Guidance for Identification of Facility Type

To determine the facility type of a road included in the CTP, refer to the Comprehensive Transportation Plan (CTP) Definitions in Appendix B of the CTP report. First consideration should be given to those roads that are included in the SHC Vision Plan. The cross section of any Strategic Highway Corridor route must be consistent with the facility type as shown in the SHC Vision Plan. If there are differences between the local’s vision of the corridor and the SHC, these issues must be worked out prior to the completion of the draft CTP maps.

In addition to the criteria included in the CTP Definitions (Appendix B) it is the responsibility of the TPB Engineer to evaluate and make recommendations for interchanges, grade separations and terminated roads that cross any new or improved Freeways and Expressways. There are two key factors that need to be considered: 1) traffic operations of the Freeway/Expressway and cross streets; 2) consistency with development plans. This decision should be based on FHWA’s interchange spacing criteria (1 mile in urban areas, 3-5 miles in rural areas), AADT of the cross streets, and the ability to maintain connectivity for traffic. Access along the Freeway/Expressway and adjacent to the facility should provide adequate accommodations for existing and future land development patterns. The TPB engineer and the group supervisor should review the Draft CTP maps in coordination with local planning staff and the NCDOT Division. Following this coordination, the TPB engineer may wish to meet with Roadway Design regarding the recommendations to allow them to provide input from a design perspective. (Roadway Design Unit Regional Assignments https://apps.dot.state.nc.us/dot/directory/authenticated/UnitPage.aspx?id=681)

If the project is under study in PDEA, the TPB Engineer will need to meet with the PDEA engineer to discuss recommendations for interchanges, grade separations and terminated roads. (PDEA Regional Assignments https://apps.dot.state.nc.us/dot/directory/authenticated/UnitPage.aspx?id=3212)

For non-freeway/expressway recommendations, the criteria in the CTP Definitions (Appendix B) should be used as a guide. The recommendations should be based on the level of mobility, safety and connectivity that the road needs to provide.