

MACON COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE TRANSPORTATION PLAN

Steering Committee Meeting #8

January 16, 2020, 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM

SCC Groves Center, 44 Siler Farm Rd., Franklin NC

Agenda

- | | |
|---------|--|
| 1:00 PM | Welcome and Review |
| 1:10 PM | Prioritizing Funding for Transportation Projects |
| 1:40 PM | Highway Deficiencies and Draft Recommendations |
| 2:20 PM | Draft Bicycle Recommendations |
| 2:40 PM | Wrap-Up and Next Steps |
| 2:50 PM | Adjourn |

MACON COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE TRANSPORTATION PLAN

Steering Committee Meeting #8 Summary

January 16, 2020, 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM

Southwestern Community College Groves Center, Franklin

Attendees:

Name	Representing	Present
Joe Allen	Macon County Planning Dept.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Kim Angel	Macon County Transit	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mitchell Bishop	NCDOT Division 14	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Warren Cabe	Macon County Emergency Management	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Jennifer Garrett	Macon County Health Dept.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Todd Gibbs	Macon County Schools	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Tommy Gilbert	Macon County Transit	<input type="checkbox"/>
Pete Haithcock	Macon County Airport Authority	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Tommy Jenkins	Macon County Economic Development Commission	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ben Laseter	Mainspring Deputy Director	<input type="checkbox"/>
Cory McCall	Outdoor 76	<input type="checkbox"/>
Jack Morgan	Macon County Planning Director	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Justin Setser	Franklin Town Planner	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Kathy Tinsley	Macon County Planning Board	<input type="checkbox"/>
Michael Mathis	Highlands Town Planner	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Rose Bauguess	Southwestern Commission	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Roger Castillo	NCDOT Transportation Planning Division	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
James Upchurch	NCDOT Transportation Planning Division	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Steve Williams	NCDOT Division 14	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Troy Wilson	NCDOT Division 14	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Total attendees: 15

Summary of Agenda Items

Prioritization Overview

Rose Bauguess presented an overview of NCDOT's Prioritization process, whereby projects identified in the CTP are prioritized for potential funding and implementation. This is an ongoing process, which results in an updated State Transportation Improvement Program every two-to-three years.

Highway Deficiencies and Recommendations

Roger Castillo presented a summary of potential highway projects to include as recommendations in the CTP. The Steering Committee provided extensive feedback on each of them.

Summary of Action Items

The following action items were identified during the meeting:

- Provide comments on Goals and Objectives
- Provide comments on Bicycle Destinations

Next Steps

The next Steering Committee meeting will be held **Thursday, February 20, 2020**, from 1:00 PM to 3:00 PM at the Southwestern Community College Groves Center Conference Room on Siler Farm Road. Tentative agenda items for the next meeting include:

- Draft Transit Recommendations
- Draft Bicycle Recommendations
- Draft Pedestrian Recommendations

MACON COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE TRANSPORTATION PLAN Steering Committee Meeting #8

JANUARY 16, 2020



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Agenda – Meeting #8

- 1:00 PM Welcome and Review
- 1:10 PM Prioritizing Funding for Transportation Projects
- 1:30PM Highway Deficiencies and Draft Recommendations
- 2:00 PM Draft Bicycle Recommendations
- 2:30 PM Wrap-Up and Next Steps
- 2:40 PM Adjourn

Floating break

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Review

Meeting #1 – March 26, 2019

- Intro to CTP
- Roles and Responsibilities
- From Planning to Implementation
- Visioning Exercise

Meeting #2 – May 2, 2019

- Stakeholder Representation Matrix
- Vision Statement
- Draft Public Input Survey

Meeting #3 – May 30, 2019

- Survey Distribution and Marketing Plan
- Facility Types and CTP Study Roads
- Macon County Commuting Patterns

Meeting #4 – June 26, 2019

- Future Growth Rate Methodology
- Review Base-Year Highway Maps

Meeting #5 – August 27, 2019

- Public Survey Results
- Bicycle and Pedestrian Crash Data
- Bicycle and Pedestrian Existing Plans
- Macon County Demographics Quiz

