

US 276

from Avery Creek Trail Head to Fish Hatchery Road (SR 1408)

Local ID: TRAN0023-H

Purpose: Facility Deficiencies

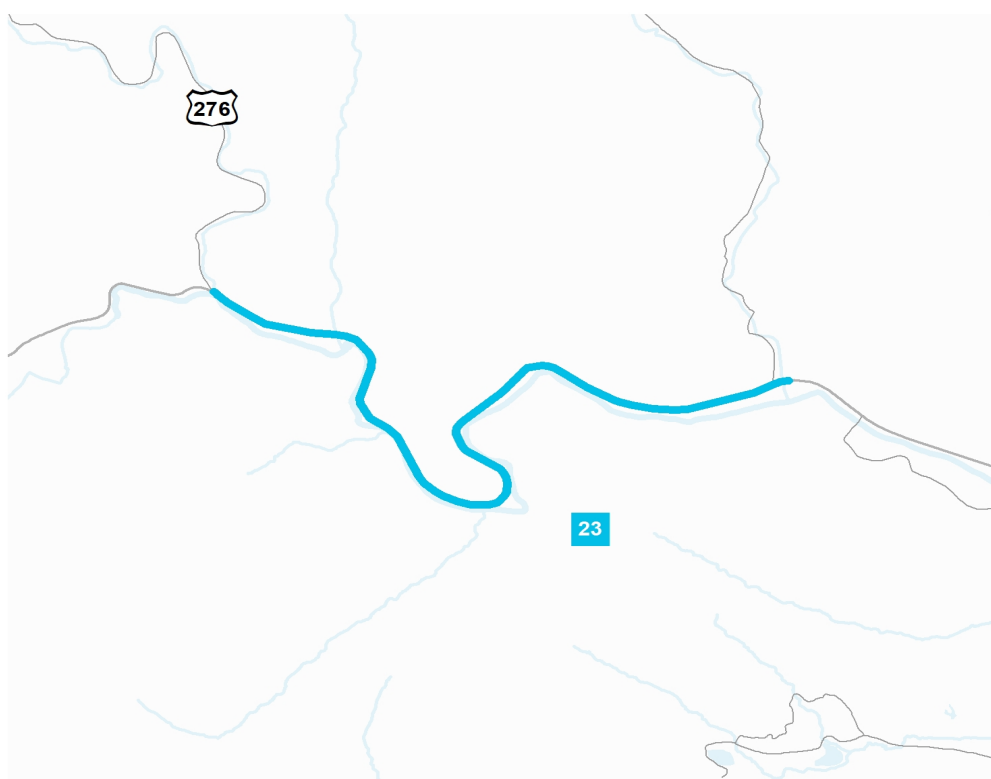
Improvement: Improve Existing

Identified Need

US 276 has no paved shoulder and lane widths of 10 feet. It is part of the Transylvania County Bicycle Plan (2019). There are multiple tourists destinations along this route that are accessed by both hikers and cyclist.

Recommendation

Improve alignment, lane widths, and shoulders to current design standards. In order to accommodate bicycles, a 5-foot paved shoulder is recommended.



Proposal At A Glance

Highway Class	Modernization
Facility Type	Major Thoroughfare 2-lane
Typical Section	02 B
Section Options	-
Length (miles)	3.1
Existing ROW (feet)	60
Safety Risk Score	99

Proposal Data:	2017 Base Year		2045 Future Year	
	Existing	Without Proposal	With Proposal	
Improved Route	Major Thoroughfare 2-lane	-	Major Thoroughfare 2-lane	
Facility Type	Major Thoroughfare 2-lane	-	Major Thoroughfare 2-lane	
Travel Lanes	2	2	2	
Volume (vpd)	1800	3100	-	
Capacity (vpd)	15100	15100	15100	

Capacity Data: Year

Facility will be Approaching Capacity (>80%)	-
Facility will be Over Capacity (>=100%)	-

