

**Henderson County**  
**TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE**  
**September 19, 2018**

The Transportation Advisory Committee held a Regularly Called Meeting on September 19, 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 Manager (Town of Mills River's Alternate)	√	

Also present were: Ted Adams, Division Construction Engineer; Lonnie Watkins District Engineer; John Mitchell Business and Community Director; Janna Peterson, Henderson County Planner III; Lyuba Zuyeva, FBRMPO; and Tristan Winkler, FBRMPO.

Ms. Kumor, Chair at-large, called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

**Discussion/Adjustment of Agenda:** Mr. Beau Waddell asked the committee to add a discussion item on roundabouts. Mr. Joe Sanders moved to approve the adjusted agenda, which was seconded by Mr. Beau Waddell.

**Public Comment:** Twelve members of the public gave comment. Nine citizens spoke against the roundabouts proposed for the Hwy 64W project. Many mentioned concerns about taking of private property, lack of public input, and the safety of side roads since many people may “cut-through” on side roads to avoid the roundabouts. Three citizens spoke in favor of the roundabouts and discussed the positive impact the roundabouts would have on the landscape of Laurel Park and walkable community and the increased safety of the roadway.

**Approval of Draft Minutes:** Mr. George Banta moved that the minutes be approved and Mr. Bill Lapsley seconded the motion.

**P5.0 Divisional Impact Point Assignments:** Mr. Tristan Winkler presented an overview of the SPOT process and methodology of project prioritization for the State Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). The Regional Impact Point process was completed in May of 2018, so Mr. Winkler explained the TAC’s next step, the Divisional Impact Point process and the TAC’s role to choose three projects for which to assign points. Mr. Winkler clarified for Mr. Lapsley that bike/ped projects are included in the same “pot” of money, so the projects are pitted against the road and highway projects. Mr. Lapsley recused himself from any discussion concerning the Rugby Road project because he lives on that road. Each jurisdiction discussed their preferences. Mr. Beau

Waddell made the motion to approve the following projects, in their respective order, and Mr. Steve Caraker seconded the motion:

- Grove Street Sidewalks - from Barnwell St. to Spartanburg Hwy
  - “Construct a new sidewalk in the City of Hendersonville from Barnwell Street to US 176.”
- SR 1525 Duncan Hill Rd/SR 1508 Signal Hill Rd/SR 1503 N Main St – from Four Seasons Blvd. to Asheville Hwy
  - “Modernize roadway. Add turn lanes, widen shoulders, and improve geometrics and intersection operations as appropriate.”
- SR 2162 Blythe St. – from Haywood Rd. to W 6<sup>th</sup> Ave.
  - “Modernize roadway. Add turn lanes, widen shoulders, and improve geometrics and intersection operations as appropriate. Include complete streets improvements.”

If there is leftover funding for this round of Divisional Impact Points, the TAC requests that the MPO consider assigning points to three other projects:

- SR 1331 Banner Farm Rd – at School House Rd. intersection
  - “Improve the intersection of SR 1331 and SR 1426 (School House Rd.)”
- SR 1365 N. Rugby Rd./SR 1309 S. Rugby Rd. – from US 64W to Butler Bridge Rd.
  - “Modernize roadway.”
- SR 1345 Butler Bridge Rd. – from Boylston Hwy to Hendersonville Rd.
  - “Widen roadway.”

**Discussion on Roundabouts:** Mr. Beau Waddell presented information from USDOT and other sources that spoke to the possible traffic congestion that multiple roundabouts in a small stretch of road could evoke. He also presented data that showed Hwy 64W as a thoroughfare and regional road, which suggested that the road improvements reflect its status. Other discussion on the subject included Mr. Bill Lapsley reiterating the Board of Commissioner’s stance on the Hwy 64W project as supportive of what the Town of Laurel Park decides and defers to NCDOT when assessing the best design for the road. Mr. Bill Lapsley then announced that earlier in the morning, the Board of Commissioners voted to remove the fourth roundabout from the Hwy 64W project that would have been located within unincorporated County jurisdiction. Mr. George Banta reminded members that the right-of-way width for the roundabout design and the three-lane design were the same. Mr. Banta and other members discussed the preference for roundabouts because they are proven to be a safer roadway design than regular intersections. A clarification was addressed that the current design does include mountable medians for emergency situations. Chair-at-large, Renee Kumor, commented that three jurisdictions involved may want to discuss this topic further and to keep the TAC informed.

### **Routine Updates:**

**NCDOT:** Mr. Ted Adams introduced Lonnie Watkins, who is the new District Engineer for Division 14. The widening project on Hwy 191 is on schedule. Howard Gap Road started back up on the 17<sup>th</sup> after a delay caused by creating new plans with the addition of a left turn lane but has not established a new completion date. Work began on Hooper Ln and August 29. The Erkwood/Shepherd interchange project was awarded to the lowest bidder and they will begin work soon – completion is scheduled for October of 2019. The Mill St/King St. project is underway. Hwy 9 crumbled again due to the most recent rains, so clean-up is still underway.

**Town of Mills River:** Mr. Jeff Wells did not have updates to share.

**Village of Flat Rock:** Mr. John Dockendorf shared that the Village will have their kick-off meeting for the Flat Rock Greenway Feasibility Study on Friday, September 21. He is also interested in seeing how the traffic on Greenville Hwy fairs after the new Publix opens.

**City of Hendersonville:** Mr. Steve Caraker said he is busy keeping businesses open that are near the new Publix.

**Town of Laurel Park:** Mr. George Banta did not have updates to share.

**Town of Fletcher:** Mr. Eddie Henderson stated that he and the Town are looking forward to the completion of the Howard Gap Road project.

**Other Updates:** Mr. Joe Sanders stated that the County's Greenway Master Plan is moving along, and that the committee plans to present the plan to the Board of Commissioners in December.

**Henderson County:** Mr. Lapsley shared that NCDOT submitted new plans for the Kanuga Road project that will be available to the public in approximately three weeks.

**Staff Updates:** Mrs. Autumn Radcliff did not have updates to share.

**Next Meeting:** The next TAC meeting was scheduled for October 17, 2018.

The meeting adjourned at 5:43 p.m.



Renee Kumor, Chair  
Henderson County Transportation Advisory Committee