Meeting #6 – October 3, 2019

- Finalize Vision Statement
- Macon County Transit Overview
- Population and Employment Projections

Meeting #7 – November 7, 2019

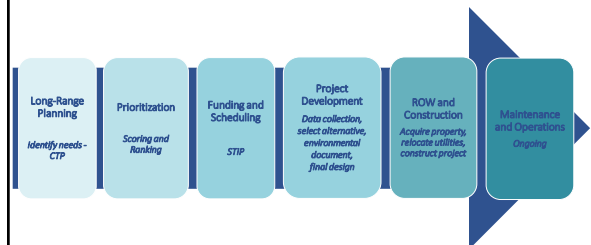
- Develop Goals and Objectives
- Approve Future Traffic Volumes
- Approve Future Road Capacities

Meeting #8 – January 16, 2020

- Prioritization Overview
- Highway Recommendations

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Prioritization 102



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Previous Perception



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Transportation Reform

Public wanted politics removed from decision-making



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2013 Strategic Transportation Investments Law

Prioritization Process is now in Law

"The Department shall develop and utilize a process for selection of transportation projects that is based on professional standards in order to most efficiently use limited resources to benefit all citizens of the State.

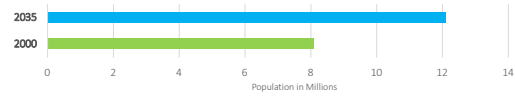
The strategic prioritization process should be a systematic, data-driven process that includes a combination of quantitative data, qualitative input, and multimodal characteristics, and should include local input.

The Department shall develop a process for standardizing or approving local methodology used in Metropolitan Planning Organization and Rural Transportation Planning Organization prioritization." - S.L. 2012-84

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Strategic Transportation Investments (STI) Law – The Why

Growing state

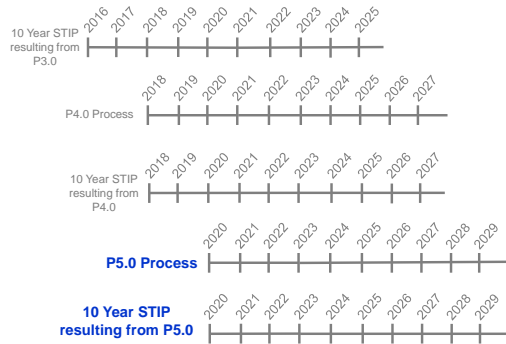


Modernize funding formula and remove politics

Better connect people, products, and places

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How Prioritization and STIP Correlate



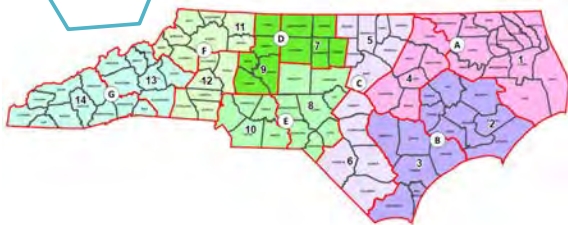
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Prioritization Funding Categories



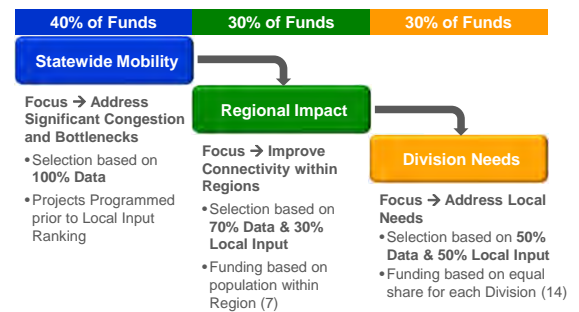
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regions & divisions






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Strategic Transportation Investments



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Funding Categories – Southwestern RPO

