Balfour Parkway

Proposed new location roadway from N.C. 191 to U.S. 64 Henderson County

STIP Project No. R-5744



Project Description

The N.C. Department of Transportation (NCDOT) proposes to construct Balfour Parkway, a four-lane, median-divided roadway, to provide a new east-west connection between N.C. 191 (Haywood Road) and U.S. 64 (Chimney Rock Road).

The primary purpose of the project is to improve east-west vehicular mobility in Henderson County by providing a connection (with limited control of access) between N.C. 191 and U.S. 64 north of Hendersonville.

"Limited control of access" means that vehicles would be able enter Balfour Parkway at intersections or interchanges along the proposed roadway with existing streets. There would be no individual driveways.

The new roadway will provide a new interchange along I-26 at least one mile north of the existing U.S. 64 interchange with I-26. An interchange

Welcome!

Thank you for participating in tonight's public meeting.

The purpose of this meeting is to provide information and request your comments about the proposed project, preliminary alternatives, and the planning process.

is also planned at U.S. 25 Business which would include a new bridge to provide a grade-separated crossing of the nearby railroad tracks. The type of connections (interchange or intersection) at N.C. 191 and U.S. 64 have not yet been determined. The proposed 4-lane section is needed for traffic operations and accommodates peak-hour traffic volumes through the design year (2040). Traffic volumes in the design year are projected to range from 7,300 to 29,400 vehicles per day. Approximately 9 percent of those vehicles are expected to be trucks.

Balfour Parkway is included in the 2018-2027 North Carolina State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) as Project Number R-5744:

- Section A (N.C. 191 to U.S. 25 Business)
- Section B (U.S. 25 Business to I-26)
- Section C (I-26 to U.S. 64)

The STIP has allocated funding for Section B. Sections A and C are currently unfunded. Right-of-way acquisition is planned to begin in fiscal year (FY) 2022 and construction is scheduled to begin in FY 2024.

DRAFT – Subject to Change

Planning Process

	Milestone	Timeframe
	Project Scoping (initial data collection)	Complete
	Identify Purpose and Need	Complete
Involvement	Develop Preliminary Alternatives	In Progress
lven	Hold Public Meeting	February 2018
nvo	Select Alternatives for Detailed Study	Spring 2018 to Summer 2018
	Conduct Detailed Environmental Analysis	Summer 2018 to Summer 2019
*Public	Prepare Environmental Document	Summer 2019 (FY 2020**)
* /	Hold Public Hearing	Fall 2019
V	Approve Environmental Decision Document	Late 2020 (FY 2021**)

^{*}Public involvement opportunities will be provided throughout the planning process. These will include briefings with local officials, public meetings, community group meetings, newsletters and updates to the project website.

Study Area

The study area indicates the area where Balfour Parkway could be located and is shown on Figure 1.

- The study area is north of Hendersonville where development is generally less dense and where a new interchange with I-26 could be located farther from the existing I-26 interchange with U.S. 64 (Four Seasons Boulevard/Chimney Rock Road). (A minimum 1-mile interstate spacing for interchanges is required.)
- The study area is also just north of the Berkeley Ball Park (a historic site and recreational resource), a Superfund Site on Smyth Avenue (land contamination associated with the mill) and the Hendersonville Wastewater Treatment Facility.
- In addition, the Henderson County Landfill, Stoney Mountain, and the active mining area of the Vulcan Materials Quarry present considerable constraints to construction of a new roadway and are excluded from the study area.
- The northern study area boundary provides room for a roadway to the north of the features listed above. However, because N.C. 191 and U.S. 64 diverge as they extend northwest and northeast, a new roadway located farther north than the study area boundary would be longer, increasing project impacts and costs. In addition, a large wetland mitigation site is located immediately north of Corridor 1.

^{**}The State's FY runs from July 1 in the prior year through June 30 in the same year. For example, FY 2020 begins in July 2019 and ends in June 2020.

