

**Henderson County**  
**TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE: March 15, 2023**

The Transportation Advisory Committee held a regularly scheduled meeting on March 15th, 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	√	
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: Janna Bianculli, Senior Planner; Autumn Radcliff, Planning Director; Chuck McGrady, NCBOT; Tristan Winkler, FBRMPO; Rusty Darnell, NCDOT; Troy Wilson, NCDOT

Mr. Joe Sanders, Vice Chair at-large, called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

**Public Comment:**

Mr. Carlos Ruiz gave comment regarding the City’s Earth Day event in April. Mr. Ward Seguin gave comment concerning litter along the roadways.

**Approval of Agenda and Minutes:**

Mr. Tristan Winkler asked to add a discussion item concerning the I-26 connector project. Councilman Bob Davy moved to approve the adjusted meeting agenda and the meeting minutes. Councilwoman Jennifer Hensley seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**Discussion:**

**NC Clean Transportation Plan**

Mrs. Janna Bianculli gave a presentation on the state’s new Clean Transportation Plan. The plan was in response to the Governor’s Executive Order 80 and was a collaboration of multiple departments. Very little public comment was requested and the plan itself lacks substance. These concerns were echoed by BOT member Mr. McGrady who intended to find out more about the plan. Please [click here](#) to view the presentation.

**I-26 Connector Project**

Mr. Winkler notified the TAC that the City of Asheville requested last minute to add an amendment to the STIP. The MPO’s TCC had not heard about the request and did not vote. The request was to swap the I-26 connector from the STIP with Sweeten Creek Rd. and would be voted on by the TAC voting members at the MPO meeting the next day. Mr. Winkler explained the request and its potential implications. The TAC came to the conclusion that the swap should not occur, and the I-26 project is a regional and state priority and should not be swapped for a local project.

**NCDOT Update Format**

Mr. Bob Davy asked to discuss the format of the project updates that NCDOT gives as handouts at the TAC meetings. Mr. Rusty Darnell said he can provide additional information on projects when requested.

**Updates:**

### NCDOT Update

*See attached PDF of Division 14 Project Updates.*

### Village of Flat Rock

No updates.

### Henderson County

Commissioner McCall updated that the County is partnering with the City again and now with Mills River this year to conduct a litter sweep on local roads.

### 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 City is working on their Walk Hendo plan and will share more as it becomes available.

### Town of Mills River

Town Manager Cobb reported the Town is still working on their pedestrian plan and recently received a grant to create ADA access from their parking lot to their park and library.

### Town of Fletcher

Councilman Davy reported that he received complaints from folks who live along I-26 can hear a lot of noise and asked why certain neighborhoods did not get the sound walls. Mr. Darnell responded that since the project is an interstate and is a federal project, the NCDOT does not have control over the noise testing or the thresholds. The group discussed encouraging developers to install vegetative buffers and other things that would help dampen the sound.

### At-large/Staff Updates

Mr. Sanders reminded the group that the Blue Ridge Bicycle Club not only helps pay for bike/ped studies, but they can also help pay for implementation.

### **Next Meeting:**

The next TAC meeting is scheduled for April 19, 2023.

The meeting adjourned at 5:45 PM.

---

Beau Waddell, Chair  
Henderson County Transportation Advisory Committee