

**Henderson County
TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE
April 18th, 2018**

The Transportation Advisory Committee held a Regularly Called Meeting on April 18th, 2018 at 4:00 p.m. in the King Street Meeting Room at 100 North King Street, Hendersonville. Meeting attendance was as follows:

Voting Member	Present	Not in Attendance
Renee Kumor, Chair at-large	√	
Beau Waddell, Vice-Chair at-large		√
John Bryant, at-large		√
Joe Sanders, at-large		√
Mike Edney, Henderson County Commissioner		√
Bill Lapsley, Henderson County Commissioner	√	
Steve Caraker, City of Hendersonville	√	
John Dockendorf, Village of Flat Rock	√	
Brian Caskey, Town of Mills River	√	
Eddie Henderson, Town of Fletcher		√
George Banta, Town of Laurel Park	√	
Autumn Radcliff, Planning Director (Commissioner's Alternate)	√	
Jeff Wells, (Town of Mills River Alternate)		√

Also present were Tristan Winkler, FBRMPO; Brain Burch, NCDOT; Steve Cannon, NCDOT; Wanda Austin, NCDOT; Kristina Miller, RK&K; Allen McNeill, Henderson County Planner; and John Mitchell, Business and Community Development Director.

Mrs. Kumor called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

Discussion

Discussion/Adjustment of Agenda. A Balfour Parkway update was added to the agenda since representatives of RK&K were present at the meeting.

Public Comment. Mrs. Kumor opened the floor for public comment. Two citizens expressed concerns on the current NCDOT projects including the Balfour Parkway project, and the Highland Lake Road improvements which included a petition of 1600 signatures against the project.

Approval of Draft Minutes. Mr. Bill Lapsley made a motion to approve the draft minutes from the March 21st meeting. Mr. Steve Caraker seconded the motion. All members voted in favor.

Balfour Parkway. Ms. Kristina Miller with RK&K asked the Board if there were any questions or additional information they would like on the Balfour Parkway. Ms. Miller also gave a brief update on the Balfour Parkway following the Board of Commissioners workshop that same day. Ms. Miller stated the common concerns that had been received on the project and how they were addressing those concerns. She noted that they were recommending eliminating Grimesdale and any routes that cross through that neighborhood and have recommended six alternatives from the total twenty-four alternatives and hope to have it narrowed to two routes by summer. Ms. Kumor asked Ms. Miller to state who the partnering agencies in this process are. Ms. Miller listed the following agencies that must be included in the project review: French Broad River MPO, NCDOT, Federal Highway Administration, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Division of Water Resources, U.S. Fish and Wildlife, Environmental Protection Agency, State Historic Preservation Office. NEPA requires public input and feedback early in the process.

Update on Revised Prioritization and Discussion on SPOT 5.0 Regional Impact Projects. Mr. Tristan Winkler gave a brief overview of the prioritization process. He explained that North Carolina has a data driven process with five main steps. Submitting projects, getting quantitative scores from NCDOT, having regional impact and divisional impact points allocated by the MPO and the NCDOT Division office, and receiving the outcome after submittal of local points. He stated that SPOT stands for State Prioritization Office of Transportation. He said the MPO's process is to meet with each jurisdiction including the TAC to get feedback about projects and present to the MPO Board to submit projects for point allocation. He stated that the Division office submits points on projects as well. These points combined with the quantitative score determines which projects gets funded. The TAC was tasked with selecting the regional impact points to be presented to the MPO Board in May. The division impact points will be selected in August.

The Board discussed the I-26 project and if it should recommend cascading the unfunded portion from US 25 to US 64 (I-4400A) from the statewide mobility tier to the regional tier. The Board reviewed the other four regional projects to determine if any of these were a priority. Mr. Steve Caraker did not feel that the City was in support at this time for the NC 191 widening from US 25 to Mountain Road (R2588A) and felt that I-26 was more of a priority. He also stated that since there was a round-a-bout being constructed at Erkwood Drive, he was not sure if the NC 225 modernization was necessary now. Mr. John Dockendorf agreed that Greenville Highway was not a priority at this time. Mr. Winkler stated that Henderson County can submit up to three projects or fewer. Mr. Brian Caskey stated that he felt Mills River was in support for the NC 191 widening from NC 280 to NC 146 (U3403A) towards Buncombe County and the access management on NC 280 from Haywood Road to Old Haywood Road.

The Board agreed that I-26 improvements were needed and the TAC should recommend it be cascaded, understanding that it would take a portion of money from other possible regional tier projects. Henderson County could select up to three projects as its priorities to allocate local points. After some discussion of the projects currently not funded in the regional tier, Mr. Steve Caraker made a motion to apply local points to the following projects, Mr. Brian Caskey second the motion, all member voted in favor these three projects.

- Cascade I-26 widening from US 25 to US 64 (I-4400A)
- NC 191 widening from NC 280 to NC 146 (U3403A)
- NC 280 access management from NC 191 Haywood Road to Old Haywood Road

Commissioner Lapsley asked if the MPO could get the division projects to be considered for local point out as soon as possible. He stated that was one of the common issues raised by citizens. Mr. Winkler stated that he would get that out to the Board. He also stated that the MPO was getting a good response to the online survey on the transportation projects and had received over 2,000 responses for the region.

Routine Updates

NCDOT. Mr. Steve Cannon updated the Board on the following projects in the County: bridge replacement on Hide-a-way Cove; safety improvements on NC 191 in-front of the schools; Broad Point Drive bridge replacement; Howard Gap Road from Jackson Road to US 25 – minor widening/resurfacing; and several paving projects throughout the County. Mr. Brain Burch stated that the division continues to work with local jurisdiction on various projects and provide opportunities on public input. Mr. Cannon also mentioned continued utility relocation work on US 25 at the Erkwood Drive round-a-bout that had delayed the project construction and a project on Old Airport Road in Fletcher that would let in July.

County/Municipal Representatives. The TAC members provided a brief update for their jurisdiction.

Village of Flat Rock. Mr. John Dockendorf stated that NCDOT presented a revised plan for Highland Lake Road that included keeping the current 11-foot lanes and no additional ROW on south side of the road among other improvements. The Village Council will vote on the project at the April 27th meeting.

Town of Mills River. Mr. Brian Caskey stated that the town council presented a resolution to NCDOT on the NC 191 widening requesting a smaller impact for tractors and have a meeting with next week with NCDOT. Mr. Winkler mentioned the final approval for the NC 280 greenway funding for preliminary engineering will be at the May MPO Board meeting.

Town of Laurel Park. Mr. George Banta noted that there will be a ribbon cutting for the new park on Arbor Day.

Ms. Kumor noted the ongoing greenway mater plan efforts that both her and Joe Sanders were participating in and the TAC would hear more on that in the coming months.

Staff Updates. No staff updates were given.

The meeting adjourned at 5:07pm.

Renee Kumor, Chair
Henderson County Transportation Advisory Committee