phillips. Vice Chair Guess canvassed the committee for any objections to online participants. Upon a motion made by Mr. Simms and seconded by Mrs. Patton, online participation was approved.

Action Items:

Action Items:

- I. Approval of Consent Agenda:** Chair Williams called for a motion to approve the consent agenda. Upon a motion from Mrs. Patton and a second from Mrs. Beatty, the Committee unanimously voted to approve the consent agenda.
- II. Transportation Improvement Program Revisions for Approval:** Ms. Ritchie presented Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) revisions for approval. The revisions included Transit projects related to 5310 funding as well as a one-year delay related to the sidewalk project on Springs Rd in Catawba County. Upon a motion by Mrs. Patton and a second by Mr. Johnson, the revisions were approved.
- III. 2025 MPO Meeting Schedule Modification:** Ms. Ritchie presented a modification to the existing MPO Schedule. The modification was regarding a change of date for the MPO Meeting from April 16th to April 23rd, 2025. Upon a motion made by Mr. Johnson and a second by Mrs. Patton, the MPO Meeting Schedule Modifications were approved.
- IV. FY 2026 Unified Planning Work Program & Revisions:** Ms. Ritchie presented the FY 2026 UPWP & Revisions, highlighting key transportation and planning initiatives. Some of the initiatives the GHMPO will focus on include assisting with STIP updates, exploring new projects for Prioritization 8.0, and continuing the evaluation of bicycle and pedestrian needs, which involves updating the GIS inventory and developing an interactive mapping tool. The GHMPO will manage the Western Piedmont Transportation Safety Plan, focusing on safety improvements while collaborating with local governments and NCDOT. Public involvement efforts will continue through outreach strategies, including public meetings and virtual options for impacted communities. Upon a motion made by Mr. Johnson and seconded by Mrs. Beatty, the FY 2026 UPWP & Revisions were approved. Upon a motion made by Vice Chair Guess and seconded by Mrs. Patton, the resolution confirming the transportation planning process was approved.
- V. 5303 STIP Amendment:** Ms. Ritchie presented the updated 5303 STIP Amendment. This update is made annually to accurately reflect requested funds for planning assistance. Upon a motion made by Mrs. Beatty and seconded by Mrs. Patton, the 5303 STIP Amendment was approved.
- VI. Draft 2026-2035 STIP for Prioritized Projects:** Ms. Ritchie led the discussion regarding the 2026-2035 draft STIP, highlighting projects that have been

decommitted and delayed. These changes were visually presented on a map, showing the differences from the previous STIP. Further discussion took place between members and DOT, with Mr. Andrews inquiring about taxation. Mr. Lail and Mr. Stafford both provided insight regarding the Highway Funds and fuel taxes. The conversation provided valuable insights into how the adjustments would impact project timelines and resource allocation moving forward.

- VII. Western Piedmont Transportation Safety Plan:** Mr. Powell from VHB presented an overview of the Western Piedmont Transportation Safety Plan (WPTSP), outlining key processes and strategic goals. These include a data-driven approach, utilizing the Safe Systems Approach, and engaging underserved populations in outreach efforts. The plan focuses on reducing fatalities and serious injuries on the region's transportation system, with options for setting safety targets aligned with the State or a more aggressive timeline. Additionally, the discussion emphasized the importance of integrating safety data into planning efforts, using tools like risk analysis and project scoping to prioritize safety improvements across urban and rural areas.

