

Transylvania County Comprehensive Transportation Plan (CTP) Meeting #8

NCDOT Transportation Planning Division (TPD)

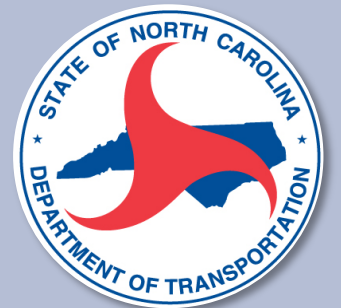
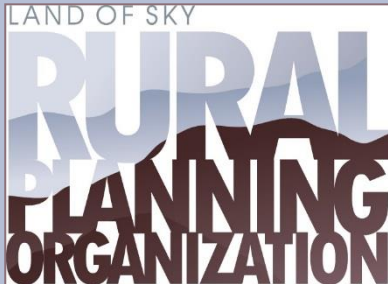
Daniel Sellers, PE

Land of Sky Rural Planning Organization (LOSRPO)

Vicki Eastland

Transylvania County Transportation

April Alm



Welcome and Introductions



Vicki Eastland, LOSRPO
June 29, 2020

Agenda

3:00 PM Welcome and Introductions

3:05 PM Open group discussion about Identified needs from last meeting

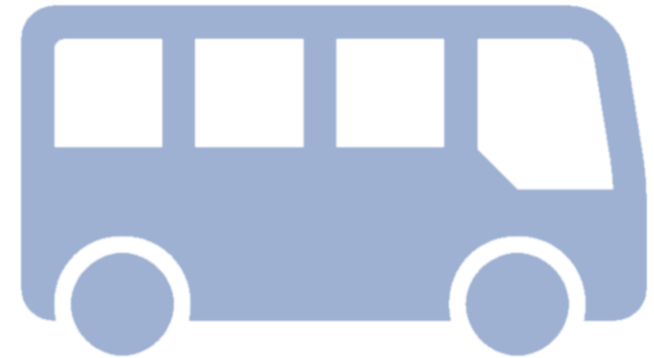
3:20 PM Public Transit

4:15 PM Next STEPS

4:25 pm Next meeting Date

Transit Element

- Service Area /Demographics
- Existing Services
- Recommended Projects



Service Area /Demographics

Transylvania County Public Transportation provides demand response – door-to-door transportation services for the residents of Transylvania County. Transylvania County is comprised of one city, Brevard, which is the county seat, the town of Rosman and 13 unincorporated communities.

Transylvania County's Transportation service area demographics represent 37% Seniors, 16% persons living with disabilities, 8.8% minority and 14.7% of Transylvania County residents are below poverty level (Census.gov: 2018 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates).

Transylvania County Transportation performed 28,005 trips in FY19 and 26,459 trips in FY20.

