
Ashe CTP Update Recommendations Public Input Comments

- “US 221 – Ashe Memorial to Hwy 16: this has been a project that was in our previous plan and had been submitted for prioritization in the past but never quite made the cut. As far as I can tell, it never made it into the STIP. It had a SPOT ID, H190487. I don’t see this project in the recommendations. Is this a project we can add? The major conflict on this stretch of road is in front of our office and Food Lion. Then middle lanes tend to act as turn lanes and often back up traffic in both directions. There are also parking lot driveways that are offset and create conflicts with drivers turning onto 221. If not the whole stretch of highway, can we include a section of 221 for modernization (turn lanes, traffic light)?”

According to NCDOT analysis of this road segment, no recommendation for this section of road is included in the CTP Update due to the satisfactory projected daily traffic capacity to 2050, the current successful traffic operation transition from a 4 lane divided to 4 lane undivided and then to a 2 lane roadway approaching (NC 16 and NC 88), the facilitation of cars able to pass slower heavy vehicles in the section, and the considering of tight roadway constraints, relocation of utilities, impacts to businesses and shared parking along this short commercial section. Finally, the likelihood of future interactions between heavy trucks, walkers, and cyclists (which usually means severe injury and fatalities). This section can be documented in the CTP as an unaddressed deficiency and/or community interests.
- “Pedestrian and Bike Icons: does this reflect that a pedestrian and bike improvement are recommended? But not a specific type? For instance, could be a bike lane or wider shoulder, but conditions on the road will dictate? Same with pedestrian, could be a sidewalk on one side.”

Bicycle and pedestrian icons reflect that there is a bicycle and pedestrian recommendation associated with a highway recommendation.
- “NC Hwy 163 – this project is almost 9 miles long. For prioritization, is this a project we could divide into sections to improve its score and possibility of funding?”

Yes. NCDOT and the High Country RPO can evaluate for submittal of the best scoring section for funding consideration.
- “Recommendation 16 – the text implies that this project goes all the way into Jefferson, but the map makes it look a little different, like it ends at the town limits.”

The recommendation is to modernize Old Highway 16 from North Main Street to Deep Ford Road. The recommendation stops at the North Main Street and Ashe Park Road intersection and therefore appears to end at town limits on the map. The proposal ends because the roadway speed is lower with low volumes at the town limits. When this occurs, no other roadway recommendation is identified unless there is a desired change in typical roadway section (which there is not).

- “We support road diet concepts to calm traffic and add safe multi-modal facilities. Separate facilities for bike/ped preferred whenever possible! Ashe County needs more greenways for health, recreation, and tourism. Please support connectivity to local parks and projects. Add more sidewalks!”

[Comment in support of multi-modal facilities and greenways.](#)

- “Recommend a warning sign or flashing light at the intersection of Mount Jefferson Rd. and 163 – the side of Mt. Jefferson as approaching 163. Road is curvy and downhill...easy to t-bone vehicles on 163”.

[Comment has been sent to NCDOT Division 11 for evaluation and can also be documented in the CTP as a community interest.](#)

- “In support of items 1-3 on Highway recommendations. In support of items 1,2,3,4,5,7,41 on Bike/Ped Recommendations. I would love to see more pedestrian connectivity between west Jefferson and Jefferson, and also planning to connect to NPST.”

[Comment in support of CTP Update recommendations and pedestrian connectivity.](#)

- “I think the proposed bypass (# 25 on Highway Recommendations) should be made a primary item. Currently dump trucks from a local quarry and other large trucks must come right through downtown West Jefferson creating heavy congestion and potential damage to Jefferson Ave. and pedestrians.”

[Comment in support of NC 88 and Mt. Jefferson Road connector to alleviate truck traffic through town.](#)

- “I would like to see Little Horse Creek starting at the bridge at Joe Hampton and going to the Old White Oak School being added to the Ashe County Comp list as this is the worst road in Ashe County, thanks ...”.

[This section can be documented in the CTP as a community interests.](#)