

**Henderson County  
TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE: January 17, 2024**

The Transportation Advisory Committee held a regularly scheduled meeting on January 17th, at 4:00 p.m. in the King Street Meeting Room and online via Microsoft Teams. Voting members present online are denoted with the letter “O”.

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	√	
Shanon Gonce, Town of Mills River	√	
Jim Player, Town of Fletcher	√	
George Banta, Town of Laurel Park	√	

Also present at the table: Autumn Radcliff, Planning Director; Janna Bianculli, Senior Planner; Tristan Winkler, FBRMPO; Chuck McGrady, NCDOT BOT; and 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:**

Mr. Joe Sanders moved to approve, and Mayor Shanon Gonce seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**Welcome New Member:**

The Chair welcomed Jim Player from the Town of Fletcher to the committee. He will represent the Town on this committee and on the MPO Board.

**Discussion:**

**Howard Gap/Tracy Grove Intersection Update:**

Mr. Troy Wilson gave an update about the quasi-study that was conducted on the Howard Gap Rd/Tracy Grove Rd intersection. The TAC had public comment related to this intersection at a meeting this summer. Although NCDOT’s safety group cannot correct the alignment at the intersection (this would need to be done through SPOT Prioritization), they were able to monitor the area over time and implement a four-way stop. The data confirms a decrease in incidents at the intersection since the safety measure was installed. NCDOT is happy with this success. The TAC members were emailed a copy of the data.

**Informational Presentation: High-Occupancy Toll Lanes**

The MPO will vote at their next meeting to sign a letter of support for NCDOT to study HOV toll lanes on the I-40 widening project. This section that would be widened begins at the Smokey Park Hwy exit (Buncombe County) and end at the Hwy19/23/74 exit that goes to Waynesville (Haywood County). In an effort to prepare board members for this conversation, Mrs. Bianculli presented information on what HOV lanes are, their history, and the potential pros and cons. Although I-40 is not in Henderson County, the TAC MPO Board members will have a vote regardless. Tristan Winkler explained that including the study of toll lanes in the I-40 widening project will

help the project to score better in SPOT. Once scored and funded through SPOT, the MPO and NCDOT can decide whether or not to keep the toll lanes in the design. A copy of the presentation is available online.

**Updates:**

**NCDOT Update**

Please see attached document.

**Town of Fletcher**

Councilman Player stated that the Town is still working on the Heart of Fletcher project. He also reported that they are conducting radar and trip counts on Fanning Bridge Rd. He also reported the need for a guardrail near Livingston Farms.

**Town of Mills River**

Mayor Gonce is looking forward to getting started on Hwy 191.

**Village of Flat Rock**

Vice-Mayor Coletta reported back that the speed signs are effective at reducing speeds.

**Town of Laurel Park**

Councilman Banta reported that the Town recently acquired speed signs. He also mentioned there is a major developer on US64 that could affect the overall project.

**Henderson County**

Commissioner Lapsley reported that the Board of Commissioners reappointed Mr. Beau Waddell for another two-year term on the TAC.

**Members At Large**

Mr. Warren Ladbrook asked if a TIA would be required for the new Ecusta Crossing subdivision. Mr. Troy Wilson was not sure off the top of his head and stated that it is dependent upon specific criteria. Mr. Wilson will follow up with Mr. Ladbrook.

**Next Meeting:**

The next TAC meeting is scheduled for February 21, 2024.

The meeting adjourned at 5:10 PM.

---

Beau Waddell, Chair  
Henderson County Transportation Advisory Committee

\*Anyone can request a copy of the meeting recording by contacting County staff.