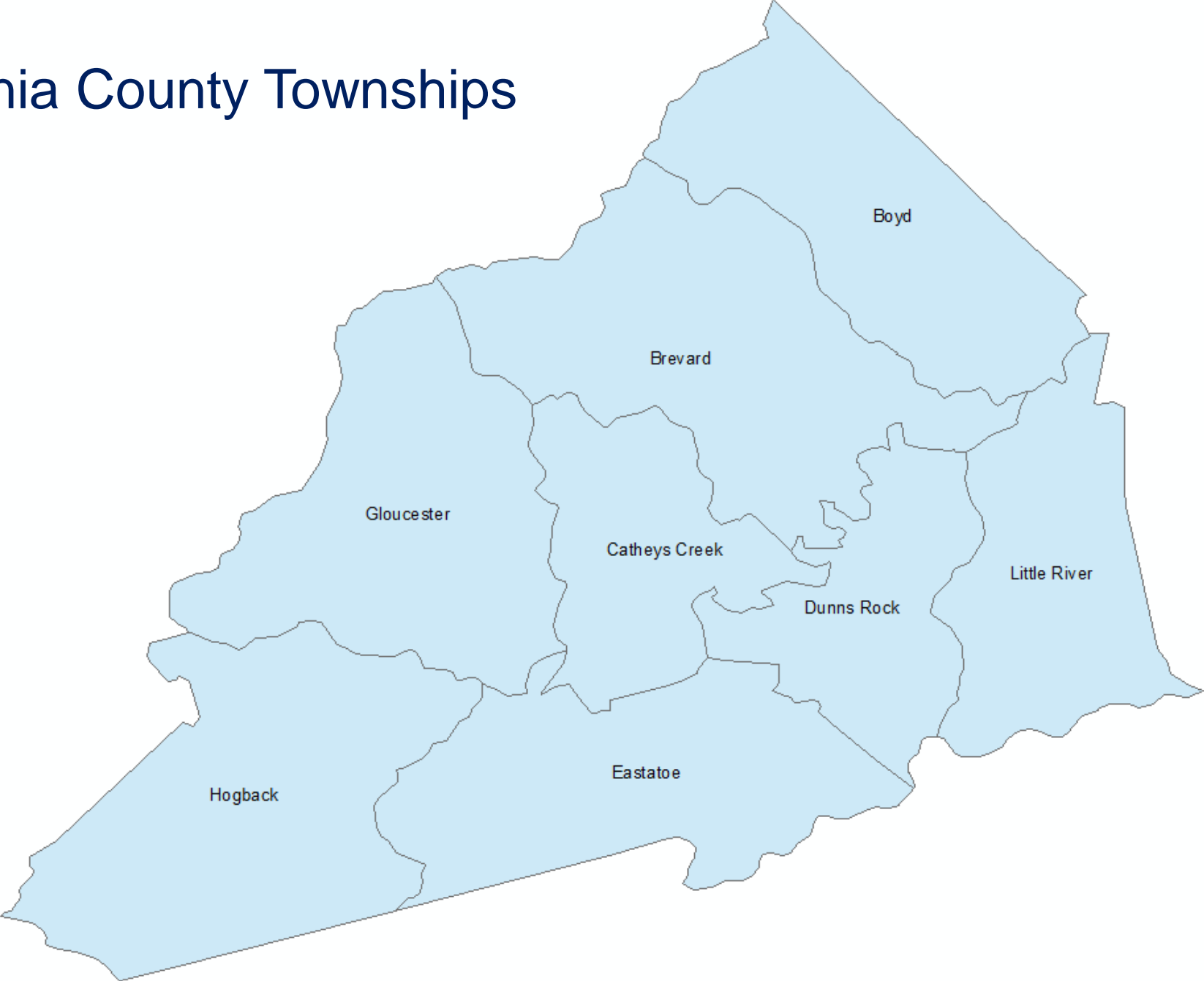
Vehicles per Household

	No vehicles available		One vehicle available		Two vehicles available		Three or more vehicles available	
	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count
Transylvania County	4.2%	587	30.3%	4284	43.5%	6137	22.1%	3115
Boyd township	6%	94	25.8%	407	43.8%	691	24.5%	387
Brevard township	5.1%	251	40.8%	2026	42.1%	2089	12%	596
Cathey's Creek	2.8%	46	25.8%	426	25.8%	426	45.6%	753
Dunn's Rock	1.6%	37	25.7%	579	52%	1169	20.6%	464
Eastatoe township	5.9%	74	25%	314	44.4%	558	24.8%	312
Gloucester township	8.4%	31	19.5%	72	44.7%	165	27.4%	101
Hogback township	1.8%	18	24%	237	55.1%	543	19.1%	188
Little River township	3.4%	36	20.9%	223	46.4%	496	29.4%	314

Census.gov: 2018 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates

587 households in Transylvania County had no vehicles available and 4,284 households had one vehicle. 8.4 % of households in the Gloucester township did not have at least one vehicle.

Transylvania County Townships



Existing Services

Transylvania County Public Transportation provides demand response – door-to-door transportation services (scheduled by appointment) for the residents of Transylvania County. The county also contracts with a local service provider to supplement their services offering a discounted rate. Requests for transportation must be made prior to 10:00 am at least one (1) workday in advance. The service is in operation Monday through Friday.

A demand response system is one where passenger trips are generated by calls from passengers for advanced scheduling and then the transportation system dispatches a vehicle to pick the passengers up and transport them to their destinations.

Transylvania County Transportation has a fleet of seven (7) vehicles, three of which are lift-equipped paratransit vans.

Recommended Projects

The recommendation of this plan is to identify expansion opportunities while improving efficiency and effectiveness of services.