NCDOT Update –

- **NC DOT Board:** Mr. Lail provided further clarification regarding highway funds, stating that the fuel tax for North Carolina is .40 cents per gallon, federal tax is .18 cents per gallon and last year \$3+ Billion was collected through these taxes. Mr. Lail also provided further clarification regarding a Highway 321 project that is about to start, the project had delays due to a switch in funding sources.
- **Division 11:** Mr. Poe presented updates on several ongoing projects, including Pinewood Road in Granite Falls, where remobilization for underground utility work is underway, and Brown Mountain Beach Road, which is improving curve areas with a contract let in January, though resurfacing won't begin until late summer due to delays from Hurricane Helene recovery efforts. Additionally, the Helene Recovery Effort is 60% complete with site-specific work and 70% of debris cleanup finished.
- **Division 12:** Mr. Stafford provided project updates within the agenda packet for Division 12 & Division 13. Mr. Stafford also provided updates about the draft STIP process, resurfacing programs that should start in mid-march and discussed road markings with Mrs. Beatty.
- **Division 13:** Mrs. Smith provided updates regarding new formats for presenting project development as well as new comparisons reports for STIP data.
- **NCDOT-TPD:** Mr. Crummy addressed two bridge replacement projects as well as traffic forecast in Burke County.
- **NCDOT-IMD:** No updates
- **FHWA:** No updates

Reminders: Ms. Ritchie reminded members of several important items, including the need to file ethics forms, the upcoming elections for Chairman and Vice Chair, which will take place in March, and the New Member Orientation scheduled for March. She also noted that the virtual Bike/Ped and LCP surveys are now live and encouraged members to distribute them widely.

Public Comment/Announcements: None

Adjournment: Chair Guess adjourned the meeting at 3:47 p.m. The next meeting will be Wednesday, March 26th, 2025.

Respectfully Submitted,

Hank Guess, TAC Vice Chairman

Averi Ritchie, TAC Secretary

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

MEETING DATE: March 26, 2025

SUBJECT: Election of Chair and Vice-Chair

PRESENTER: Averi Ritchie

ATTACHMENTS: Excerpt from TAC Bylaws & Resolution

SUMMARY OF REQUEST:

Per the attached Bylaws, a TAC Chair and Vice-Chair must be elected every two years. These officers may serve consecutive two-year terms.

The current Chair of TAC is Bruce Eckard, Council Member of City of Conover.

The current Vice-Chair of TAC is Hank Guess, Mayor of City of Hickory.

BOARD ACTION REQUESTED: TAC members must appoint or re-appoint the Chair and Vice-Chair.

Suggested Motion: *I move that the TAC appoint or re-appoint NAME as Chair / Vice-Chair.*

ARTICLE IV – OFFICERS

Section 1 – Officers Defined:

The officers of the MPO shall consist of a Chair and Vice-Chair.

Section 2 – Elections:

The Chair and Vice-Chair shall be elected and can remain in office until a successor has been duly elected or until his/her earlier death, resignation, disqualification, incapacity to serve, or removal in accordance with the law. The newly elected Chair and Vice-Chair shall take office immediately following the election. The Chair must have served as an MPO member (delegate or alternate) for one year immediately prior.

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, sub committees and set the order of business 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 their term, the Vice-Chair shall carryout the functions of the Chair until a new election is held.

Section 5 – Duties of the Secretary:

Western Piedmont Council of Government's Transportation Manager will serve as Secretary and shall provide or otherwise delegate staff service for the MPO, as needed, and will be responsible for taking summary minutes of the Committee's proceedings. The Secretary will maintain a current copy of these Bylaws as an addendum to the Memorandum of Understanding, to be distributed to the public upon request.

ARTICLE V – MEETINGS

Section 1 – Regular Meetings:

Meetings will be held on the fourth Wednesday of evenly numbered months. The Chair may cancel regular meetings should there be insufficient business on the Committee's tentative agenda.



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



**RESOLUTION FOR THE ELECTION OF NEW CHAIR AND VICE-CHAIR OF THE
TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY 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 terms of both the chairperson and vice-chairperson of the Greater Hickory MPO Transportation Advisory Committee have ended, and new officers are needed to continue leading the organization; and

WHEREAS, the election of a new chairperson and vice-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 Transportation Advisory Committee of the Greater Hickory MPO, that:

1. _____ is hereby elected as the new Chair of the Greater Hickory MPO Transportation Advisory Committee, effective March 26, 2025.
2. _____ is hereby elected as the new Vice-Chair of the Greater Hickory MPO Transportation Advisory Committee, effective March 26, 2025.

