

**Henderson County
TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE
February 15, 2023**

The Transportation Advisory Committee held a regularly scheduled meeting on February 15th, at 4:00 p.m. in the King Street Meeting Room and online via Microsoft Teams.

Voting Member	Present	Not in Attendance
Beau Waddell, Chair at-large	√	
Joe Sanders, Vice-Chair at-large	√	
Sam Henderson, at-large	√	
Vacant, at-large		
Rebecca McCall, Henderson County	√	
Bill Lapsley, Henderson County	√	
Jennifer Hensley, City of Hendersonville	√	
Anne Coletta, Village of Flat Rock (Remote)	√	
Shanon Gonce, Town of Mills River	√	
Bob Davy, Town of Fletcher (Remote)	√	
George Banta, Town of Laurel Park	√	

Also present: Autumn Radcliff, Planning Director; Chuck McGrady, NCBOT; Tristan Winkler, FBRMPO; Rusty Darnell, NCDOT; Troy Wilson, NCDOT

Mr. Beau Waddell, Chair at-large, called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

Public Comment:

None.

Approval of Agenda and Minutes:

Committee Vice-Chair, Joe Sanders, moved to approve the meeting agenda and the meeting minutes. Councilwoman Jennifer Hensley seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Discussion:

Draft TIP Project Swaps

Mr. Tristan Winkler revisited a discussion item the TAC had last fall. NCDOT has paused the prioritization, SPOT process due to the unprecedented budget crisis. In addition to the “pause”, the Department removed lower scoring projects from the TIP to help the finding deficit. Regional MPOs have the ability to suggest different projects (of the same cost) to be removed in exchange for a project that stayed in the budget. At their August meeting, the TAC voted to swap out the Kanuga Rd. project to swap in the US64/I-26 Interchange project. The TAC did not vote to “save” the Hwy 191 project that was also cut from the STIP. After a review of this issue, the TAC came to the same conclusion. The MPO Board will vote on this issue on March 16th.

Councilwoman Hensley asked if Mr. Winkler would give an update regarding the Census changes to the UZA. Mr. Winkler stated that Haywood County does not look to be connected to the Asheville UZA (which includes Henderson County) anymore and that it cannot be regrouped. Mr. Winkler also gave updates on upcoming grant opportunities, the new MPO member orientation, and congratulated the City of Hendersonville for being awarded the Paved Trails grant for their Above the Mud Feasibility Study.

Updates:

NCDOT Update

Mr. Rusty Darnell reiterated the current status of the N Highland Lake Rd. project and the considerable delays to construction. The construction firm has filed a reason for the delay with the state. That claim is still under review and must follow protocol before any action can be taken. The completion date is now estimated at March 2024, which is 2 years behind schedule.

See attached PDF of Division 14 Project Updates.

Village of Flat Rock

Councilwoman Anne Coletta updated the group that the Village will have a new, permanent speed monitoring sign to help slow down traffic through the center.

Henderson County

The Commissioners gave an update on the Ecusta Trail and the need for parking to be identified along the trail. Parking design and construction cannot be done under the STBG-DA grant and other funds would be required. The trail's 90% designs can be viewed online, but the consultant will not add to the official StoryMap until a cost estimate is achieved.

Town of Laurel Park

Councilman George Banta reported that the Town is letting for a stormwater system replacement contract and will invest in paving improvements sometime this summer.

City of Hendersonville

Councilwoman Hensley shared the ribbon cutting for the new parking deck will be held on March 1st. She also reminded the group that paid street parking will go into effect on March 3rd and that the City has developed an app to make it easier for folks to pay to park.

Town of Mills River

No updates.

Town of Fletcher

No updates.

At-large/Staff Updates

Mr. Sanders asked about the status of the Edward Park's progress. The park is a City-owned park and has the put-put course, which is coming along well.

Next Meeting:

The next TAC meeting is scheduled for March 15, 2023.

The meeting adjourned at 4:45 PM.

Beau Waddell, Chair
Henderson County Transportation Advisory Committee