

**Henderson County
TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE: March 20, 2024**

The Transportation Advisory Committee held a regularly scheduled meeting on March 20th, 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		√
Rebecca McCall, Henderson County	√	
Bill Lapsley, Henderson County	√	
Jennifer Hensley, City of Hendersonville (alternate present)	√	
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; and Troy Wilson, NCDOT.

Mr. Beau Waddell, Chair at-large, called the meeting to order at 4:01 p.m.

Public Comment:

None.

Approval of Agenda and Minutes:

Mr. George Banta moved to approve, and Vice Mayor Anne Coletta seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Discussion:

Hwy 191 Multiuse Path:

Ms. Autumn Radcliff reviewed the Hwy 191 road widening project history including the County’s commitment to build a multiuse path for the middle and high school students to safely cross the road. Six years after the open house events on the project, NCDOT is about to start construction and needs a letter of commitment for the cost-share for the multiuse path. The County would owe 50% of the total construction cost since this project does not fall under the new Complete Streets Policy. Councilwoman Jennifer Hensley advised that the County could see if Mills River could be the responsible party on paper to receive a better cost share rate like the project on US64. It was discussed that partnering wouldn’t be an option on this project since the Mills River portion of the path does not connect to the county portion. The cost is \$51,000, which is less than the initial estimate given in 2018. The TAC gave the project a favorable recommendation but asked the County Board of Commissioners to discuss independently. Vice Chair Sam Henderson made the motion and Vice Mayor Coletta seconded. Motion carried.

Ecusta Trail Business Connections:

Ms. Janna Bianculli gave a brief presentation on the Ecusta Trail Business Partners program that the Planning Department is working on. Many businesses are excited about the trail and want to benefit from the increased activity along US64 that will likely result from tourism, etc. County staff, in partnership with Town of Laurel Park and City of Hendersonville staff, are offering businesses free consultations to discuss their sites and to

assist in making them more “trail oriented”. Staff is also partnering with Blue Ridge Bicycle Club to create free maps for businesses who want to show their patrons the best and safest way to connect to the trail. Ms. Bianculli also expressed to the TAC the importance of bike/ped infrastructure as the trail is built since many people will be biking and walking from nearby areas to get on the trail. Currently, there are only sidewalks on US64 in Hendersonville, so there is a great safety concern from business and property owners regarding connecting to the trail in areas west of town.

Updates:

NCDOT Update

Please see attached document for construction and development updates.

Mr. Chuck McGrady reported that the Board of Transportation will be visiting different areas of the state this spring. They will be in WNC on April 1st. Mr. McGrady also noted that the bid for the I-26 connector came in very high and the state is struggling with that. The plan is to do some value engineering to cut costs and help the state balance the books.

Town of Laurel Park

Mr. George Banta informed the group that the paving trucks are rolling out for the Town’s 32 roads. He also gave compliments to NCDOT staff as he has met regularly with them on the US64 project, and it has gone well.

City of Hendersonville

Councilwoman Hensley stated the City is working with NCDOT on the S Main St roundabout and is moving forward with the striping project for the Ecusta Trail connection. They are also hopeful to receive some funding for stormwater control in that area.

Henderson County

Commissioner McCall reported that the Commissioners adopted the 2045 Comprehensive Plan today and will be moving forward with implementation.

Members At Large

None.

Next Meeting:

The next TAC meeting is scheduled for April 17, 2024.

The meeting adjourned at 4:51 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	44%	Jun 2024	Revised Completion TBD
I-26 Green River Bridge Rehab	\$25 M	61.7%	Jun 2024	Currently tracking behind schedule
I-4400BB, I-4400C I-26	\$271 M	81.0%	Feb 2025	On schedule – Expect Substantially Complete by 5/2024
Contract Resurfacing King St. / N. Main	\$2.5 M	85.8% (King St.)	Oct 2024	King Street – Striping delayed due to weather Church Street – Summer 2024
SM-6114C US 25 B / N. Main St.	\$875K	83.4%	Feb 2024	On schedule
BL-0007 Ecusta Trail	\$1.19 M	10%	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		Jun 2024	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	Dec 2024	Apr 2027	
N/A	SR 1586	Replace/Repair Bridge – To be accomplished by State forces – preliminary work is underway	TBD	TBD	TBD	S. Mills Gap Rd. – Jan 9 storm event
EB-5860	SR 2162	Blythe St – Construct Sidewalk	\$2.1 M	Sep 2025	Sep 2026	Non-NCDOT LET (LAP)
EB-5963	SR 1764	S. Grove St – Construct Sidewalk	\$2.7 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	Jan 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	Jul 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.