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

ADOPTED this 26th of March, 2025.

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: March 26, 2025

SUBJECT: Locally Administered Project Program – Open LAPP Call & Methodology Revisions

PRESENTER: Daniel Odom, Transportation Projects Coordinator

ATTACHMENTS: LAPP 2025 – 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 GHMPO holds a yearly call for new projects and supplemental requests in early Spring of the Calendar Year. The Target investment amount for the Spring 2025 call for projects is \$4.6 million dollars in Federal STBG-DA funds.

The GHMPO is also releasing updates to the LAPP Program Selection Methodology for Public Comment. Updates include the removal of the Transportation Disadvantaged Index and select project type language. Requested removals are an effort to ensure compliance and consistency with updated federal funding initiatives.

BOARD ACTION REQUESTED: Release for Public Comment

Suggested Motion: None



Western Piedmont
Council of Governments

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Locally Administered Project Program: Spring 2025 Call for New Projects & Supplemental Requests

GHMPO TCC and TAC

March 26, 2024

Funding Overview

- As a designated Transportation Management Area, the MPO receives directing authority for \$3.5M in federal transportation funding.
- Projects compete through the approved application and scoring methodology of the Locally Administered Project Program.
- Typical Projects include sidewalk extensions, small intersection improvements, multi-use path construction.
- Federal Funding Available: **\$4.6M** -- Surface Transportation Block Grant

Eligibility Checklist

- Eligible Uses:

- o Bicycle and Pedestrian Improvements
- o Small Roadway/Intersection Projects
- o Transit Improvements

- o Eligibility Requirements:

- o Project Area must be identified on the Federal Aid System
- o Bicycle and Pedestrian Projects must serve a transportation purpose
- o Safety projects may be eligible on any roadway if they meet federal safety project requirements.
- o Must be locally administered.

Application Timeline

- March 26, 2025 – Call for Projects Opens
- May 2, 2025 – Project Applications and Local Support Resolutions Due
- May 28, 2025 – Project Applications and Tentative Funding Proposal Released for Public Comment
- June 25, 2025 – Project Applications and Final Funding Proposal Available for Approval by GHMPO Board.
- August/September, 2025 – BOT Approval of Project Funding
- *While not required, pre-submittal meetings are highly encouraged. Let's talk!*

Methodology Update

- While the MPO holds selection authority at the regional level, LAPP funding is federally allocated and authorized.
- To ensure compliance with E.O. 14148 and E.O. 14151 MPO staff are requesting that TCC and TAC consider the **removal of the Transportation Disadvantage Index from the LAP methodology, and removal of "Cycle-Tracks" and other Bicycle-centric transportation language.**
- This proposed update is being released for public comment and will be available for action at the April TCC/TAC meeting.



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Questions?

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

MEETING DATE: March 26, 2025

SUBJECT: TCC/TAC 2025 Meeting Schedule Modification

PRESENTER: Averil Ritchie, Transportation Planning Manager

ATTACHMENTS: TCC/TAC 2025 Meeting Schedule Modification

SUMMARY OF REQUEST:

For the transportation boards in 2025, our meeting calendar will be structured to ensure consistent and efficient discussions on key transportation issues. Meetings will be held monthly with some potential cancellations. An asterisk indicates the potential cancellation of a meeting. Meetings will only be held on those dates if unanticipated action is requested of the MPO throughout the year. Meetings are generally the 4th Wednesday of every month, however, some meeting dates are modified to accommodate holidays and conferences.

For this agenda item, we request the April meeting date be moved to the following week, on April 30.

