



ANCHOR: Adaptation for North Carolina's Critical Hatteras-Ocracoke Route

Grant Funds, Sources, & Uses of Project Funds

NCDOT and NPS are requesting between **\$6,713,227** and **\$7,722,431** (2026\$) in PROTECT Discretionary Grant Program Planning funding to complete National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) review for ferry and roadway improvements needed to ensure long-term access to Ocracoke Island. The receipt of PROTECT funds will enable the project partners to complete the needed public engagement, agency coordination, alternatives development, and decision documentation to advance the selected alternative to detailed design, obtain the necessary permits, and obligate future construction funding.

Upon PROTECT grant obligation notice, NCDOT and NPS will execute a Memorandum of Agreement documenting agency roles and responsibilities, and will immediately proceed with the tasks outlined in the SOW. There are no previously incurred costs for these tasks and activities. NCDOT is requesting 100 percent federal funding through the PROTECT program, pursuant to (23 USC § 176(d)(5)(E)(i)).

Preferred and Contingency Funding Scenarios

ANCHOR's budget includes two funding scenarios. The preferred scenario assumes a recent application to the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) for \$1.9 million is awarded to complete a Comprehensive Transportation, Access, and Resilience Study (Comprehensive Study). The Comprehensive Study includes substantial community engagement and alternatives development. ANCHOR builds on this work to screen these alternatives and analyze those carried forward under NEPA.

The contingency scenario includes scope and budget to complete alternatives development, additional engagement and other activities necessary to advance environmental review if the Comprehensive Study is not awarded. The budget for each task incorporates up to 20 percent contingency and accounts for cost

escalation anticipated for project delivery in years 2027-2030.

Table 1 summarizes the cost for each task under the preferred scenario as well as funding sources and percentages for how each funding source will share in major Project activities, while Table 2 summarizes these costs for the Contingency Scenario. Similarly, Table 3 provides detailed task-level cost estimates for the preferred scenario while Table 4 presents these costs for the contingency scenario.

Cost Estimating Assumptions

The cost estimates for both scenarios include the following inputs and assumptions:

- » Cost estimates include both labor and direct expenses to support travel for in-person meetings and printing.
- » Due to the remote nature of Ocracoke Island, costs for in-person agency and public meetings account for additional mobilization costs and travel durations.
- » NPS's budget for each task accounts for the yearly salary for a dedicated project manager, estimated at \$182,000 per year, for the duration of the project.
- » Task 1: Project Management includes NCDOT indirect costs based on its Negotiated Indirect Cost Rate Agreement (NICRA) with FHWA dated March 5, 2026. These indirect costs cover department-wide programs and software tools which NCDOT will leverage in managing the grant, including NCDOT's enterprise resource planning tool, computer support, Geographic Information Systems, and miscellaneous administrative costs incurred by NCDOT during administration of the grant.



Table 1. Project ANCHOR Costs and Funding Source (Preferred Scenario)

	Cost	PROTECT Funds	Other Federal Funds	Non-Federal Funds
Task 1. Project Management & Grant Administration	\$678,227	100%	0%	0%
Task 2. Community & Stakeholder Engagement	\$1,190,000	100%	0%	0%
Task 3. Alternative Definition & Refinement	\$1,670,000	100%	0%	0%
Task 4. Merger Process & Agency Coordination	\$1,040,000	100%	0%	0%
Task 5. NEPA Document & Environmental Compliance	\$2,135,000	100%	0%	0%
PROJECT TOTAL	\$6,713,227	100%	0%	0%

Table 2. Project ANCHOR Costs and Funding Source (Contingency Scenario)

	Cost	PROTECT Funds	Other Federal Funds	Non-Federal Funds
Task 1. Project Management & Grant Administration	\$777,431	100%	0%	0%
Task 2. Community & Stakeholder Engagement	\$1,360,000	100%	0%	0%
Task 3. Alternative Definition & Refinement	\$2,150,000	100%	0%	0%
Task 4. Merger Process & Agency Coordination	\$1,050,000	100%	0%	0%
Task 5. NEPA Document & Environmental Compliance	\$2,385,000	100%	0%	0%
PROJECT TOTAL	\$7,722,431	100%	0%	0%