		
Statewide Mobility <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Interstates and major US routes across the state SWRPO competes with all of North Carolina's 100 counties for Statewide funds. 100% quantitative data, with no local input points. 	Regional Impact <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regional connectivity on smaller US Highways and NC routes. US 23, US 441, US 64, NC 106 Seven funding regions in the state; SWRPO is part of Region G, which includes the 17 western counties in NCDOT Divisions 13 and 14. 70% quantitative score and 30% local input. The 30% local input is divided equally between the SWRPO (15%) and NCDOT Division 14 (15%). 	Division Needs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Secondary roads and non-highway modes (aviation, bicycle/pedestrian, public transit, and rail) The SWRPO's six counties compete with the 10 western counties within NCDOT Division 14 for these funds. 50% quantitative data and 50% local input. The 50% local input is divided equally between the SWRPO (25%) and NCDOT Division 14 (25%).

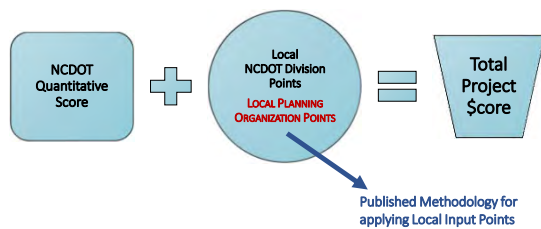
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STI Law Highway Scoring Overview

Mode	Statewide Mobility	Regional Impact	Division Needs
Overall Weights	100% Quantitative Data	70% Quantitative Data / 30% Local Input	50% Quantitative Data / 50% Local Input
Quantitative Criteria	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Benefit-Cost Congestion Economic Comp. Safety Freight Multimodal Pavement Condition Lane Width Shoulder Width 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Benefit-cost Congestion Safety Freight Multimodal Pavement Condition Lane Width Shoulder Width Accessibility and connectivity to employment centers, tourist destinations, or military installations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Benefit-cost Congestion Safety Freight Multimodal Pavement Condition Lane Width Shoulder Width Accessibility and connectivity to employment centers, tourist destinations, or military installations

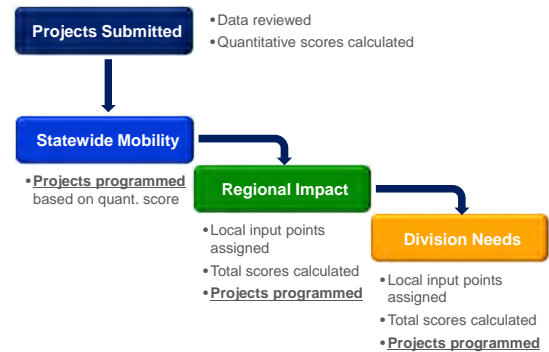
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Scoring Process



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Scoring Process



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Prioritization Workgroup

§ 136-189.11. Transportation Investment Strategy Formula.

(h) Improvement of Prioritization Process. – *The Department shall endeavor to continually improve the methodology and criteria used to score highway and non-highway projects pursuant to this Article, including the use of normalization techniques, and methods to strengthen the data collection process. The Department is directed to continue the use of a workgroup process to develop improvements to the prioritization process.*

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P6.0 Highway Scoring Changes

MOBILITY SCORING

Regional Impact

Congestion = 20%
Benefit-Cost = 20%
Safety = 10%
Freight = 10%
Accessibility/Connectivity = 10%

Division Needs

Congestion = 15%
Benefit-Cost = 15%
Safety = 10%
Freight = 5%
Accessibility/Connectivity = 5%

MODERNIZATION SCORING


Regional Impact


Congestion = 5%
Safety = 25%
Freight = 10%
Lane Width = 10%
Shoulder Width = 10%
Pavement Condition = 10%

Division Needs

Safety = 20%
Freight = 5%
Lane Width = 5%
Shoulder Width = 10%
Pavement Condition = 10%

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 **NORTH CAROLINA**
Department of Transportation



Meeting #8

Roger Castillo
January 16, 2020

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ncdot.gov Macon County CTP

Key things to consider for highway recommendation

- Meeting the community's vision
- Addressing the transportation deficiency
- Minimizing impacts to the natural and human environment

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Examples of Key Identified Needs

- Legislative Intent;
- Congestion;
- Safety;
- Facility Deficiencies;
- Access;
- System Linkage;
- Mobility;
- Emergency Evacuation.
- Environmental Protection;
- Growth/Economic Development; and
- National Defense/Security.


