

**NC 197**

From Ewart Wilson Rd (SR 1100) to Buncombe County line

Local ID: YANC30013-H

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 and Buncombe County. Truck traffic is 3% of daily vehicle traffic. Key destinations are Mount Mitchell State Park lands.

**Recommendation**

Modernize to 11-ft lanes with 4-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 B
Section Options	-
Estimated Cost	-
Length (miles)	5.26
Existing ROW (feet)	60-80
Safety Risk Score	44-78

**Proposal Data: 2018 Base Year 2045 Future Year**

Improved Route	Existing	Without Proposal	With Proposal
Facility Type	Major Thoroughfare 2-lane	Major Thoroughfare 2-lane	Major Thoroughfare 2-lane
Travel Lanes	2	2	2
Volume (vpd)	200	280	280
Capacity (vpd)	13600	13600	15100

**Capacity Data: Year**

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

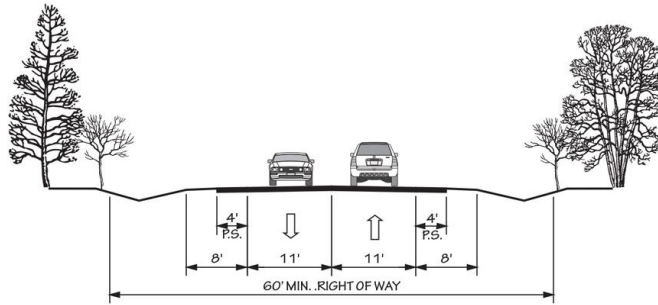


**Typical Section Options:**

None

# TYPICAL SECTION No. 2B

2 LANES UNDIVIDED WITH PAVED SHOULDERS



POSTED SPEED 25-45 MPH

### Project 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, 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 Low Elevation Montane and General Montane Dry-Mesic Hardwood; Mixed Forest and Wet-Mesic Hardwood; Mixed Forest; and High Elevation Montane Dry-Mesic Hardwood; and Mixed Forest. 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

None

### Multi-Modal Considerations

None. Bicycle accommodations were not recommended due to the low vehicular volumes along this section.

### CTP Public Survey Comments Received

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.