

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

ROY COOPER GOVERNOR J. ERIC BOYETTE
SECRETARY

Brunswick County CTP Steering Committee Meeting June 27, 2023

2pm

1. Intro slide

a. Welcome slide by Sam.

2. Recap since February

- a. Last met in February to go over CTP after the pause.
- b. In February public involvement (PI) sessions were scheduled for May.
- c. Updated local councils and boards in March and April (adopting agencies).
- d. Committee reviewed the CTP in March and provided feedback.

3. Public Involvement

- a. Three in person sessions beginning of May, approximately 200 individuals attended the sessions.
- b. On the virtual platform (publicinput.com) there were 109 individuals who took the questionnaire.

4. Changes based on public involvement feedback

- a. NC 87 through BSL: Sam, Nicole and Mark stated the need to change the project from a 5-lane roadway to 3-lane but keep the MU lane. This project will be changed from 5 lanes to 3 lanes. In P6.0 they submitted the project as a 3-lane project, so the recommendation on the CTP will remain consistent with what was submitted in prioritization. Nicole will send a final confirmation in the next few days. Nicole asked a question regarding traffic lights, Nazia and Sam explained that is not something done in a long-range plan, but Sam will assist them with certain location intersections.
- b. NC 179: certain individuals were not in favor of this project. However, the project is in SPOT 5.0 and 6.0, GSATS 2040 MTP, there are congestion issues, it is on the Cape Fear Bike and Pedestrian Plan, it is on the ECG Plan, and there is an express design being done. Mark asked how many people need to object to the project for us not to include it, Nazia stated there really is no number. Adrienne let us know they are communicating with the town and the town is concerned it is being over-designed. Division 3 will continue conversations with the town, but for now, we decided to the leave the project as is until we hear from Division again. Mark stated that there is a major need for the project and added that it crosses into South Carolina with the ECG project. Mark is hoping to be resolve the issue with communication amongst GSATS, Division 3 and the town.
- c. In Oak Island, there were comments about adding sidewalks on Beach Drive, where there are bike lanes in place sporadically. However, after speaking with Matt Kirkland, we decided not to include the

- sidewalks due to the existing homes being very close to the roadway, there is already conflict between the vehicular traffic and existing bike lanes, in terms of space and safety. Matt agreed to the statements that were made, since it is very tightly spaced, and there are existing driveways on both sides.
- d. In Southport, there were comments about converting the recommended sidewalk to a multi-use lane on E. Moore Street. Nazia stated that she and Sam spoke to Travis Henley at Southport, and we agreed it would be a great idea to convert the recommendation into a MU lane. Terry Pierce was in favor of the change from just sidewalk to MU lane. Sam added that the alignment was either on the ECG or very close to it, so that helped in the decision making to change the project and accommodate for bicyclists. This change will be made.
- e. Caswell Beach town employees and elected officials sent a letter and came to the PI sessions, they asked for the park-and-ride recommendation to be removed as well as bike lane along Caswell Beach Road. Nazia explained that the park-and-ride recommendations were to help in parking situations along the town, and the bike lane recommendation came from the Cape Fear Regional Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan. Nazia stated these two projects will be removed since the request has some from the Town Manager and their Board. Joseph Pierce explained that the roadway is already very tight and confined and would not be able to handle a bicycle lane. For the park-and-ride, Mr. Pierce explained that the park-and-ride would be on Duke's land, and the financial implications that go along with the wear and tear of the vans dropping visitors off at the beach. Mr. Pierce also explained that previously the Board was told the projects were removed by a previous administrator, and they had concerns that they were not removed. These recommendations will be removed soon.

f. Additional feedback

- i. Crosswalks: Nazia will work with Craig Eckert on a chapter in the appendix on crosswalks especially as it relates to school crossings.
- ii. EV Chargers: Nazia will include a chapter in the appendix for EV changers. Gene Smith stated that including EV chargers at the colleges would be a great idea. Nazia will work with Gene Smith in determining certain locations where EV chargers will be beneficial. Sam stated that considering the increase in funding opportunities for infrastructure like EV chargers, it would be a good idea to include a chapter on them.

5. Final Feedback:

- a. Nazia stated that there are always chances for reviews and input until we go to adoptions, so she encouraged the committee to look through the report any time and provide feedback. She also stated that most of the feedback has been incorporated thus far, she is still working on BSL's feedback that was received a few weeks ago.
- b. This is the last steering committee meeting, the committee met for 10 months from end of 2020 to end of 2021, a pause most of 2022, and then twice this year so far. The committee has gone through all the materials in the CTP.
- c. Recap: there was a robust survey in 2021, we had successful PI sessions, updated local council and boards throughout the CTP, and have incorporated projects from various state, federal and local plans as well as vision projects.







6. Next Steps

- a. Sam went over the next steps. Sam stated changes will be made to the CTP based on conversations during this meeting.
- b. The committee will have two weeks to review the updated <u>draft CTP</u>, TPD management will also be reviewing the CTP based on decisions made during this meeting as well as before adoptions.
- c. After initial reviews by committee and management, Sam and Nazia will go to the local adopting agencies for presentations, give them some time to review the CTP, then come back for final adoptions. After local adoptions, NCDOT BOT will adopt the plan.

7. Adjourn





