

NC 80

From US 19E to Mitchell County line

Local ID: YANC30004-HB

Purpose: Facility Deficiencies

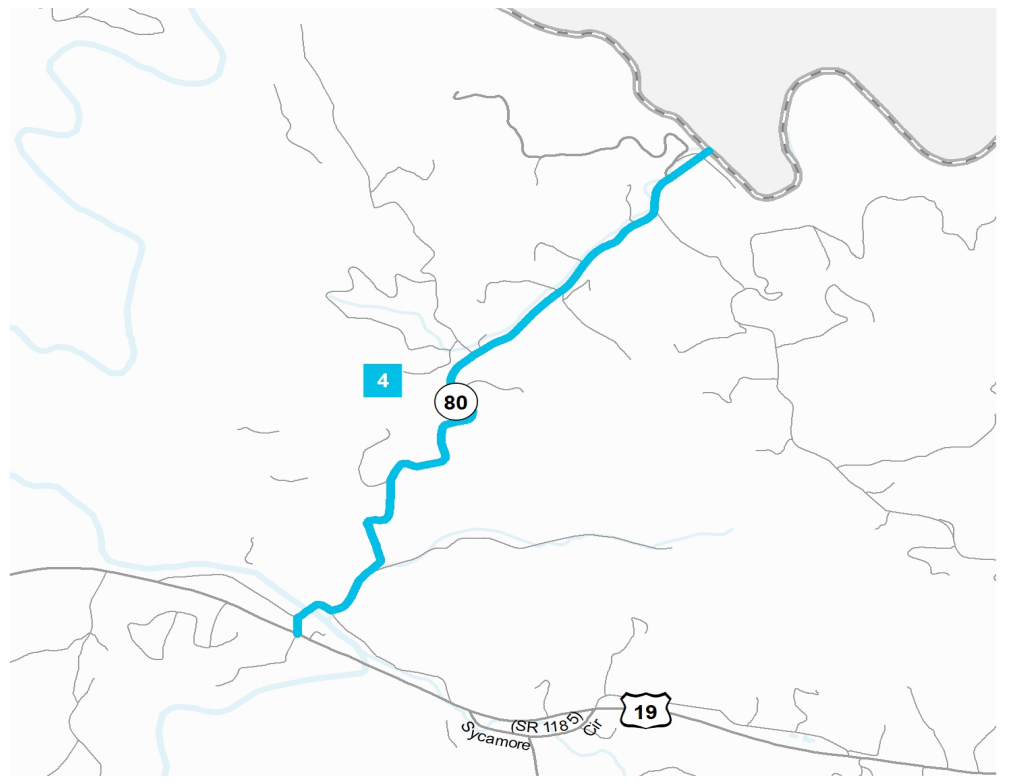
Improvement: Improve Existing

Identified Need

This Major Collector has 9-ft lanes with no shoulder and 4% truck traffic. It provides access to Mayland Earth to Sky Park, Dark Sky Observatory, the Newdale Fire Department, a Solid Waste Transfer Station, and Mitchell County. This facility is popular with recreational cyclists.

Recommendation

Modernize to 12-ft lanes with 5-ft paved shoulders.



	Local ID #	Improve	New Location		Local ID #	Improve	New Location
Congestion / Mobility	#	—	---	Interchange	⊙	□	■
Access Management / Operations	#	—	---	Bridge / Overpass	⊙	○	●
Modernization	#	—	---	Intersection	⊙	∟	▲
Other	#	—	---				

Proposal At A Glance

Highway Class	Modernization
Facility Type	Major Thoroughfare 2-lane
Typical Section	02 A
Section Options	-
Estimated Cost	-
Length (miles)	2.31
Existing ROW (feet)	60
Safety Risk Score	33-78

Proposal Data: 2018 Base Year 2045 Future Year

Improved Route	Existing	Without Proposal	With Proposal
<i>Facility Type</i>	Major Thoroughfare 2-lane	Major Thoroughfare 2-lane	Major Thoroughfare 2-lane
<i>Travel Lanes</i>	2	2	2
<i>Volume (vpd)</i>	550-1100	600-1200	600-1200
<i>Capacity (vpd)</i>	10000-11000	10000-11000	12100

Capacity Data: Year

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

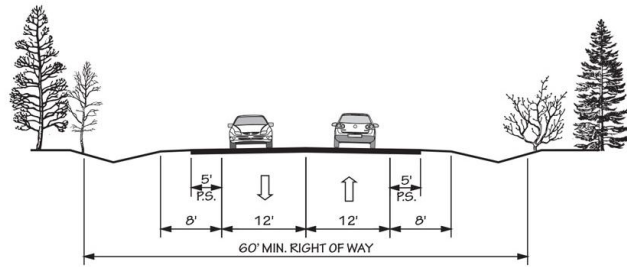


Typical Section Options:

None

TYPICAL SECTION No. 2A

2 LANE UNDIVIDED WITH PAVED SHOULDERS



POSTED SPEED 55 MPH

Project History/Linkage to Other Plans

This project was not part of the 2008 Yancey County CTP. The 2014 High Country Bicycle Plan recommends paved shoulders along NC 80 to accommodate cyclists. The 2019 Mitchell County CTP also recommends paved shoulders along NC 80 to accommodate cyclists.

CTP Goal Analysis

The Vision Statement for this CTP is Yancey County has a safe and accessible multi-modal transportation system that connects its residents and visitors to key destinations within the county and regionally where an emphasis is placed on alternative modes. This project provides multi-modal access to regional connectivity and key destinations: Mayland Earth to Sky Park, Dark Sky Observatory. The future location of the Glen and Carol Arthur Planetarium and the Paul and Susan O'Connell Conference Center that will have an aquaponics and hydroponics facility, visitors center, micro-propagation lab, and garden trails will also be located off NC 80.

Potential Impacts

Based on planning level environmental assessment using available GIS data, the project has the potential to impact the Appalachian elktoe in the area, Wolf Branch stream, Mine Branch stream, and the Cherokee National Forest.

It is part of the Highlands of the Roan Scenic Byway. There is 25.1-50% of population along NC 80N that is at poverty level.

Other Information

A significant amount of heavy truck traffic uses this facility on a daily basis due to the Republic Services Mitcey Transfer Station that serves Yancey County and Mitchell County being located off Landfill Road which is accessed from NC 80. Tourists also use this facility to access the Bare Dark Sky Observatory and Mayland Earth to Sky Park.

Multi-Modal Considerations

Paved Shoulders to accommodate bicycles are recommended.

CTP Public Survey Comments Received

Public comments from CTP survey about NC 80:

- Around 9 comments on NC 80 north of US 19E requesting bicycle accommodations.
- Modernization of NC 80 will help to connect more remote sections of the county to US 19E.
- NC 80 needs to be made safer. Wider and better shoulders.
- Semi-trucks on this road take up both lanes when maneuvering around curves. It is unsafe for pedestrians, cyclists, and automobiles.
- Sidewalks on NC 80 north of US 19E.