BOARD ACTION REQUESTED: Approval of meeting schedule

Suggested Motion: *I motion to approve the 2025 TCC/TAC meeting schedule modification.*

TCC Technical Coordinating Committee 2025 Calendar (Local Government Staff)	
Day	Date at 1:00 PM
<u>3rd</u> Wed	January 15
4th Wed	February 26
4th Wed	March 26
<u>5th</u> Wed	April 30
4th Wed	May 28
4th Wed	June 25*
4th Wed	July 23
4th Wed	August 27
4th Wed	September 24
4th Wed	October 22*
<u>2nd</u> Wed	November 12
<u>2nd</u> Wed	December 10

TAC Transportation Advisory Committee 2025 Calendar (Elected Officials)	
Day	Date at 2:30 PM
<u>3rd</u> Wed	January 15
4th Wed	February 26
4th Wed	March 26
<u>5th</u> Wed	April 30
4th Wed	May 28
4th Wed	June 25*
4th Wed	July 23
4th Wed	August 27
4th Wed	September 24
4th Wed	October 22*
<u>2nd</u> Wed	November 12
<u>2nd</u> Wed	December 10

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

Greater Hickory MPO
Transportation Update
March 2025

Division 11 Projects Under Development – Caldwell Co.								
<u>TIP</u>	<u>ROUTE</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>ROW YEAR</u>	<u>CONST YEAR</u>	<u>TOTAL PROJECT COST</u>	<u>Status</u>	<u>Final Assigned Manager</u>	<u>Funding: S/F</u>
BL-0002	US 321A (MAIN STREET)	US 321A (MAIN STREET), CONSTRUCT PEDESTRIAN CROSSING IMPROVEMENTS FROM SR 1952 (CEDAR VALLEY ROAD) TO SR 1156 (LEGION ROAD).	2025	2025	\$464,000	Planning	Division	F
BL-0065	NS	Lenoir Greenway, Harper Avenue to Morganton Boulevard. Extend multi-use path.	2025	2026	\$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	2026	\$900,000	Planning	Division	S
BP11-R025	SR 1927 (OLD MORGANTON ROAD)	Replace Bridge 130332 on SR 1927 over Abington Creek in Caldwell County	2025	2026	\$1,450,000	Planning	Division	S
BP11-R035	SR 1519 (HOLLYWOOD RIDGE ROAD)	Replace Bridge 130169 on SR 1519 over Warrior Creek in Caldwell County	2026	2027	\$950,000	Planning	Division	S
BP11-R040	SR 1719 (CEDAR VALLEY CHURCH ROAD)	Replace Bridge 130048 on SR 1719 over Upper Little River in Caldwell County	2025	2026	\$850,000	Planning	Division	S
BP11-R042	SR 1328 (BROWN MOUNTAIN BEACH ROAD)	Replace Bridge 130322 on SR 1328 over Este Mill Creek in Caldwell County	2026	2027	\$950,000	Planning	Division	S
BP11-R048	SR 1571	Replace Bridge 130342 on SR 1571 over Kings Creek in Caldwell County	2026	2027	\$1,300,000	Planning	Division	S
HB-0056	SR 1514	SR 1514, REPLACE BRIDGE 130 OVER YADKIN RIVER.	2026	2027	\$934,000	Planning	Division	F
HB-0057	SR 1356	SR 1356, REPLACE BRIDGE 185 OVER JOHNS RIVER.	2025	2026	\$934,000	Planning	Division	F
HB-0058	SR 1356	SR 1356, REPLACE BRIDGE 186 OVER JOHNS RIVER.	2025	2026	\$875,000	Planning	Division	F
HB-0059	SR 1356	SR 1356, REPLACE BRIDGE 275 OVER JOHNS RIVER.	2025	2026	\$934,000	Planning	Division	F