Areas of focus for recommended projects to address:

- Service Expansion
- Regional Coordination
- Service Alternatives
- Innovative approaches to Marketing and Outreach

Previous Transylvania County Comprehensive Transportation Plan

The previous Transylvania County Comprehensive Transportation Plan identified three recommended public transportation projects:

- **Bus Service between Brevard and Asheville Regional Airport**

A fixed-route bus service is proposed that would connect Brevard with the Asheville Regional Airport via NC 280.

- **Bus Service between Brevard and Hendersonville**

A fixed-route bus service is proposed that would connect Brevard with Hendersonville via US 64.

- **Feeder Shuttle Service (connect the Rosman area with Brevard via US 64)**

A feeder shuttle service is proposed that would connect the Rosman area with Brevard via US 64.

Transylvania County Community Transportation Service Plan, February 2011

The Transylvania County Community Transportation Service Plan from 2011 identified Transportation Operation and Service Alternatives:

- **County-Wide Demand Response Transportation Zones**

Plan identified means of dividing County into three separate zones and use one vehicle to operate general public demand responsive service within each zone.

- **Point Deviation**

This type of route blends the structure of fixed route service with the flexibility of demand responsive service. The vehicle would be scheduled to arrive/depart at specific points at specific times, but the route traveled between those scheduled times is dictated by passenger requests.

- **Flexible Fixed Route Service**

This route deviation service would be during the midday period that would operate between the City of Brevard and Pisgah Forest.

Regional Transportation Options

There are currently no public transportation systems that provide Transportation into Transylvania County at this time. Plan recommends regional service connecting service to Buncombe County and Henderson County based from the park and ride facility near Asheville Regional Airport.

French Broad River MPO & Land of Sky RPO –

Coordinated Public Transit-Human Services Transportation Plan (adopted February 2018)

The following recommendations were compiled from stakeholder and public input sessions that were held at each of the five counties in the region (Buncombe, Haywood, Henderson, Madison, and Transylvania).

For Transylvania County:

1. Expand and/or maintain service across multiple jurisdictions (Asheville to Black Mountain, Hendersonville to Fletcher, etc.)
2. Target transportation to and from jobs, interviews, applications for jobs and job skill
3. Extend hours of service to cover nights, weekends, and holidays
4. Improve coordination and collaboration between transit agencies for greater efficiencies with cross-county trips
5. Develop new fixed route and deviated fixed route service

In Progress:

- **Continue preparation of Fixed Route expected to begin this Fall.**

Transportation has been working with NCDOT and the RPO on a fixed/deviated fixed route system for a little over two years including multi-modal modeling and mapping out how to use the rural transit funds to transition the system and serve more people. This is expected to move forward into implementation in the coming year providing fixed route service between Rosman and Pisgah Forest. Funding for implementation has been approved with the County budget for FY 21.

Service (Monday through Friday, 7:00am – 5:00pm; Saturday: 10:00 am – 2:00 pm)

- **Continued Program Preparation for New Marketing Campaign**

Transportation has been seeking a new acronym to reflect a new look / attitude for Transportation.

Future Goals

- Expand van service in underserved areas of County
 - Going farther into rural areas where van transportation is currently unavailable
 - Creating grocery store and shopping trips on designated days during the week
- Connect Van Service with Henderson County and Buncombe County – designated transfer locations
- Extend hours of service to cover nights and weekends; Initial steps may begin with Saturday service
- Work with local medical providers and local funding opportunities to help support rural transportation for medical appointments

Topics of Discussion

- Multiple Fixed Route Options
- Finding efficient means to provide transportation of residents who may be located more than 30 minutes away from the county seat of Brevard, where most city resources are available.
- Services are based on demand and funding
- Rate of growth – expansion capabilities

NCDOT Project Prioritization P6.0

On Monday, March 9, 2020 the Board of Commissioners unanimously approved the following Non-Highway projects that the Transylvania County Planning & Community Development staff recommended for NCDOT funding through the NCDOT Project Prioritization Process (P6.0):

Bike/Ped Projects

- Multi-Use Paths from US 178 along US 64 to S. Caldwell
- Multi-Use Path from Main St, Rosman along Old Rosman Hwy to Rosman Community Park (Extension to Hwy 64)
- Multi-Use Path from Falls Café, Lake Toxaway to Gorges State Park
- Pedestrian Bridge behind Rosman Town Hall connecting to Rosman Elementary

Public Transportation Projects

- Park and Ride Lots with Shelters: NC 280 E. - Turkey Pen Gap and Pisgah Forest - Deavor Road
- Public Transportation Shelter Locations: Rosman Park & Ride, Rosman Dollar General & Korner Mart Gas Station, County Government Square - Morgan St, E French Broad St & N Broad St - Parking Lot, Medical Park Dr and near BRCC
- Public Transportation Vehicles: Two (2) Expansion Vehicles \$156,640

Next Steps?