DRAFT - Subject to Change

Preliminary Alternatives

NCDOT identified 24 preliminary alternatives. The locations of these preliminary alternatives are shown as 1,000-foot wide corridors. Within the 1,000-foot wide corridors, roadway right-of-way is anticipated to be approximately 250 feet. *The potential roadway location within a corridor will be determined in future stages of the planning process. Specific project impacts will not be known until the detailed roadway design is complete.*

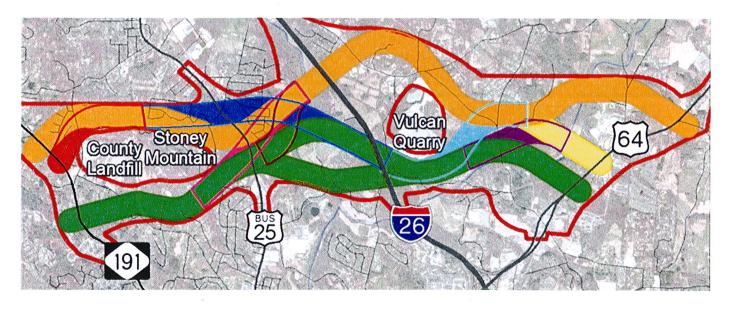
Two primary corridors are currently proposed to connect N.C. 191 with U.S. 64.

- **Corridor 1** is located north of the Henderson County Landfill, Stoney Mountain, and the Vulcan Materials Company Quarry (referred to as the "rock quarry").
- **Corridor 2** is located just south of the Henderson County Landfill, Stoney Mountain, and the currently active mining areas for the rock quarry.

Both of these corridors have options for different endpoint locations at N.C. 191 and/or U.S. 64. There are also options for crossing between sections of Corridor 1 and Corridor 2 (both east and west of I-26). Sections of corridors and options are combined to form the 24 preliminary alternatives.

The attached Table 1 lists the 24 preliminary alternatives, showing the sections of corridors and/or crossovers that are combined to form each alternative. The table also lists the resources such as homes and wetlands that are within the 1,000-foot corridor for each preliminary alternative. Because the corridors are 1,000 feet wide and the actual roadway right-of-way would be approximately 250 feet wide, the table does not indicate the actual roadway impacts of each preliminary alternative. The roadway will be designed to avoid and minimize impacts to the extent possible.

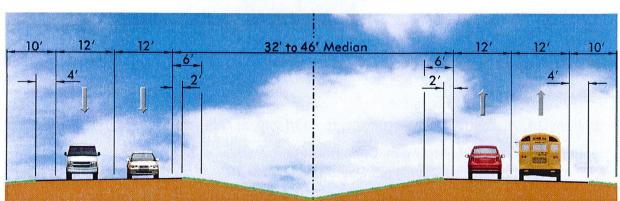
Figure 1 and Table 2 illustrate the 24 preliminary alternatives.



DRAFT - Subject to Change

Proposed Roadway Typical Section

The draft typical section for Balfour Parkway is illustrated below. Other features, such as a potential multiuse trail, are being considered for the project, pending cost-sharing and maintenance participation by the local government. The posted speed limit for Balfour Parkway is anticipated to be 45 mph and the preliminary alternatives currently range in length from approximately 4.65 to 6.55 miles.



Proposed Balfour Parkway Typical Section

Next Steps

The comments received at today's meeting and those submitted by the comment deadline will be reviewed by the project team and taken into consideration in the next steps of the project planning process.

NCDOT, along with other state and federal agencies, will select alternatives to eliminate and alternatives to study further. The project team will recommend the *elimination of interchanges with N.C. 191* and U.S. 64 and the *elimination of ten preliminary alternatives* because of unavoidable impacts to historic properties.

- Traffic analysis results indicate at-grade intersections with Balfour Parkway at N.C. 191 and U.S. 64 would accommodate projected traffic volumes. At-grade intersections would have less impact and a lower cost than interchanges.
- The ten preliminary alternatives that include Corridor 1-Section A or Corridor 2-Section B (south) would impact properties listed in or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.
 These historic properties are protected by Section 4(f) of the U.S. Department of Transportation Act of 1966.

Section 4(f) of the U.S. Department of Transportation Act of

1966 stipulates that the Federal Highway
Administration will not approve any program or project which requires the use of any publicly-owned park land, recreation area, wildlife or waterfowl refuge, or land of a significant historic site unless there is no feasible and prudent alternative and all possible planning to minimize harm resulting from such use is included.

DRAFT – Subject to Change

For More Information

Visit the Balfour Parkway website:

www.ncdot.gov/projects/BalfourParkway

- Learn more about the project.
- Review maps.
- Submit comments.

Balfour Parkway Project Contacts:

Jennifer Fuller, PE NCDOT Project Manager jmfuller@ncdot.gov (919) 707-6050

Kristina Miller, PE RK&K Project Manager kmiller@rkk.com (919) 653-7384

Other NCDOT Projects in the Area

STIP Project I-4400/I-4700

Widen I-26 from U.S. 25, south of Hendersonville, to I-40/I-240, at Asheville.