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Typical Sections

TYPICAL SECTION No. 2A
2 LANE UNDIVIDED WITH PAVED SHOULDERS




POSTED SPEED 55 MPH

TYPICAL SECTION No. 2B
2 LANE UNDIVIDED WITH PAVED SHOULDERS




POSTED SPEED 25-45 MPH

TYPICAL SECTION No. 4A
4 LANE DIVIDED (DEPRESSED MEDIAN) WITH PAVED SHOULDERS



POSTED SPEED 45-55 MPH

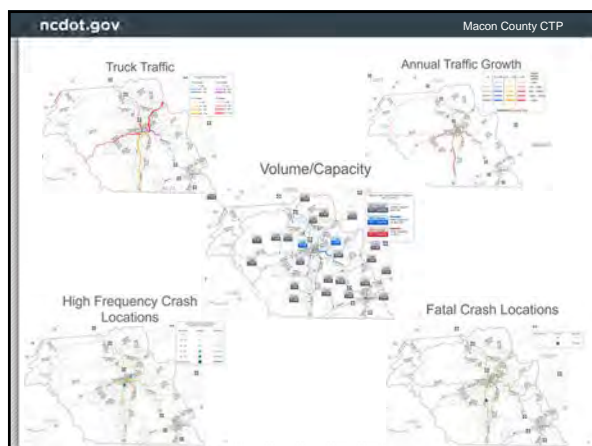
TYPICAL SECTION No. 4B
4 LANE DIVIDED (2' RAISED MEDIAN) WITH PAVED SHOULDERS AND SIDEWALKS