- Update Transylvania County TAC
Share Identified Needs list
- Daniel work on recommendations
and draft plan
- Public Survey/Public meetings

Future Meetings

- To be Determined depends on when recommendations and draft plan are ready for outreach.
- CTP Workgroup and TAC need to review recommendations before public outreach.



Contact info for your team

- Vicki Eastland, Land of Sky RPO, vicki.eastland@landofsky.org 828-251-6622
- Daniel Sellers, NCDOT TPD, dcsellers1@ncdot.gov 919-707-0978
- Steve Williams, NCDOT Division 14, sjwilliams@ncdot.gov 828-586-2141
- Troy Wilson, NCDOT Division 14, tswilson@ncdot.gov 828-586-2141
- Lonnie Watkins, NCDOT Division 14, lnwatknis@ncdot.gov 828-891-7911



**QUESTIONS?
COMMENTS?**

Following slides are included
for reference

Moving Forward...

Identify Highway Deficiencies addressed in CTP

<u>Map ID</u>	<u>TIP No.</u>	<u>Location Description</u>	<u>Status</u>	<u>Type</u>
11	H170396	US 64 from US 178 to existing 4-lane	Proposed	Address congestion and improve system coherency by widening to 4-lane Divided
12		US 64 from South Broad Street to existing 4-lane.	Proposed	Replace center lane with median.
13	H170251	NC 280 from US 276 to Henderson County	Proposed	Replace center lane with median.
14*		Intersection of US 276 and Parkview Drive	Proposed	Improve Intersection
15*		Intersection of Cascade Lake Road and Crab Creek Road	Proposed	Improve Intersection
16*		NC 215 and US 64	Proposed	Improve Intersection
17	R-5743	Railroad Avenue Extension, partially new location partially existing	Proposed	Improve connectivity for schools and neighborhoods on west side of Brevard.

Existing Projects

<u>Map ID</u>	<u>TIP No.</u>	<u>Location Description</u>	<u>Status</u>	<u>Type</u>
1	U-5104	Caldwell Street from Probart Street to US 64	Complete	Roadway with Multi-Modal Components
2	R-2409C	US 64, Lake Toxaway to Indian Creek	Complete	Improve alignment, lane widths, shoulders, and climbing lanes
3	R-5605	Davidson River Village Connector from US-64 to US-276/US-64 in Pisgah Forest	Under Construction	New Location Roadway with Multi-Modal Components
4*	R-5799	Pisgah Forest Intersection	Under Design	Intersection/Bike and Pedestrian
5	R-5800	Asheville Highway, US 276	Under Design	Access Management
6	R-5763	Wilson Road	Under Design	Improve alignment, lane widths, and shoulders
7	R-5865	US 276 in Pisgah Forest	Under Design	3 lane cross section with bike facilities
8	EB-5858	Davidson River Pedestrian Bridge	Under Design	Bike and Pedestrian Bridge across Davidson River near Pisgah Forest
9*	R-5882	Rosman Highway, North Country Club, Caldwell Street	In Draft STIP	Intersection Improvements
10	R-5919	US 178, Rosman	In Draft STIP	Improve alignment, lane widths, and shoulders

Proposed Hwy Projects

<u>Map ID</u>	<u>TIP No.</u>	<u>Location Description</u>	<u>Status</u>	<u>Type</u>
11	H170396	US 64 from US 178 to existing 4-lane	Proposed	Address congestion and improve system coherency by widening to 4-lane Divided
12		US 64 from South Broad Street to existing 4-lane.	Proposed	Replace center lane with median.
13	H170251	NC 280 from US 276 to Henderson County	Proposed	Replace center lane with median.
14*		Intersection of US 276 and Parkview Drive	Proposed	Improve Intersection
15*		Intersection of Cascade Lake Road and Crab Creek Road	Proposed	Improve Intersection
16*		NC 215 and US 64	Proposed	Improve Intersection
17	R-5743	Railroad Avenue Extension, partially new location partially existing	Proposed	Improve connectivity for schools and neighborhoods on west side of Brevard.