Public Meeting: April 16, 2018 (4 to 7 p.m. Open House)

Biltmore Baptist Church (35 Clayton Road, Arden)

Project Schedule: Right-of-way – 2018 (with I-4400B in 2019); Construction - June 2019 *I-4400A, U.S. 25 [Exit 54] to U.S. 64 (Four Seasons Boulevard) [Exit 49], is currently unfunded.*

Project Contact: Ms. Kat Bukowy, (919) 424-0441, kbukowy@HNTB.com

STIP Project R-2588B

Widen N.C. 191 from Mountain Road (SR 1381) to N.C. 280, south of Mills River.

Public Meeting: March 15, 2018 (4 to 7 p.m. Open House)

Mills River Village Center/Town Hall (124 Town Center Drive, Mills River)

Project Schedule: Right-of-way - June 2019; Construction - June 2021. *The section from U.S. 25 to Mountain Road (S.R. 1381) is unfunded.*

Project Contact: Mr. J. Scott Miller III, (828) 586-2141, jsmiller3@ncdot.gov

STIP Project R-5207C

Upgrade Howard Gap Road (S.R. 1006) from U.S. 25 in Fletcher to U.S. 64.

Project Schedule: Construction - April 2018

Project Contact: Mr. Charles Cordray, (828) 891-5367, cscordray@ncdot.gov

STIP Project W-5506

Improvements to N.C. 191 from Mountain Road (S.R. 1381) to north of North Rugby Road (S.R. 1365).

Project Schedule: Construction – Currently underway

Project Contact: Mr. Charles Cordray, (828) 891-5367, cscordray@ncdot.gov

Comment Sheet

Balfour Parkway





200	100		Dr	
$\boldsymbol{\nu}$	D2	SA	Pr	ını

Ivami	Name:					
Emai	Email:					
Addr	Address (including zip code):					
transp	Public involvement is an important part of the planning process and NCDOT encourages your involvement on ransportation projects. Please consider answering the items below and feel free to attach additional pages if more space is needed to fully explain your thoughts.					
1) 2) 3) 4)	Do you have additional thoughts or questions that were not answered tonight? What are the features or resources in the study area that are important to you? Do you have any concerns about the project or suggestions for improving the project? Which alternatives do you support? Which alternatives do you oppose? Please explain why.					
-						

Please submit comments by March 30, 2018 via mail or email.

Mail: Kristina Miller, PE – RK&K 900 Ridgefield Drive, Suite 350 Raleigh, NC 27609 **Email:** jmfuller@ncdot.gov or

kmiller@rkk.com

Kristina Miller, PE Consultant Project Manager RK&K 900 Ridgefield Drive, Suite 350 Raleigh, NC 27609

Please fold this paper in half and seal at the top if a separate envelope is not used for mailing. Thank you.

TITLE VI PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT FORM

Completing this form is **completely** voluntary. You are <u>not</u> required to provide the information requested in order to participate in this meeting.

Meeting Type: Public Meeting	Date: February 27, 2018				
Location: Cascades Mountain Resort, 201 Sugarloaf Road, Hendersonville					
STIP No.: R-5744					
Project Description: Construct a new route (Balfour Parkway) from N.C. 191 (Haywood Road) to U.S. 64					
(Chimney Rock Road) north of Hendersonville in Henderson County.					

In accordance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and related authorities, the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) assures that no person(s) shall be excluded from participation in, denied the benefits of, or subjected to discrimination under any of the Department's programs, policies, or activities, based on their race, color, national origin, disability, age, income, or gender.

Completing this form helps meet our data collection and public involvement obligations under Title VI and NEPA, and will improve how we serve the public. Please place the completed form in the designated box on the sign-in table, hand it to an NCDOT official or mail it to the EAU-Human Environment Section, 1598 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-1598.

All forms will remain on file at the NCDOT as part of the public record.

☐ 45-64 ☐ 65 and older ty: ☐ Yes ☐ No
☐ 65 and older
ty: □Yes □No
1: (if born outside the U.S.)
can: nn:
ie

For more information regarding Title VI or this request, please contact the NCDOT Title VI Section at (919) 508-1830 or toll free at 1-800-508-1886, or by email at sddickens@ncdot.gov.

Thank you for your participation!

