

August 17, 2017, Watauga County CTP Revisions

BACKGROUND

On April 20, 2017, the Boone Town Council approved the Boone Transportation Committee's recommendation to begin a revision of the 2013 Watauga County CTP to eliminate the Homespun Hills connection as an option for the NC 105/Bodenheimer Drive Connector and reflect the recommendation that came out of a project study by NCDOT. Additionally, the Boone Town Council requested that revisions be made to the Bicycle and Pedestrian CTP maps to reflect the 2014 Town of Boone Pedestrian and Bicycle Plan that was adopted after the Watauga County CTP was adopted. Also, since the adoption of the Watauga CTP, the US 421 (King Street) project (U-4020) from NC 194 to US 321 (Hardin Street) has been completed. Therefore, the following revisions to the Watauga County CTP have been made:

Highway Map Revisions

1. US 421, TIP No. U-4020 was under construction at the time of the CTP and was shown as a recommendation. It is now complete so was updated to show "existing" boulevard between US 321 and NC 194.
2. NC 105/Bodenheimer Drive Connector changed (see Watauga CTP Excerpt for WATA0010-H) to reflect preferred alternative from the September 2014 Project Planning Report prepared by American Engineering Associates for NCDOT. It includes improvements to Poplar Grove Road (SR 1102) from NC 105 to proposed new spur north of Coffey Knob Road and new alignment approximately from Coffey Knob Road to Bodenheimer Drive. The new construction also has bicycle and pedestrian recommendations along it. Comments from the Division 11 study indicate the following information about the new route:

- No known relocations are required.
- No significant environmental impacts are anticipated, potential impacts to Hodges Creek can be minimized/eliminated through adjustments to roadway design criteria.
- Connection at NC 105 will be at an existing traffic signal.
- Comments received from the public workshops did not include any strong opposition to the alternative.

Bicycle Map Revisions

1. Replaced Multi-use path on Leola Drive/Greenway Road /Winklers Creek Rd with bicycle lanes from existing greenway at Drive to US 321/Winklers Creek Rd.
2. Added bicycle "Needs Improvement" to the following facilities:
 - A. Bamboo Road (SR 1514) from Deerfield Road (SR 1523) to Kellwood Drive
 - B. Kellwood Drive from Bamboo Road (SR 1524) to Fairway Drive (SR 1602)
 - C. Fairway Drive (SR 1602) from Kellwood Drive to US 321
 - D. Poplar Grove Connector (SR 1180) from Poplar Grove Road (SR 1102) to US 321/421/194 (W. King Street)
 - E. US 321/421 (King Street) from Water Street to US 221/421
 - F. Water Street/N Water (SR 1102) from Poplar Grove Road to North Street
 - G. Junaluska Road (SR 1102)/E Junaluska Road (SR 1150) from North Street to Bear Trail
 - H. Bear Trail from E Junaluska Road (SR 1150) to Grand Blvd
 - I. Grand Blvd from Bear Trail to US 421/King Street (Local Street)
 - J. Cherry Drive from US 321/421 to Eastbrook Street (Local Street)

- K. Eastbrook Street from Cherry Drive to Hunting Road (Local Street)
 - L. Hunting Road from Eastbrook Street to Eastview Avenue (Local Street)
 - M. Eastview Avenue from Hunting Road to E Junaluska Road) (Local Street)
 - N. Casey Lane from Multi-Use Path at South Fork New River to New River Hills (Local Street)
 - O. New River Hills (SR 1515) from Casey Lane to Cecil Miller Road
 - P. Cecil Miller Road from New River Hills (SR 1515) to Old East King Street (Local Street)
 - Q. Old East King Street from US 221/421 to US 221/421 (Local Street)
 - R. Depot Street/N Depot Street from Rivers Street to North Street (Local Street)
 - S. Bodenheimer Drive from Rivers Street to NC 105/Bodenheimer Drive Connector
 - T. NC 105/Bodenheimer Drive Connector and spur from Poplar Grove Road to Bodenheimer Drive
 - U. Winklers Creek Road from Greenway Rd to US 321
3. Changed "Recommended" Bicycle improvements along NC 105 from US 321 to Poplar Grove Road to "Recommended Multi-use Path"
 4. Changed US 321 from Rivers Street to NC 105 from "Recommended Bicycle Improvements" to "Existing"

Pedestrian Map Revisions

1. Replaced Multi-use path on Leola Drive/Greenway Road /Winklers Creek Rd with recommended sidewalks from existing greenway at Leola Drive to US 321/Winklers Creek Rd.
2. Recommended sidewalks along NC 105/Bodenheimer Drive Connector and spur from Poplar Grove Road to Bodenheimer Drive

Bicycle and Pedestrian revisions are based on the Town of Boone Pedestrian and Bicycle Plan adopted April 24, 2014. Please see the Pedestrian and Bicycle Plan for all recommendations. The plan can be downloaded at the following link:

<http://atfiles.org/files/pdf/Walk-Bike-Plan-Boone-NC.pdf>