

**Henderson County
TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE
August 19, 2020**

The Transportation Advisory Committee held a regularly scheduled meeting on August 19, 2020 at 4:00 p.m. online using the Zoom platform that was also broadcasted live on YouTube.

Voting Member	Present	Not in Attendance
Beau Waddell, Chair at-large		√
Joe Sanders, Vice-Chair at-large	√	
John Bryant, at-large		√
John Dockendorf, at-large	√	
Rebecca McCall, Henderson County	√	
Bill Lapsley, Henderson County	√	
Jennifer Hensley, City of Hendersonville	√	
Anne Coletta, Village of Flat Rock	√	
Brian Caskey, Town of Mills River	√	
Bob Davy, Town of Fletcher	√	
George Banta, Town of Laurel Park	√	

Also present were: Autumn Radcliff, Planning Director; John Mitchell, BCD Director; Janna Peterson, Planner III; Tristan Winkler, FBRMPO Director; and Lonnie Watkins, NCDOT.

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

Public Comment:

There was no public comment.

Approval of Minutes:

Councilwoman Anne Coletta moved that the minutes be approved, and Councilman Brian Caskey seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Discussion:

Regional Hellbender Trail

Tristan Winkler presented and update on the Hellbender Regional Trail draft plan, which outlines a regional bicycle and pedestrian network connecting communities in Western North Carolina. The concept is developed from existing plans in Buncombe, Henderson, Haywood, Madison and Transylvania counties. MPO staff, in coordination with the regional trail workgroup, have prepared a document that provides a preliminary overview of mapped segments, partnerships, trail benefits and implementation efforts. No action was taken.

Updates & Other Business:

NCDOT

Lonnie Watkins updated the TAC on current construction and development projects. Erkwood/Shepherd project is 99% complete. Old Airport Rd. is 60% complete and currently constructing a culvert which is causing a 60-day closure on Cane Creek Rd. I-26 is ongoing with drainage and retaining walls as well as bridge replacement. It is currently behind schedule. Butler Bridge Rd. will close sometime in October and will remain closed for at least 6 months. All other development projects are on hold, but a Board of Transportation vote scheduled for October should free up funding. Commissioner McCall asked if the rest areas would be rebuilt and Lonnie confirmed that they would.

Village of Flat Rock

Councilwoman Coletta shared that the Village is wrapping up two studies. The Village did not approve or deny the feasibility study but were very pleased with the work of the consultants. The Village voted to deny the overall village bike/ped plan.

Town of Mills River

Councilman Brian Caskey shared that the Town is working on their comprehensive plan and asking for public input. Part of the comp plan is a bike/ped plan that shows a loop from Mills River Brewery to Bold Rock and back to Town Hall.

Town of Laurel Park

Councilman Banta stated that the Town is currently taking bids for a road paving project.

Town of Fletcher

Councilman Davy shared that Fletcher is working on their bike/ped plan which should be complete in the fall.

Henderson County

Commissioner McCall mentioned that she asked a tree expert to look at the Kanuga Road trees and his opinion was that the ones that are marked for removal by NCDOT probably need to come down anyway due to their proximity to the existing road. Commissioner Lapsley stated that the MPO Board will be voting on the STBG-DA funding at their next meeting. The County submitted 5 phases for funding the construction of the Ecusta Trail and the City submitted a phase of the Clear Creek Greenway. He also shared that there will likely be a change in the makeup of the state's Board of Transportation, which would allow Henderson County to have a direct connection and will positively impact the county.

Next Meeting:

The next TAC meeting was scheduled for September 16, 2020.

The meeting adjourned at 5:16 p.m.

Beau Waddell, Chair
Henderson County Transportation Advisory Committee