Greater Hickory MPO
Transportation Update
March 2025

HB-0060	SR 1356	SR 1356, REPLACE BRIDGE 317 OVER JOHNS RIVER.	2025	2025	\$1,214,000	Planning	Division	F
HB-0061	SR 1574	SR 1574, REPLACE BRIDGE 349 OVER JONES CREEK.	2026	2027	\$748,000	Planning	Division	F
HF-0003	SR 1328 (BROWN MOUNTAIN BEACH ROAD)	SR 1328 (BROWN MOUNTAIN BEACH ROAD) WIDEN ROADWAY TO 20 FEET IN FIVE LOCATIONS ALONG WILSON CREEK.	2024	2025	\$1,510,000	Planning	Division	F
R-3430B	SR 1001 (CONNELLY SPRINGS ROAD)	SR 1001 (CONNELLY SPRINGS ROAD), BURKE COUNTY CONSTRUCT NEWPARALLEL BRIDGE OVER CATAWBA RIVER.	2022	2025	\$24,150,000	July Let	Central	S
R-3430C	SR 1001 (CONNELLY SPRINGS ROAD)	SR 1001 (CONNELLY SPRINGS ROAD) FROM CATAWBA RIVER TO SR 1933 (SOUTH-WEST BOULEVARD). MODERNIZE ROADWAY TO INCLUDE BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN ACCOMMODATIONS.	2028	2031	\$78,508,000	Planning	Central	F
U-4700CA	US 321	SR 1160 (MOUNT HERMAN ROAD). UPGRADE INTERSECTION TO SUPERSTREET DESIGN. - WITHIN THE LIMITS OF U-4700 C.	2019	2025	\$7,620,000	August Let	Division	F
U-4700CB	US 321	AT SR 1809/1952 (PINE MOUNTAIN ROAD). UPGRADE INTERSECTION TO SUPERSTREET DESIGN.	2019	2025	\$12,500,000	August Let	Division	F
U-4700CC	US 321	AT SR 1108 (MISSION ROAD). UPGRADE INTERSECTION TO SUPERSTREET DESIGN	2019	2025	\$8,850,000	August Let	Division	F
U-6034	US 321 ALT	DUKE STREET TO PINEWOODS ROAD	2025	2027	\$25,600,000	R/W soon	Division	F
U-6157	SR 1130 (CAJAH MOUNTAIN ROAD)	SR 1130 (CAJAH MOUNTAIN ROAD) FROM SR 1001 (CONNELLY SPRINGS ROAD) TO US 321A	2024	2027	\$47,101,000	R/W soon	Division	F
U-6161	US 321	US 321 FROM SR 1002 (DUDLEY SHOALS ROAD) GRADE SEPARATION. CONSTRUCT RAMP ONTO US 321 SOUTHBOUND.	2025	2027	\$5,000,000	Planning	Division	F

Greater Hickory MPO
Transportation Update
March 2025

Division 11 Projects Under Construction								
<u>Contract Number</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>TIP#</u>	<u>Route</u>	<u>Location Description</u>	<u>Contract Amount</u>	<u>Contractor</u>	<u>Construction Progress %</u>	<u>Completion Date</u>
DK00259	CALDWELL	R-5775	US 321	IMPROVE INTERSECTION AT US 321 (HICKORY BLVD) AND SR 1109 (PINEWOOD ROAD EXT)	\$1,682,361.75	TRI-COUNTY PAVING INC	93 %	8/24
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	6 %	3/27

March 2025 Progress Report for Division 12 Projects in GHMPO

Active Construction Projects for Alexander and Catawba Counties

Contract/ TIP #	County	Route	Project Description	Status	% Complete
DL00307	Alexander	NC 90, NC 16 and 7 Sections of Secondary Roads	Resurfacing for 14.5 miles.	Underway.	34%
C204348/ R- 2307B	Catawba, Iredell	NC 150 from SR 1840 (Greenwood Road) in Catawba County to US 21 in Iredell County.	Widen Roadway to 4/ 6 Lanes and reconfigure interchange at I- 77.	Underway.	3%
DL00332, B- 2412EC, BO- 2412F	Catawba, Lincoln	Various	Division 12 Program to Upgrade Intersections to Comply with Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) using Transportation Alternatives (TA) Funds.	Underway.	82%
DL00321/ HA- 0007	Catawba	ARC Fairgrove Industrial Access	Construct 0.26 mile access road to cul-de-sac.	Underway.	95%
DL00325	Catawba, Lincoln	Various	Resurfacing for 32.52 miles.	Underway.	61%

