

NC 197

From Blue Ridge Ln to Cattail Creek Rd (SR 1102)

Local ID: YANC30011-HB

Purpose: Facility Deficiencies

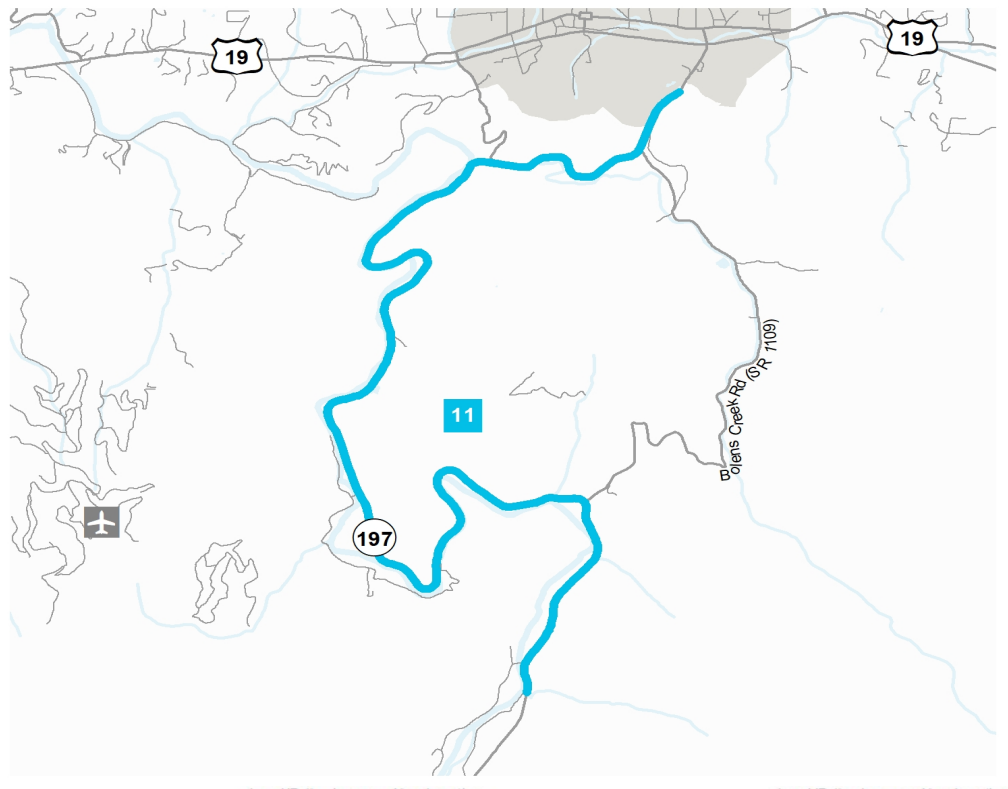
Improvement: Improve Existing

Identified Need

Functionally classified as a Major Collector this facility has narrow 9-foot lanes with no paved shoulders. This facility links Yancey County to Mount Mitchell State Park lands. It is a popular recreational cycling route. Truck traffic is 9% of daily vehicle traffic.

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)	8.21
Existing ROW (feet)	40
Safety Risk Score	11-89

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>	950-2500	1700-3500	1700-3500
<i>Capacity (vpd)</i>	10100-13600	10100-13600	11600-15100

Capacity Data: Year

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

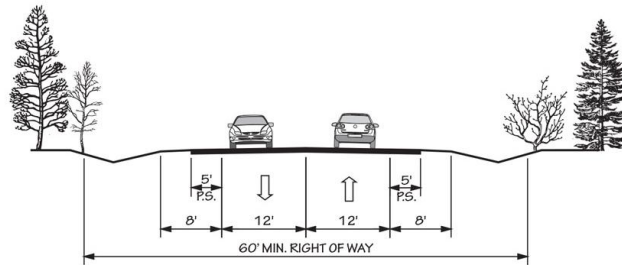


Typical Section Options:

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 included in the 2008 Yancey County CTP. And no specific recommendations were made in the 2014 High Country Regional Bicycle Plan.

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 works toward a safer multi-modal transportation system that connects residents and visitors to key destinations e.g. Mount Mitchell State Park lands, Celo Community, Pensacola Volunteer Fire Department, Pisgah National Forest, and Buncombe County.

Potential Impacts

Based on planning level environmental assessment using available GIS data, the project has the potential to impact Cane River, FRB/Cane River Aquatic habitat, wetlands, and Natural Heritage element occurrences (animal).

The unincorporated Celo Community is located off NC 197.

There is 25.1-50% of population along NC 197 that is at poverty level. There is 25.1-50% of population along NC 197 is age 65 and over.

Other Information

New land has been acquired off NC 197 for Mount Mitchell State Park. Improvements will be needed to accommodate the recent land acquisitions and future plans for the park.

Multi-Modal Considerations

Paved shoulders to accommodate cyclists.

CTP Public Survey Comments Received

From the CTP Survey, there were many comments about the need to improve NC 197. The need for wider shoulders to accommodate cyclists was also mentioned often.

Specific comments received as part of the CTP survey concerning NC 197 were as follows:

- Modernization of NC 80, NC 197, and US 19W will help to connect more remote sections of the county to US 19E.
- I feel that the posted speed limit (55 mph) on NC 197 is too high. There are many twists and turns, and frequently these turns have driveways. It is mostly farms, so often times there will be slow moving farm equipment utilizing the roadway, not to mention cyclists and joggers.
- No shoulder to pull over for emergency vehicles or if vehicle has a breakdown. Blind curves can cause fatal collision with bicyclists.
- Need wider road on NC 197.
- Scenic bike route.
- Gravel trucks and bikes on the road.