POSTED SPEED 45-55 MPH

4

4



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ncdot.gov

Contacts

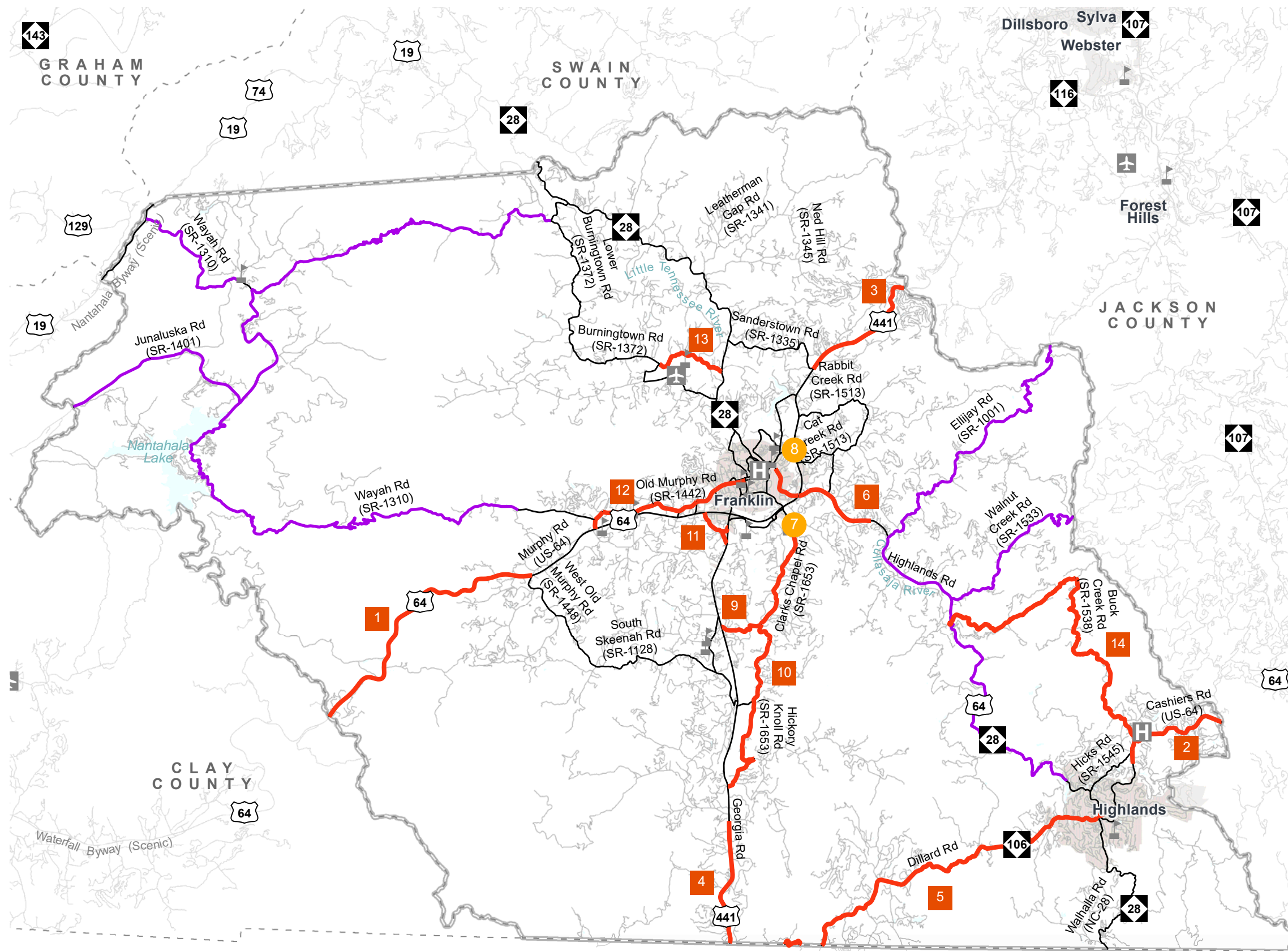
- NCDOT Transportation Planning Division (TPD)
 - **Roger Castillo**, rcastillo@ncdot.gov, (919) 707-0942 (Project Engineer)
- Southwestern Rural Planning Organization (RPO)
 - **Rose Bauguess**, rose@regiona.org, (828) 586-1962 x 213
- NCDOT Division 14 Planning Engineer
 - **Steve Williams**, sjwilliams@ncdot.gov, (828) 631-1170

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DRAFT Roadway Recommendations