Active Construction Projects for Burke County in Division 13

Contract/ TIP #	County	Route	Project Description	Status	% Complete
C204406	Burke	B-6011, B-6013 & B-6014	Bridge replacement. One each in Buncombe, Burke, McDowell and Mitchell Counties.	Underway.	72%
C204716	Burke	B-5869/ Bridge #99 over Norfolk Southern Railroad on Us-64/ US 70 in Morganton.	Bridge Replacement.	Underway.	38%
DM00440	Burke	Various Primary and Secondary Routes.	Resurfacing for 13.62 miles	Underway.	7%
DM00441	Burke	Various Secondary Routes.	Resurfacing for 17.16 miles	Underway.	62%
DM00449/ R-5967	Burke	SR 1625 (9th Ave Dr NW)	9th Ave Dr NW widening at Goat Farm Rd 0.6 miles	Underway.	23%

Active Projects Under Development in Alexander and Catawba Counties

Contract/ TIP #	County	Route	Project Description	Status	% Complete
U-4700 A	Catawba	US 321	Widen to six lanes from north of US 70 in Hickory to US 321A. Length 3.2 miles.	Right-of-Way acquisition underway. Work on multiple disciplines also underway. The projected schedule for Construction let is August of 2026.	NA
U-5777	Catawba	NC 127	Add turn lanes from 1st Ave SE to 2nd Ave SE.	Right of Way acquisition in progress. Redesign to shorten turn lane to reduce impacts to adjacent properties and reduced vertical profile to facilitate constructability. Let date scheduled for May of 2025.	NA
U-6041	Alexander	US 64 at SR 1124 (Church Rd)	Add left turn lanes on westbound US 64/ NC 90.	The projected schedule for Right of Way and Construction is in FY 2025. Engineering work is ongoing. Right of Way has started.	NA
R-3603A	Alexander	NC 127	Widen to multi-lanes from SR 1400 (Cloninger Mill Rd) in Catawba County to SR 1156 (Richey Rd) in Alexander County.	The projected schedule for Right of Way and Construction is in FY 2025 and FY 2028 respectively. Design work in progress.	NA
U-2530A	Catawba	NC 127	Widen to multi-lanes from SR 1132 (Huffman Road) to SR 1008 (Zion Church Road).	The projected schedule for Right of Way and Construction is in FY 2025 and FY 2028 respectively. Engineering work is ongoing. Public meeting held on March 21, 2024.	NA
U-2307B	Catawba	East Side Thoroughfare (McDonald Parkway)	Widen to Multi-lanes.	The projected schedule for Right of Way and Construction is in FY 2026 and FY 2029. respectively. Planning and Design is ongoing. Public Meeting held on 11/19/2024.	NA
I-5716	Catawba	I-40	Interchange Improvements at SR 1007 (Lenoir Ryne Blvd) and construct ramp in Northeast quadrant.	The projected schedule for Construction is in FY 2026. Planning and Design underway.	NA
B-5847	Catawba	SR 1709 (Rock Barn Road)	Replace Bridge 170173 over I-40.	The projected schedule for Right of Way, Utility relocation and Construction is in FY 2023, FY 2028 and FY 2030 respectively. Public Meeting held on July 12, 2022 in Conover. The project proposes roundabout at the ramp terminals and also considering a multiuse path and sidewalks over I-40. Right of Way in progress.	NA

NCDOT TPD NEWS



NCDOT TPD GHMPO Newsletter

March 2025

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 MPO area. There is a map that provides information about past and current traffic forecasts: [NCDOT Traffic Forecasting Data Map](#)

