

**Henderson County
TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE
May 16, 2018**

The Transportation Advisory Committee held a Regularly Called Meeting on May 16th, 2018 at 4:00 p.m. in the King Street Meeting Room at 100 North King Street, Hendersonville. Meeting attendance was as follows:

Voting Member	Present	Not in Attendance
Renee Kumor, Chair at-large	√	
Beau Waddell, Vice-Chair at-large	√	
John Bryant, at-large	√	
Joe Sanders, at-large	√	
Mike Edney, Henderson County Commissioner		√
Bill Lapsley, Henderson County Commissioner		√
Steve Caraker, City of Hendersonville		√
John Dockendorf, Village of Flat Rock	√	
Brian Caskey, Town of Mills River	√	
Eddie Henderson, Town of Fletcher		√
George Banta, Town of Laurel Park	√	
Autumn Radcliff, Planning Director (Commissioner's Alternate)	√	
Jeff Wells, (Town of Mills River Alternate)	√	

Also present were Tristan Winkler, FBRMPO; Allen McNeill, Henderson County Planner; Stedman Smith, Henderson County Planner; Lyuba Zuyeva, FBRMPO; Matt Champion, City of Hendersonville Planner.

Mrs. Kumor called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

Discussion

Discussion/Adjustment of Agenda. No amendments were made to the agenda.

Public Comment. Mr. Bill Burchill spoke on a resolution passed by the Board of Commissioners on May 7. The resolution requests that the NCDOT abandons the Balfour Parkway project and work to begin a new planning process. Mr. Burchill requested that the committee adapt their role of listening to the public, specifically regarding the Balfour Parkway project. He provided a handout to the TAC.

Approval of Draft Minutes. Mr. Brian Caskey made a motion to accept the minutes as they were. This motion was seconded by Mr. John Bryant. All members voted in favor.

MPO Survey Results. Mr. Tristan Winkler presented the public survey that considers projects in the prioritization process. The online survey was presented to the 5 counties where the MPO works. Henderson County had the second-highest response rate with 613 responses. The quick-ranking survey has respondents select their “Top 5” choices of projects under consideration. According to this survey, the most-selected projects were the unfunded portions of the Balfour Parkway (sections A and C), US 144-A, 2 sections of NC-191, and the Blyth Street project. The second portion of the survey, called “The Deep Dive”, allowed survey participants to go project-by-project and answer questions regarding participants’ stance on a particular project by ranking them on a numeric scale of +5 to -5. The MPO then averaged the results to see which projects generally saw more support or more opposition. The “Top 5” choices of projects with public support under consideration were the I-26 widening, NC-280 access management, Greenville Hwy modernization, and two sections of NC-191. In terms of the “Deep Dive” survey, Balfour Parkway project received a negative score and negative support. In the open-ended comments section, the vast majority of comments were in opposition to the Balfour Parkway project.

P 5.0 Draft Regional Impact Point Assignment: Mr. Tristan Winkler gave a handout to the committee showing data the MPO uses to score projects is based on data related to safety, congestion, non-motorized elements, rate, and the environment. The Board discussed the I-26 project and if it should still recommend cascading the unfunded portion from I-26 from the statewide mobility tier to the regional tier. Henderson County's portion of I-26 showed the best scores and has a good chance of being funded in the next round of SPOT. The Board also discussed other projects that are being considered for cascading by the other Counties. Mr. Beau Waddell stated that the I-26 project is the top project for Henderson County. Mr. Waddell made a motion that the MPO representatives affirm the committee's desire that the section of I-26 be cascaded, as the committee has previously requested. After discussion of cascading and funding success, Mr. John Dockendorf seconded this motion. All members voted in favor.

Routine Updates

NCDOT Mr. Steve Cannon updated the Board on the following projects in the County: bridge replacement on Hide-A-Way Cove; Broad Point Drive bridge project running behind due to utility delays; school safety project on 191 by the public high school and middle school which is about 5% ahead of schedule; Howard Gap Road from Jackson Road to US 25 – minor widening/resurfacing; and several paving projects throughout the County. There is a project in Mills River scheduled to be contracted in June for the paving of Hooper Lane as well as a bridge replacement on that road. Mr. Cannon spoke to the processes and stated that NCDOT have been seeing a problem with getting public input at the right time. The NCDOT will be holding a public meeting at Grace Community Church on June 12 as a forum for upcoming community projects. Mr. Beau Waddell inquired about the Highway 280 project. Mr. Cannon stated that the project is routine safety maintenance on the shoulders for water run-off.

Town of Mills River There has been no decision on the NC 191 lanes and medians in the Town's portion. They are in communication with NCDOT about cut-outs for tractors and additional turn-outs for tractor-trailers. The NCDOT will be speaking with their Agriculture Committee to discuss precisely where those would need to happen. There was a meeting regarding 191 on May 15.

Town of Laurel Park Grand opening of new park. Things are moving along quite well on Highway 64. There has been nice, positive feedback from the community, especially on the bike/ped project.

Village of Flat Rock The bike/ped plan has sent revisions back to the consultant. They are waiting eagerly on Historic Flat Rock's take on the bike/ped plan. The N. Highland Lake project is working to minimize impact while coming up with a plan to serve the long-term needs of that area. There is a meeting in June or July to vote on that plan. There is public input at every meeting.

Greenway Planning Meeting There is progress on the mission statement. They are working on finding a vision and creating a lot of visual renderings. Mr. Joe Sanders plans to speak at Flat Rock Village Council Meeting with a woman who was a victim of a hit-and-run on N. Highland Lake Road. They will present on the need for traffic attention to focus on bike/ped infrastructure and road safety.

Staff Updates Ms. Autumn Radcliff encouraged the committee to participate in the Strive event. There was a multi-generational "Walk to School" event on Friday, May 18. Ms. Radcliff updated the Board on Representative Chuck McGrady's newsletter on transportation. Mrs. Kumor requested that Ms. Radcliff provide the committee a definition of how the TAC should respond to the Board of Commissioners when the Commissioners choose to eliminate a project.

Mr. John Dockendorf stated that if the county wants to kill infrastructure, then they come up with a plan to limit growth within the county. Mr. Joe Sanders spoke to the need for respectful conversations. Mr. George Banta stated that it is difficult to have respectful conversations when emotions get involved. Ms. Lyuda Zuyeva said that the process to update the 2040 MTP Plan over the next few years, which will be an opportunity for the

committee and other stakeholders to weigh in and identify new potential projects for Henderson County and the region. Mr. Waddell said that it might be prudent in the future for the committee to report to the Board of Commissioners a few times a year. Mr. Tristan Winkler stated that the MPO is open to new public input or process. He stated the importance of education.

The meeting adjourned at 5:15 p.m.

Renee Kumor, Chair
Henderson County Transportation Advisory Committee