

Henderson County
TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE: April 19, 2023

The Transportation Advisory Committee held a regularly scheduled meeting on April 19th, at 4:00 p.m. in the King Street Meeting Room and online via Microsoft Teams.

Voting Member	Present	Absent
Beau Waddell, Chair at-large	√	
Joe Sanders, Vice-Chair at-large	√	
Sam Henderson, at-large		√
Warren Ladbrook, at-large (remote)	√	
Rebecca McCall, Henderson County	√	
Bill Lapsley, Henderson County	√	
Jennifer Hensley, City of Hendersonville		√
Anne Coletta, Village of Flat Rock	√	
Shanon Gonce, Town of Mills River	√	
Bob Davy, Town of Fletcher	√	
George Banta, Town of Laurel Park	√	

Also present at the table: Janna Bianculli, Senior Planner; Autumn Radcliff, Planning Director; Chuck McGrady, NCBOT; Tristan Winkler, FBRMPO; and Troy Wilson, NCDOT. Steve Williams, NCDOT joined remotely.

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

Public Comment:

None.

Approval of Agenda and Minutes:

Mr. Joe Sanders moved to approve the agenda and minutes with the amendment that the minutes be corrected to show “next date” as May 17th. Councilwoman Anne Coletta seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Discussion:

The Future of Mobility

Mrs. Janna Bianculli gave a presentation on the future of mobility and current studies that have been conducted. The committee was provided information about why we need to prepare now for future changes, the gap between existing regulations and how mobility of the future functions, and why collaboration is required at multiple levels. Mrs. Bianculli showed the TAC a video concerning some of these mobility challenges.

Transit Feasibility Study

Mrs. Janna Bianculli updated the TAC on the status of the Transit Feasibility Study. Decline in recent years to the County system has been due to COVID, but the study will help investigate this. One of the items being discussed in the study is the use of on-demand microtransit. This option is being explored, but it is not a one size fits all and would not work for the whole system or in general for Henderson County. Mrs. Bianculli provided an overview of the concept of microtransit. She also stated that the steering committee held its kickoff meeting and priorities were named, 2 focus groups have met with the consultant, bus driver interviews were conducted with all the drivers, and the transit survey is live and had over 200 responses. The study will continue into the next FY and more information will be brought to the TAC.

Updates:

NCDOT Update

See attached PDF of Division 14 Project Updates.

Village of Flat Rock

Councilwoman Coletta updated members on the ongoing speed issue the Village is experiencing on Greenville Hwy. Two speed radar signs have been installed and will be monitored to see if the signs make any difference. If there is a difference, another sign will be installed along Little River Rd.

Henderson County

Commissioner McCall updated that the County partially reviewed the transportation goal of the draft 2045 Comprehensive Plan that day. She asked Chris Todd to give an update on the Ecusta Trail and he stated that the plan is still to have a construction bid this summer. She also asked Mr. Troy Wilson about the recent wrecks on I-26 in Henderson County that resulted in fatalities. Mr. Wilson did not know the specifics but would follow up.

Town of Laurel Park

Councilman George Banta reported that the Town let bids for 50 stormwater culverts which need to be replaced before repaving this summer.

Town of Mills River

No updates.

Town of Fletcher

Councilman Davy reported that he received complaints from folks who live in a subdivision that is used as a cut through, so the Town plans to reduce the speed limit to see if that will help solve the issue. He also asked Mr. Tristan Winkler about the progress of the new interchanges on I-26 and I-40. Mr. Winkler reported that both projects are moving ahead and are still committed in the TIP. The I-26 interchange for the Pratt & Whitney project is underway with the NEPA process and construction will begin later this year.

At-large/Staff Updates

Mr. Chuck McGrady stated that the House passed the budget and within it is \$17 million for the acquisition of the Saluda Grade. Mrs. Bianculli introduced Rachel Garner with the Henderson County Health Department who was in attendance. A part of Ms. Garner's position focuses on collaborating with other departments and the municipalities to help create a healthier Henderson County.








Next Meeting:

The next TAC meeting is scheduled for May 17, 2023.

The meeting adjourned at 5:03 PM.