*** Point projects marked on maps with a triangle (intersections), square (interchanges), or circle (bridges).**

Workgroup Identified Hwy Deficiency Projects

<u>Map ID</u>	<u>TIP No.</u>	<u>Location Description</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Identified Purpose</u>
		US 64 (N Broad Street) from N Caldwell Street to Old Henderson Highway (SR 1504)	Congestion	Address anticipated 2045 capacity deficiency
		US 176 from Middlefork Road (SR 1133) to South Carolina	Modernization	Improve alignment, lane widths, and shoulders to current design standards
		US 276 from Wilson Road (SR 1540) to South Carolina	Modernization	Improve alignment, lane widths, and shoulders to current design standards
		US 276 from Avery Creek Trail Head to Fish Hatchery Road (SR 1408)	Modernization	Improve alignment, lane widths, and shoulders to current design standards
		US 276 from Gallimore Road (SR 1118) to Wilson Road (SR 1504)	Modernization & Resiliency	Improve alignment, lane widths, and shoulders to current design standards. Improve Resiliency to flooding
		NC 215 from US 64 to Macedonia Church Road (SR 1326)	Modernization	Improve alignment, lane widths, and shoulders to current design standards
		NC 281 from US 64 to Cold Mountain Rd	Modernization	Improve alignment, lane widths, and shoulders to current design standards
*		Becky Mountain Road (SR 1538) at US 276	Resiliency	Improve Resiliency to Flooding

		Carolina Avenue from US 64 to existing 20' cross-section	Modernization	Improve alignment, lane widths, and shoulders to current design standards
*		Cascade Lakes Road (SR 1536) at Crab Creek	Resiliency	Improve Resiliency to Flooding
		Country Club Road (SR 1116 & SR 1115) from Gallimore Road (SR 1118) to Island Ford Road (SR 1110)	Modernization	Improve alignment, lane widths, and shoulders to current design standards
	H111128	Crab Creek Road (SR 1528) from US 64 to Henderson County - Dupont Road (SR 1259)	Modernization & Resiliency	Improve alignment, lane widths, and shoulders to current design standards. Improve Resiliency to flooding
		East Fork Road (SR 1107) from US 178 to Walnut Hollow Road (SR 1103)	Modernization	Improve alignment, lane widths, and shoulders to current design standards
	H150561	Ecusta Road (SR 1512) from US 64 to Old Henderson Highway (1504)	Modernization	Improve alignment, lane widths, and shoulders to current design standards
		Elm Bend Road (SR 1543) from US 276 to Wilson Road (SR 1504)	Modernization & Resiliency	Improve alignment, lane widths, and shoulders to current design standards. Improve Resiliency to flooding
		Everett Road (SR 1533) from Old Henderson Highway (1504) to Crab Creek Road (SR 1528)	Modernization	Improve alignment, lane widths, and shoulders to current design standards

		French Broad Street (SR 1544) from US 64 to Neely Road (SR 1546)	Modernization	Improve alignment, lane widths, and shoulders to current design standards
		Gallimore Road (SR 1118) from S 276 to N Country Club Road (SR 1116)	Modernization	Improve alignment, lane widths, and shoulders to current design standards
*		Hanna Ford Road (SR 1127) at Limekiln Branch of the French Broad River	Resiliency	Improve Resiliency to Flooding
*		Intersection of US 276 and Elm Bend Road (SR 1543)	Safety	Improve Aliegment of Intersection
		Island Ford Road (SR 1110) from US 64 to US 276	Modernization & Resiliency	Improve alignment, lane widths, and shoulders to current design standards. Improve Resiliency to flooding
		King Road (SR 1502) from US 64 to NC 280	Modernization	Improve alignment, lane widths, and shoulders to current design standards
		Main Street (SR 1156) from US 178 to Old Rosman Road (SR 1388)	Resiliency	Improve Resiliency to Flooding