



STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA  
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

ROY COOPER  
GOVERNOR

J. ERIC BOYETTE  
SECRETARY

**Brunswick County CTP Steering Committee Meeting**  
**Survey Results**  
**July 22, 2021**  
3pm

**1. Survey Results Review**

- a. Overview
  - i. There were 6,969 Total Surveys and 8,387 Total Free Response comments received
  - ii. The free response comments are direct input that respondents provided
- b. Demographics
  - i. The survey demographics align closely with Brunswick County census data for age and ethnicity
  - ii. The majority of survey respondents were residents of Brunswick County
  - iii. Almost 70% of respondents have two resident households and the majority of respondents have two or more vehicles
- c. Survey Responses on Ranking Transportation goals
  - i. "Reduce Congestion" was the number one choice as the most important goal among all survey respondents followed by maintenance and transportation safety
- d. Survey Responses on Biking Priorities
  - i. Multi-use paths were designated by a number of respondents as very important, and this trend can be seen throughout the entire survey
  - ii. Bicycle lanes and more clear signage were also deemed as very important priorities. More clear signage is referred to as being for drivers and for bicyclists on the roads
- e. Survey Responses on Pedestrian Priorities
  - i. A common theme was a substantial interest in multi-use paths. Additionally, there was a lot of interest in new sidewalks and signage
- f. Survey Responses on Transit Services
  - i. There is interest in transit but there isn't as much interest in fixed routes as there is for on-demand routes
  - ii. Many respondents would like to see more ferry routes, especially, to and from the islands
  - iii. Helen Bunch asked if survey respondents specifically stated ferry to/from routes or if the comments were general
    1. Both types of comments were seen in the survey
- g. Survey Responses on Transportation Safety

- i. Many comments expressed a lack of interest in roundabouts and asking for no more to be built because it slows traffic down; however, there were also many comments that expressed a desire for more roundabouts to be added
  - 1. Alan Pytcher mentioned that he received a presentation on Roundabouts from the central office that could be added in the CTP
    - a. It was suggested to link this presentation into the project sheets with roundabout projects along that corridor
    - b. It was suggested to add this presentation into the public input site during public involvement
    - c. If there are no roundabout projects in the CTP, then a section for roundabouts will be included in the appendices
  - ii. Multimodal safety was very important to respondents. They would like to see a designated space for bicyclists/pedestrians. There were mixed responses as to whether to provide space for bicyclists/pedestrians on the roadway or on multi-use paths
  - iii. Respondents found turn lanes to be very important; one project being proposed is to add turn lanes on Hickman Rd
  - iv. Other comments pointed out speeding, crosswalks, and sight distance. They even mentioned trash along roadways
- h. Survey Responses on Additional Questions
  - i. There were mixed responses for park and ride lots and railroad crossings. These categories were somewhat important to people
  - ii. Roadway flooding was very important to survey respondents. There were many comments pointing out NC 133 for flooding issues
- i. Survey Responses from Map It Section
  - i. Comments were highly concentrated to the southern portion of the county below US 17, in the Southport area, along US 17 in Shallotte, along NC 211, in Sunset Beach and in Calabash
  - ii. There were several comments about adding bike lanes, new sidewalks, and new bus routes

## 2. CTP Input from the Survey

- a. A number of projects came out of the survey
  - i. Highway Projects
    - 1. NC 133 from Wilmington MPO border - Resiliency
    - 2. Hickman Rd from SC border to US 17 - Modernization
    - 3. US 17 from eastern old ocean highway to Wilmington MPO border – Access Management
  - ii. Bike/Ped projects
    - 1. NC 133 from Oak Island to Oak Island Bridge
    - 2. NC 130 from US 17 BUS to Holden Beach Rd
- b. One project was not incorporated into the CTP due to lack of ROW
  - i. US 17 BUS through Shallotte
    - 1. Dan Newquist mentioned that GSATs submitted an alternative proposal along this corridor for a signal coordination project to improve existing congestion. He also mentioned that widening would not be a viable solution