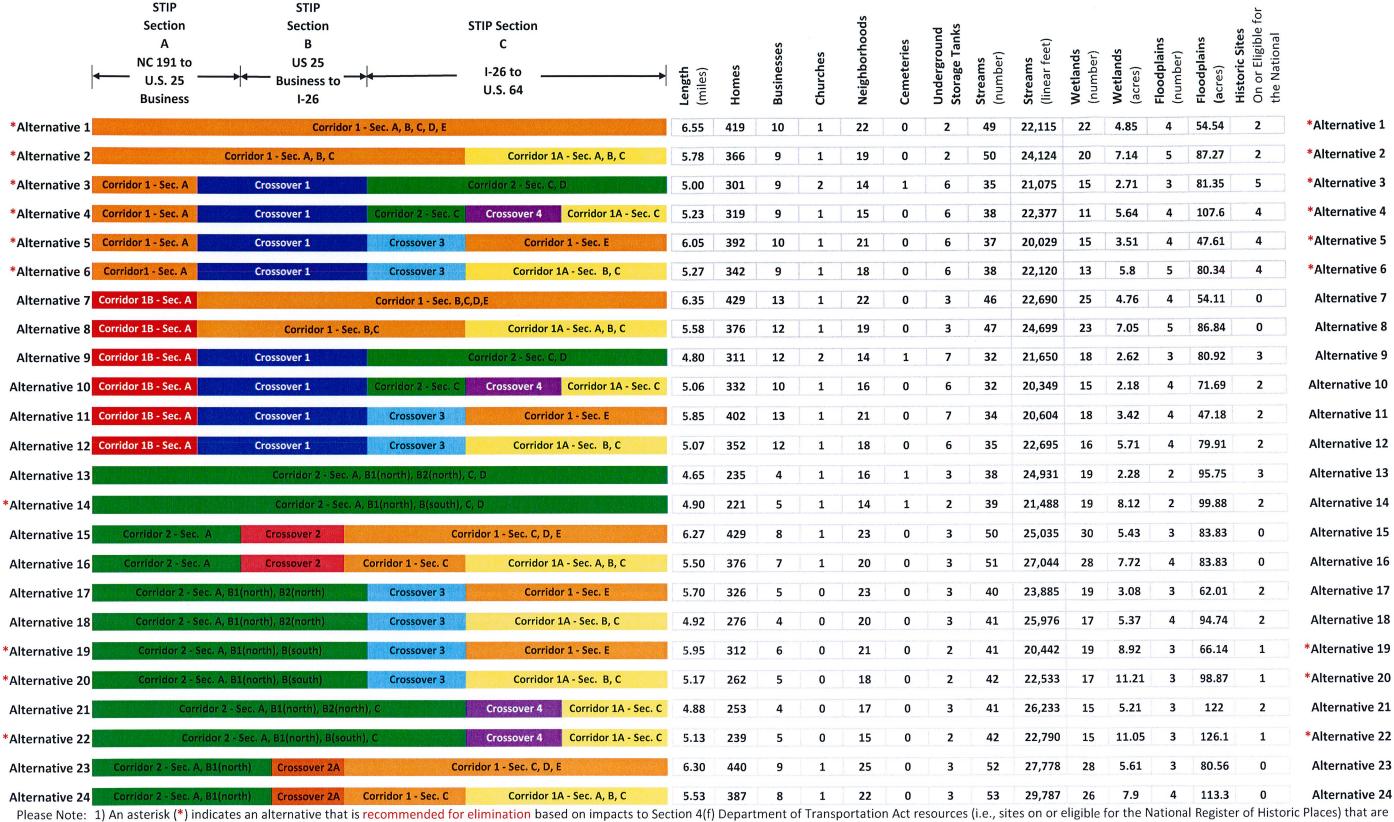
Please Add Postage if Mailed

Diane Wilson NCDOT - EAU Human Environment Section 1598 Mail Service Center Raleigh, NC 27699-1598

Please fold this paper in half and seal at the top if a separate envelope is not used for mailing. Thank you.

TABLE 1. SUMMARY OF COMMUNITY AND ENVIRONMENTAL DATA BY PRELIMINARY ALTERNATIVE (1,000-foot corridor width)

Information in this table is subject to change and is being used for comparison purposes only. The data does not represent relocations or other impacts. Relocations and other impacts will be calculated once preliminary designs are developed.



Please Note: 1) An asterisk (*) indicates an alternative that is recommended for elimination based on impacts to Section 4(f) Department of Transportation Act resources (i.e., sites on or eligible for the National Register of Historic Places) that are unavoidable based on the historic sites' location within the 1,000-foot corridor.

²⁾ Data does not include potential interchange locations.

³⁾ Crossover 1 businesses include the Division of Motor Vehicles and Highway Patrol offices.

TABLE 2. PRELIMINARY ALTERNATIVES

