

Transportation Advisory Committee

4:00 PM | April 19, 2023

King Street Meeting Room



Agenda

Call to Order

Public Comment

Discussion

1. Approval/Adjustment of Agenda & Draft Minutes
2. The Future of Mobility

Regular Updates

Public Comment

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3

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45

45

MINUTES

SECONDS

Public Comment



MINUTES

SECONDS

Public Comment



MINUTES

SECONDS

The Future of Mobility

- Why we need to prepare now for the future.
- Gap between existing regulations and how mobility of the future functions.
- <https://www.usatoday.com/videos/news/nation/2022/04/13/driverless-car-pulled-over-san-francisco-police/7302465001/>
- Collaboration is required at multiple levels – public private partnerships will be vital to balance the concerns of all parties.

The Future of Mobility

- Future growth of Henderson County – Population grew by 30% in the last 20 years and the state predicts a similar increase of 29% (33,558 more residents) by 2045.
- The use of public transit has increased by 28% in the past 25 years
 - Henderson County's transit usage has declined in recent years.
- On-Demand Microtransit: A Rural Solution to Public Transit?
 - Wilson, NC received national attention for their recent switch from fixed-route to on-demand.

One Size Does Not Fit All

- The feasibility study explores this option and may recommend it as a solution or alternative for certain areas of the County. It is unlikely for a County of our size to eliminate fixed-route in totality.

On-Demand Microtransit

- Inspired by Uber and Lyft shared-ride services, the idea is to have people request a ride, usually a small van or shuttle, either by using an app or by phone, and pay a small fare.
- The driver will pick them up and drop them off near where they want to go within a designated service boundary.
- The purpose is to make public transit as relevant as possible in communities that just don't have the ability to provide high-frequency fixed-route service (rural, sprawl, lack of safe pedestrian infrastructure, lower population).
- Smaller-scale transit can also mean smaller costs.

On-Demand MicroTransit

- The switch from fixed-route to on-demand includes scaling down capital expenses like vehicles, transfer stations, and bus shelters.
- But there is a *tipping point*.
- The more popular the service becomes or the more the service is expanded, there will be a point where the funding per rider is greater than that of the fixed-route ratio.
- Intangible benefits may need to be quantified to fully compare the two systems at that point.
- Regardless of transit type, the FTA funds systems based on the number of riders.
- Public transit systems will need the public's help in making choices that meet the community's needs best.








apple country

PUBLIC TRANSIT
Feasibility Study



- Steering committee held their kickoff meeting.
 - Priorities were named; connecting transit to bike/ped infrastructure, jobs, essential services, and downtown.
- Bus drivers were interviewed for their unique insight.
 - Aware of new developments popping up in the County that current service cannot serve.
- Two focus groups met: Social Services/Community Leaders and a Business Focus Group.
 - Both groups felt ACPT could better serve the community by expanding hours.
 - Groups differed on priorities but covered most of the same topics.
- Transit survey is live.
 - Over 200 responses on the community survey.
 - www.applecountrytransit.com

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	

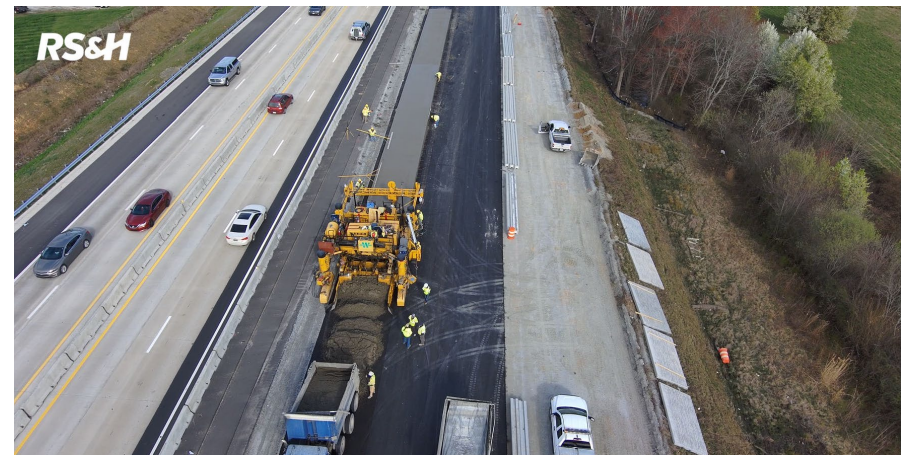
Henderson County Projects in Development

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**