#	Segment	From	To	Category	# of Markers	Summary of Comments	Previous CTP	Purpose/Need	Recommendation
1	US 64	Clay County	West old Murphy Road	Modernization	11	-8 of the comments indicated the need of a climbing lane due to trucks and slower traffic -1 stated a 4 lane to continue -1 discussed maintanance	Yes	Regional mobility and travel time reliability. Freight movement.	Would not be waranted a 4 lane. Modernization with climbing lanes. Warrant a 4 ft paved shoulder
2	US 64	Highlands City Limits	Jackson	Modernization	2	-2 comments: Road needs upgrade	Yes	Connector to Cashiers. Safety	Bringing road up to standards. Need shoulders. Lane width. Possible need for climbing lane (may not be feasible).
3	US 23	Sanderstown Road	Jackson	Modernization	8	-8 comments: Dangerous road especially around Gold City Lane	Yes	Mobility from Asheville to Atlanta	Divided 4 lane limited left turn movement.
4	US 441 (Georgia Road)	Georgia	Hickory Knoll Road	Modernization	15	-5 comments stated water runoff problems on this road and hydroplaning -3 comments stated intersection issues -7 empty markers	Yes	Numerous driveway cuts, unsignalized left turns, and density of traffic signals. Crashes along this road. Mobility from Asheville to Atlanta.	continute from current projects. Getting ahead of development
5	NC 106	Georgia	US 64	Modernization	6	-6 comments stated to upgrade or modernize the road	Yes	Truck Traffic and connectivity. One of the few ways to access highlands. System Linkage	Widen Lane and shoulder to standards. Climbing Lanes
6	NC 28	US 441 BUS (Main Street)	Sugarfork Road	Congestion	17	-5 comments: Signal Timing/Confusing signs/layout -4 comments: Truck Traffic/better signals for truck turnaround -2 comments: Sight obstruction -3 comments: Widen -4 comments: other	Yes	Congestion; over capacity.	Previous CTP had a boulevard between Main St and US 23. For the part between US 23 and Sugarfor: 12ft lanes and paved shoulders
7	Clarks Chapel Road	Clarks Chapel Road	Wells Grove Road	Intersection	8	-3 comments: Traffic Congestion During School Times/requires 2 deputies -2 comments: Hard to see incoming traffic -3 comments: Other	No		
8	Main Street	Main Street	US 23/441	Intersection	13	-4 comments: This intersection is poorly designed -5comments: Dangerous merge area/access -2 comments: Crash -1 comment: Congestion -1 comment: Sight Distance	No	Safety. Regional Mobility. Signal issues. Travel time reliability. No Pedestrian Access. Poor Sight Distance. Crashes	
9	Prentiss Bridge Road	US 441 (Georgia Road)	Clarks Chapel Road	Modernization	3	-2 comments: Need to be widened -1 comment: River Pollution	No	8 ft lanes. Links to schools	Widen Lane and shoulder to standards
10	Riverside Hickory Knoll Clarks Chapel	US 441 (Georgia Road)	Prentiss Bridge Road	Modernization	6	-1 comment: Intersection problem at Prentiss -1 comment: Narrow Lanes -1 comment: Crash problem -3 empty markers	No	8ft lanes. Links to schools	Widen Lane and shoulder to standards
11	Roller Mill Road	US 64	US 441 (Georgia Road)	Modernization	4	-3 comments: Limited Sight Distance/Dangerous Cruves -1 comment: widen with bike/ped imporvements	No	Sight distance issues. Narrow Lanes. Often used as a shortcut.	Widen Lane and shoulder to standards
12	Old Murphy Road/Palmer	Wayah Road	W Main Street	Modernization	3	-2 comments: Traffic too fast -1 comment: Narrow between Wilkie St and Main St	Partial	Parallel to US 64. Near Capacity. Narrow Lanes	intersection improvements. Lane Width, paved shoulders, turn lanes where warranted.
13	lotla Church Road	NC 28	Burningtown Road	Modernization	1	-1 comment: Traffic with elementary school	Yes	Access to airport and schools. Mobility and reliability	Widen Lane and shoulder to standards
14	Buck Creek Road	US 64	US 64	Modernization	0	-	Yes	Travel time reliability and mobility. Alternate route from the gorge.	Widen Lane and shoulder to standards



DRAFT RECOMMENDATIONS



MACON COUNTY Comprehensive Transportation Plan

- Recommendation
- Not Feasible
- Intersections



Full report at:
<https://tinyurl.com/MaconCTP>



Sheet 1 of 1

Base map date: March 18, 2019

Legal Disclaimer

This product contains mapping data for informational and planning purposes only, and is subject to change. Users should review or consult the primary data sources to ascertain the usability of the information.

WORKING COPY
Plan Date: January 15, 2020

DRAFT RECOMMENDATIONS



MACON COUNTY Comprehensive Transportation Plan

- Recommendation
- Not Feasible
- Intersections



Full report at:
<https://tinyurl.com/MaconCTP>

0 0.5 1 Miles



Sheet 4 of 4

Base map date: March 18, 2019

Legal Disclaimer

These concepts will need additional analysis to meet state and federal environmental regulations, to determine final locations and designs, and to be funded for implementation. Local zoning or subdivision ordinances may require the dedication of right of way based on the concepts shown on the Comprehensive Transportation Plan and local collector street plans, based on N.C.G.S. § 136-66.2 and § 136-66.10.

WORKING COPY
Plan Date: January 15, 2020