Draft GHMPO CTP

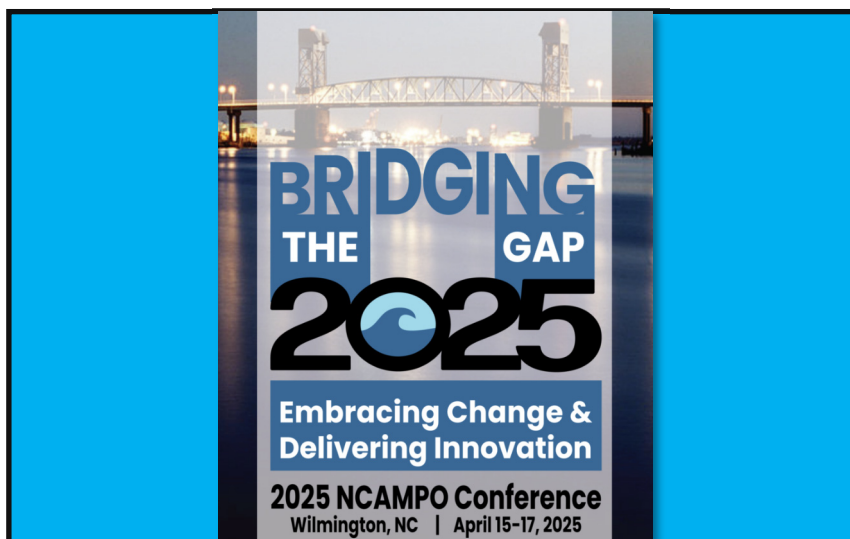
The Draft GHMPO CTP is currently going through it's internal review process. As it progresses, updates will follow. Thank you for your patience.

IMD Multimodal Updates Webinar

IMD's March 13, 2025 webinar slides and a recording has been uploaded at the link provided: [Multimodal Updates Webinars](#).

The 2025 NCAMPO Conference

The 2025 North Carolina Association of Metropolitan Planning Organizations (NCAMPO) Annual Conference will be held in Downtown Wilmington, NC, at the Hotel Ballast from April 15th-17th, 2025. The theme this year will be, "Bridging the Gap-Embracing Change and Delivering Innovation," The keynote speaker will be Wes Marshall, PhD, PE. He is a professor of civil engineering at the University of Colorado, in Denver. There will be inspiring thought-provoking discussions, strategies, and actionable insights that can shape the future of transportation.



"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

USDOT Issues Final Rule Establishing Accessibility Standards for Transit Stops in the Public Right-of-Way

The U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT) [issued a final rule](#) establishing clear, uniform standards for designing accessible pedestrian facilities at transit stops in the public right-of-way. Effective January 17, 2025, the rule adopts the U.S. Access Board [Accessibility Guidelines for Pedestrian Facilities in the Public Right-of-Way \(PROWAG\)](#) as USDOT's regulatory standards for new construction and alterations. This rule simplifies compliance for State and local agencies by removing the need for independent evaluations of accessibility guidance. It also promotes consistency across projects, improving accessibility for all transit users and supporting USDOT broader efforts for multimodal transportation access.

[Updated Pedestrian and Bicycle Funding Opportunities Table](#) (FHWA)

Provides an updated overview of Federal funding programs for pedestrian, bicycle, and micromobility projects. Outlines eligible activities and projects, helping sponsors integrate safety into initiatives.

Draft NCDOT 2026-2035 STIP Released

The Draft 2026-2035 State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) has been released and can be found on the STIP website: <https://www.ncdot.gov/initiatives-policies/Transportation/stip/Pages/default.aspx>. , the Department will hold a public comment period on the STIP from January 31, 2025 to April 4, 2025. In addition, each Division will hold a week-long public drop-in session between February 17, 2025 and March 17, 2025 (the drop-in session week varies by Division). Please feel free to reach out to [Teresa Robinson](#) (STIP Western Region Manager) if you have any questions or would like to discuss any potential schedule adjustments or project segmenting. For questions regarding the P7.0 scores, please contact the [SPOT office](#).

Contact Us

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Upcoming	Date
Last day to submit adopted FY26 UPWP with resolution, 5-year planning calendar, and MPO self-certification of long-range planning.	March 28, 2025
Deadline for TAC members to file SEI and RED with NC Ethics Commission	April 15, 2025
Last day to submit revisions to TPD for FY25 UPWP with signatures	April 18, 2025

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](#)