Beau Waddell, Chair
Henderson County Transportation Advisory Committee

NCDOT Henderson County Projects

Project	Status	Projected Costs	% Complete	Projected Completion	Comments
U-5887 N. Highland Lake Rd.		\$6.7 M	3%	Mar 2024	Work has started – revised Completion TBD
I-26 Green River Bridge Rehab		\$25 M	52%	Jun 2024	Currently tracking behind schedule
I-4400BB, I-4400C I-26	 	\$271 M	65%	Feb 2025	On schedule – Major traffic shift scheduled for 4/27 – Expect Substantially Complete by 5/2024
Commercial Blvd Ext		\$842 K	99%	Oct 2023	Substantially Complete
I-26 / US 25 Sinkhole		\$1.4 M	99%	Apr 2023	Substantially Complete
Contract Resurfacing King St. / N. Main		\$2.5 M	0%	Oct 2023	
 Non – Henderson County Projects of interest					
I-26 Drainage Saluda Grade		\$16.5 M	56%	Mar 2024	

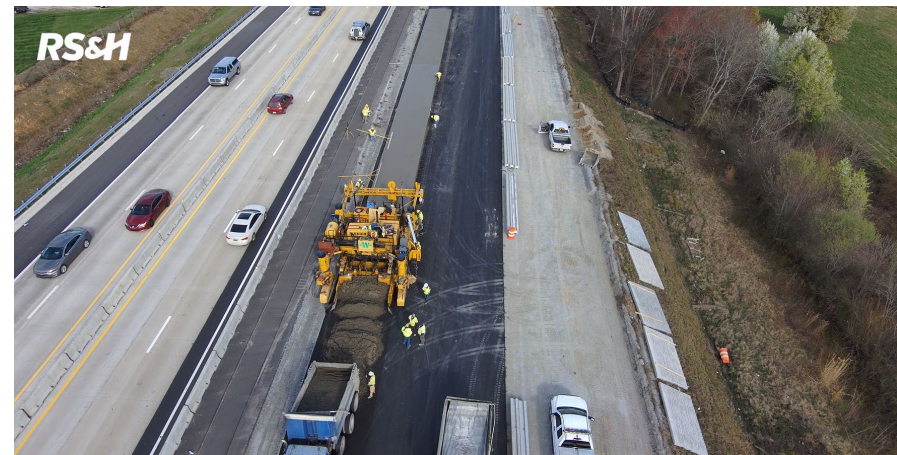
Henderson County Projects in Development

TIP	Route	Project	Estimated Cost	Projected to ROW	Projected LET	Comments
U-5783	US 64	SR 1180 (Blythe St) to SR 1173 White Pine Dr/SR 1186 Daniel Dr) Widen Roadway	\$26 M	Jul 2021	May 2024	Working to accommodate all utilities in ROW (30" water, gas, sewer)
U-5886/ U-6049	SR 1170 NC 225 S. Main	Realign and Extend Roadway	\$44.1 M	Dec 2022	Oct 2025	ROW plans complete
R-2588B	NC 191	NC 280 to SR 1381 (Mountain Rd) Widen Roadway	\$124.9 M	Apr 2021	Jul 2024	
49641/ 47849	US 25 B N. Main	Turn lane and High School Improvements	\$450 K	Nov 2022	Apr 2023	ROW Complete Re - LET
EB-5963	SR 1764	S. Grove St – Construct Sidewalk	\$2.7 M	Jul 2025	Jul 2026	
EB-5860	SR 2162	Blythe St – Construct Sidewalk	\$2.1 M	Sep 2025	Sep 2026	
EB-5946	NC 280	Mills River – Construct MUP	\$11.6 M			Under Review

Exerts from I-26 Update given at the Open Roads meeting on 4/12

Work Completed

- Traffic (EB / WB) Shifted to Eastbound Side From North End of Project to US25
- Traffic (EB/WB) Shifted to Westbound Side From US25 to Beginning of Project South End
- Completing Permanent Drainage Installations Eastbound (Phase II)
- Grading and Widening Permanent EB Clear Creek To US64
- Mainline Bridges (Clear Creek and Cane Creek) – Phase III (Blue Ridge Southern)-Phase II
- Tie-In to I-4700 Project (Phase 3) Completed including Ramps at Exit 40 (Airport Road)
- Both Rest Areas Completed and Open



Working Toward

- **Traffic Shift to Permanent Eastbound PCCP Pavement from Naples Rd to Clear Creek Rd**
- **Traffic Shifted on to Detour 3 US25. Building Permanent MSE Wall 100 and Ramp B Alignment**
- **Construction of Permanent Eastbound Shoulders/ Final Construction from Naples Road to Clear Creek Road**