- a. Patrick Flanagan suggested incorporating the language from the proposal for the signal coordination project and add it to this CTP to address the concerns and comments from the survey
- 2. Helen Bunch suggested a solution of re-routing NC 130 to connect with US 17 and Smith Avenue toward Holden Beach to redirect non-local traffic
  - a. Patrick Flanagan suggested adding/changing signage as an interim solution

### 3. Discussion

- a. Tom Woods asked when it was anticipated that the turn lanes on Hickman Rd and NC 31 would be built
  - i. A specific date cannot be determined at this time
  - ii. Patrick Flanagan mentioned that it is worth pursuing an interim solution
- b. Tom Woods stated that half of Hickman Rd is in South Carolina and asked if there is a similar project to make enhancements to their side of Hickman Rd. He mentioned that the recommendations should include some enhancements to the intersection of SC 9 and Hickman Rd
  - i. Dan Newquist mentioned two intersection improvement projects along the Hickman Rd corridor. Division 3 has intersection improvement proposal at US 17 and Hickman Rd which includes entrance of Brunswick Plantation (signalized reduced conflict intersection). He also stated that his agency is working on a project at the intersection of SC 111 and Hickman Rd
  - ii. Dan Newquist mentioned that his agency's project to install a stoplight at the intersection of SC 111 and Hickman Rd is just below the NC/SC state line. Turn lanes will also be added on approaches to the side streets. There is no current project on the TIP for the SC 9 and Hickman Rd intersection
  - iii. Helen Bunch mentioned that NCDOT is using safety money to fund a number of projects on Hickman Rd to address the safety issues
  - iv. Alan Pytcher mentioned that there is a safety project at Ash Little River Rd and Hickman Rd to add a signal
- c. Tom Woods asked how driverless vehicles are being accounted for in long range planning. He stated that a driverless vehicle corridor that runs from Calabash through Shallotte through Southport and Leland up to Wilmington should be considered.
  - i. Chris Palsgrove mentioned that all long range plans are updated every 5 years and these plans will shift as the driverless technology evolves
  - ii. Patrick Flanagan stated that on major corridors NCDOT is providing conduit for fiber so that internet can be attained for connected vehicles in the future. He mentioned that for this plan, a statement could be added that says something like "if there is a major improvement to this roadway as they are doing the ROW and utility work, we would like to see a conduit put in place for future internet rollout that would accommodate internet needs for connected vehicles in the future"
  - iii. Nazia suggested adding the statement to the appendices of the CTP
- d. Tom Woods asked that Med Center Drive not be overlooked. He mentioned that this is a popular destination for many Brunswick County residents.
  - i. Chris mentioned that many comments from the survey included Med Center Drive as a location to pay attention to and supported transit options to this area

- e. Mayor Marston asked if there was a project proposal for the connection between Midway Rd and Galloway Rd
  - i. Chris Palsgrove stated that one of the proposed projects in the CTP is to realign Galloway Rd so that it connects with Midway Rd
  - ii. Helen Bunch suggested adding signage to direct traffic to US 17 away from Bolivia
    - 1. Nazia Sarder recommended adding this into the recommendation sheet for this project

#### 4. **Upcoming: Public Involvement Sessions**

- a. Sessions will be primarily virtual and will take place on publicinput.com
  - i. Some features of the site include the ability to post a video describing the CTP as well as host live sessions and collect a log of comments
  - ii. Patrick Flanagan asked the committee if they would like to preview the public input site before public involvement sessions begin
    - 1. The committee stated that they would be open to reviewing the site
    - 2. Nazia suggested hosting a meeting to discuss the public input site with the NCDOT public involvement office
- b. At least one in-person session is anticipated
- c. Steering Committee members are encouraged to participate in Public Involvement Sessions when possible

#### 5. **Next Steps**

- a. Creation of the CTP Report
- b. The date of the next committee meeting is TBD
  - i. Most likely will be in the Fall/Winter after public involvement sessions

