

Henderson County
TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE: August 21, 2024

The Transportation Advisory Committee held a regularly scheduled meeting on August 21st 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	√	
Sam Henderson, Vice-Chair at-large	√	
Dawn Barr, at-large	√	
Warren Ladbrook, at-large	O	
Rebecca McCall, Henderson County	√	
Bill Lapsley, Henderson County	√	
Jennifer Hensley, City of Hendersonville (alternate, John Connet)	√	
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; and Troy Wilson, NCDOT.

Mr. Beau Waddell, Chair at large, called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

Public Comment:

The TAC received comment electronically, but there were no comments at the meeting.

Approval of Agenda and Minutes:

Vice Mayor Anne Coletta moved to approve, and member-at-large Sam Henderson seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Discussion:

Conference Recap

Member-at-large Dawn Barr presented information she learned when attending the NC Traffic Safety Conference. She stated that the conference's purpose is to “help us understand new perspectives of what is driving transportation safety and expand our knowledge of ways to reduce and eliminate crashes” to achieve Vision Zero. Vision Zero is a collaborative initiative to eliminate roadway deaths and injuries in North Carolina. Mrs. Barr stated that much of the conference was focused on methods to accomplish this mission, including slowing traffic, which our region is currently facing with many 55mph roadways being reduced for safety. Councilwoman Jennifer Hensley shared that the City’s WalkHendo Plan addresses many pedestrian concerns in Hendersonville.

Henderson County Compression Braking Ordinance

Mrs. Janna Bianculli presented two public comments received about noisy compression brakes. One was related to Banner Farm Rd and the other concerned I-26. Mrs. Bianculli presented the steps Henderson County would need to take to adopt a compression brake ordinance. She shared that even if such an ordinance is adopted, it would be an amendment to the noise ordinance and would only be enforceable by the Sheriff’s Department, which does not monitor state roadways (there are no county roads in the state of NC) since that is the job of NC Highway Patrol. After good discussion, Commissioner McCall stated that she believes the noise on I-26 will diminish once construction ends. She suggested the TAC wait to provide a recommendation until after that time.

WNC Safe Routes to Schools

Ms. Ada Sloop from Land of Sky Regional Council presented on our region's newly created Safe Routes to Schools program. She stated she is working with Hendersonville Middle School based on the superintendent's advice. A discussion was held concerning Bruce Drysdale Elementary School and the ban on walking as a mode of "picking up or dropping off" a student. Ms. Sloop said Bruce Drysdale is not on her list now, but she hopes to work with them due to their proximity to downtown and pedestrian infrastructure. The TAC expressed confusion over the School Board/safety personnel's decision to ban walking and wanted to investigate further. Mr. Henderson motioned for the TAC to send a recommendation to the Board of Commissioners to discuss the topic and investigate why the decision was made. Councilwoman Jennifer Hensley seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Updates:

NCDOT Update

Please see the attached document for construction and development updates. BOT Representation Chuck McGrady shared that the Board continues to travel around the state for meetings.

Henderson County

Commissioner McCall stated she was asked about the landscaping maintenance inside the Greenville Hwy roundabout. She also noted the Commissioners voted to create an easement for the extension of the Oklawaha Greenway through Berkeley Park.

Town of Laurel Park

Councilman George Banta said the recent heavy rains damaged culverts and washed-out roadways that the Town is working to fix (if a town road). He also stated they are looking for emergency funding from the state to help with these efforts.

Town of Mills River

Mayor Shanon Gonce asked what modes would be allowed on the Ecusta Trail. He also followed up on a previous update regarding a roadway safety issue at Glen Marlow Elementary. Mayor Gonce has teamed up with Councilman Jim Player to work on solving this issue.

City of Hendersonville

Councilwoman Hensley stated they are waiting on AT&T before finishing the 7th Ave. project. She also mentioned her work on the MTP workgroup and the update the MPO is currently working on.

Next Meeting:

The next TAC meeting is scheduled for September 18, 2024.

The meeting adjourned at 5:12 PM.

Beau Waddell, Chair
Henderson County Transportation Advisory Committee

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

NCDOT Henderson County Projects

Project	Projected Costs	% Complete	Projected Completion	Comments
U-5887 N. Highland Lake Rd.	\$6.7 M	57.2%	Jul 2024	Revised Completion TBD
I-26 Green River Bridge Rehab	\$25 M	73.8%	Feb 2026	Currently tracking behind schedule
I-4400BB, I-4400C I-26	\$271 M	84.5%	Feb 2025	On schedule – Expect Substantially Complete by 10/2024
Contract Resurfacing King St. / N. Main	\$2.5 M	85.8% (King St.)	Oct 2024	King Street – to complete 2024 Church Street – to start summer 2024
SM-6114C US 25 B / N. Main St.	\$875K	83.5%	Feb 2024	Substantially complete – waiting for permanent vegetation
BL-0007 Ecusta Trail	\$1.19 M	30%	Oct 2024	Construction underway
Non – Henderson County Projects of interest				
I-26 Drainage Repairs Saluda Grade	\$16.5 M	70.3%	Mar 2024	

Henderson County Projects in Development

TIP	Route	Project	Estimated Cost	Projected to ROW	Projected LET	Comments
BL-0008	N/A	Clear Creek Greenway – Berkely Mills Park to Lakewood Rd	\$ 1.8 M		Jul 2025	Non-NCDOT LET (LAP)
BL-0078	N/A	Ecusta Trail – US 64 to Transylvania County line	\$ 13.1 M		Sep 2027	Non-NCDOT LET (LAP)
BR-0083	US 64	Bridge Replacement (Structures 440057 and 440155)	\$22.1 M	Jul 2025	Apr 2027	
N/A	SR 1586	Replace/Repair Bridge 440036 – To be accomplished by State forces – preliminary work is underway	TBD	TBD	TBD	Old bridge demo Aug 2024 – Piles to be driven under contract
EB-5860	SR 2162	Blythe St – Construct Sidewalk	\$1.4 M	Sep 2025	Sep 2026	Non-NCDOT LET (LAP)
EB-5963	SR 1764	S. Grove St – Construct Sidewalk	\$1.8 M	Jul 2025	Jul 2026	Non-NCDOT LET (LAP)
I-4400BA	I-26 / US 64	Exit 49 Interchange	\$29.5 M*		Jan 2029	* Estimate date June 2021 – does not have any R/W costs - expect increases due to market and final scope
R-2588B	NC 191	NC 280 to SR 1381 (Mountain Rd) Widen Roadway	\$151.8 M	Apr 2021	Aug 2025	Estimate updated Utility relocation has commenced
U-5783	US 64	SR 1180 (Blythe St) to SR 1173 White Pine Dr/SR 1186 (Daniel Dr) Widen Roadway	\$31.8 M	Jul 2021	Aug 2024	Estimate updated here to reflect total cost including ROW and Utilities
U-5886/ U-6049	SR 1170 NC 225 S. Main	Realign and Extend Roadway	\$46.1 M	Dec 2022	Oct 2026	ROW plans complete

* Note: Dates are subject to change as funding is balanced.