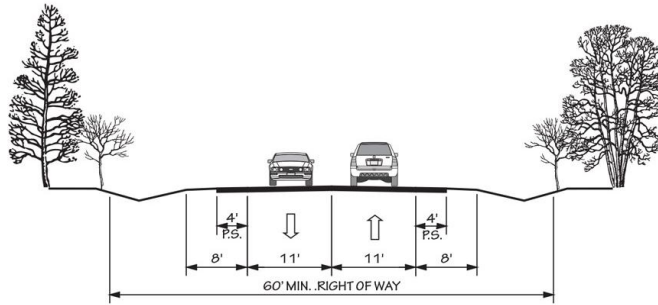


Typical Section Options:

None

TYPICAL SECTION No. 2B

2 LANES UNDIVIDED WITH PAVED SHOULDERS



POSTED SPEED 25-45 MPH

Project Overview

Linkage to Other Plans

According to the 2013 Blue Ridge Bike Plan, this facility is part of the "Priority County Corridor" from Brevard to the Blue Ridge Parkway. According to the 2025 Transylvania County Comprehensive Plan, this facility is part of the "Regional On-Road Bicycle Routes" identified in that plan. It is classified as a major collector on the Federal Functional Classification System.

Multi-Modal Considerations

Transylvania County Transit, under the name "Transylvania in Motion" operates a fixed route as well as demand response system within the county. The deviated-fixed route does not reach this facility; however, it is within the demand-response area. In order to accommodate bicycles, 5-foot paved shoulders are recommended on this facility.

Goals & Objectives Survey

The citizens of Transylvania County responded to a public survey in early 2019 with a great deal of support for new greenways, sidewalks, and multi-use paths. When asked for their top three most important project types, these categories ranked first, third and fifth, out of a dozen choices. Rounding out the top five were maintenance and safety projects at second and fourth respectfully. When asked to rank transportation goals, the respondents gave two, preservation of the natural beauty and community character and increasing the number transportation mode choices, substantial net positive scores; improved connectivity, and economic development about neutral; and improved travel time was poorly scored, receiving over 50% of the lowest rank.

Natural & Human Environmental Context

Based on planning level environmental assessment using

available GIS data, the proposed project intersects the Pisgah National Forest & Gamelands. According to LHI Guild Analysis, this project intersects multiple guilds of the Mesic Hardwood, Mixed Forest, Sparsely Settled Mixed Habitats, Woodland, and Barrens variety. These are predominantly A-ranked resources with the balance being B-ranked. It is also within the vicinity of the Looking Glass Rock Natural Heritage Area.

This project is within 150 feet of:

- 303 Streams
- High Quality or Outstanding Resource Water
- Multiple Geology Types

Title VI

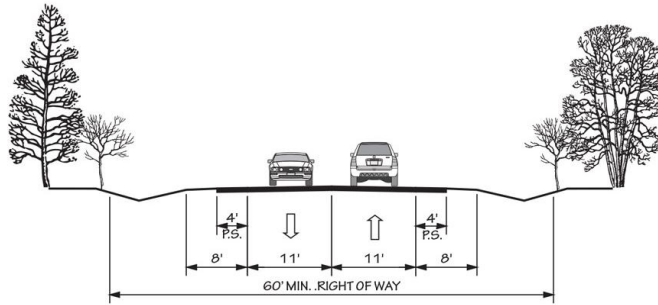
This recommendation passes through one or more Census Blocks with the following characteristics:

- Between 0% and 25% identify as African American
- Between 25% and 50% identify as 65+
- Between 0% and 5% identify as Asian
- Between 0% and 1% identify as Hawaiian or Pacific Islander
- Between 1% and 5% identify as Hispanic and Latino
- 0% identify as Over 18 w/ Limited English Proficiency (LEP) - Asian and Pacific Islander
- 0% identify as Over 18 w/ Limited English Proficiency (LEP) - Indo-European
- 0% identify as Over 18 w/ Limited English Proficiency (LEP) - Other
- Between 5% and 15% identify as Over 18 w/ Limited English Proficiency (LEP) - Spanish
- Between 0% and 15% identify as Native American

Typical Section Options:
None

TYPICAL SECTION No. 2B

2 LANES UNDIVIDED WITH PAVED SHOULDERS



POSTED SPEED 25-45 MPH

- Between 15% and 25% identify as Below Poverty Line
- 0% identify as Some Other Race
- Between 0% and 5% identify as Two of More Races
- Between 15% and 20% identify as Households with No Car