Table 3. Project ANCHOR Detailed Costs and Budget - Preferred Scenario

	Total	NCDOT	NPS	Contractor
Task 1. Project Management				
Project Management	\$603,500	\$140,817	\$70,408	\$392,275
NCDOT Indirect Costs (6%)	\$74,727	\$74,727	\$0	\$0
Task 1 Total	\$678,227	\$215,543.17	\$70,408	\$392,275
Task 2. Community & Stakeholder Engagement				
Public Involvement Plan - Update	\$15,000	\$0	\$0	\$15,000
Public Scoping Open House	\$450,000	\$123,750	\$123,750	\$202,500
Draft EIS Review - Comment Period & Public Hearings	\$650,000	\$130,000	\$130,000	\$390,000
Ongoing & Virtual Engagement	\$75,000	\$25,125	\$25,125	\$24,750
Task 2 Total	\$1,190,000	\$278,875	\$278,875	\$632,250
Task 3. Alternative Definition & Refinement				
Review Comprehensive Study Alternatives	\$25,000	\$0	\$0	\$25,000
Alternatives Screening & Carry-Forward Documentation	\$45,000	\$4,500	\$4,500	\$36,000
Technical Investigations				
Geotechnical Screening	\$225,000	\$225,000	\$0	\$0
Hydraulic Modeling	\$150,000	\$150,000	\$0	\$0
Bathymetric Survey (400,000 sf)	\$200,000	\$15,000	\$0	\$185,000
Wetland Delineations	\$200,000	\$0	\$0	\$200,000
Archeological Survey	\$175,000	\$0	\$0	\$175,000
Threatened & Endangered Species	\$150,000	\$0	\$0	\$150,000
Alternatives Definition & Refinement	\$500,000	\$37,500	\$37,500	\$425,000
Task 3 Total	\$1,670,000	\$432,000	\$42,000	\$1,196,000
Task 4. Merger Process & Agency Coordination				
Agency Coordination Plan / Early Scoping	\$50,000	\$16,750	\$16,750	\$16,500
Tribal Notification & Consultation	\$40,000	\$11,000	\$11,000	\$18,000
Merger Process	\$500,000	\$167,500	\$167,500	\$165,000
Agency Consultation (<i>Section 106, 4(f), Section 7 ESA, etc.</i>)	\$450,000	\$123,750	\$123,750	\$202,500
Task 4 Total	\$1,040,000	\$319,000	\$319,000	\$402,000
Task 5. NEPA - Tiered EIS				
NOI & Scoping Letters	\$15,000	\$1,125	\$1,125	\$12,750
NPS Purpose & Need Document	\$30,000	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$24,000
NPS Special Use and/or ROW Permit	\$25,000	\$5,000	\$0	\$20,000
Draft EIS	\$1,250,000	\$31,250	\$31,250	\$1,487,500
Final EIS	\$600,000	\$30,000	\$30,000	\$540,000
Record of Decision	\$50,000	\$2,500	\$2,500	\$45,000
NPS/Other Decision Documents	\$150,000	\$0	\$22,500	\$127,500
Project Closeout	\$15,000	\$1,875	\$1,875	\$11,250
Task 5 Total	\$2,135,000	\$74,750	\$92,250	\$1,968,000
PROJECT TOTAL	\$6,713,227	\$1,320,168	\$802,533	\$4,590,525

Table 4. Project ANCHOR Detailed Costs and Budget (Contingency Scenario)

	Total	NCDOT	NPS	Contractor
Task 1. Project Management				
Project Management	\$694,500	\$162,050	\$81,025	\$451,425
NCDOT Indirect Costs (6%)	\$82,931	\$82,931	\$0	\$0
Task 1 Total	\$777,431	\$244,981	\$81,025	\$451,425
Task 2. Community & Stakeholder Engagement				
Public Involvement Plan - Update	\$35,000	\$0	\$0	\$15,000
Public Scoping Open House	\$500,000	\$137,500	\$137,500	\$225,000
Draft EIS Review - Comment Period & Public Hearings	\$700,000	\$140,000	\$140,000	\$420,000
Ongoing & Virtual Engagement	\$125,000	\$41,875	\$41,875	\$41,250
Task 2 Total	\$1,360,000	\$319,375	\$319,375	\$721,250
Task 3. Alternative Definition & Refinement				
Alternatives Development, Screening, and Carry-Forward Documentation	\$1,050,000	\$105,000	\$105,000	\$840,000
Technical Investigations				
Geotechnical Screening	\$225,000	\$225,000	\$0	\$0
Hydraulic Modeling	\$150,000	\$150,000	\$0	\$0
Bathymetric Survey (400,000 sf)	\$200,000	\$15,000	\$0	\$185,000
Wetland Delineations	\$200,000	\$0	\$0	\$200,000
Archeological Survey	\$175,000	\$0	\$0	\$175,000
Threatened & Endangered Species	\$150,000	\$0	\$0	\$150,000
Task 3 Total	\$2,150,000	\$495,000	\$105,000	\$1,550,000
Task 4. Merger Process & Agency Coordination				
Agency Coordination Plan / Early Scoping	\$75,000	\$25,125	\$25,125	\$24,750
Tribal Notification & Consultation	\$25,000	\$8,375	\$8,375	\$8,250
Merger Process	\$500,000	\$167,500	\$167,500	\$165,000
Agency Consultation (<i>Section 106, 4(f), Section 7 ESA, etc.</i>)	\$450,000	\$123,750	\$123,750	\$202,500
Task 4 Total	\$1,050,000	\$324,750	\$324,750	\$400,500
Task 5. NEPA Document & Environmental Compliance				
NOI & Scoping Letters	\$15,000	\$1,125	\$1,125	\$12,750
NPS Purpose & Need Document	\$30,000	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$24,000
NPS Special Use and/or ROW Permit	\$25,000	\$5,000		\$20,000
Draft EIS	\$1,500,000	\$37,500	\$37,500	\$1,425,000
Final EIS	\$600,000	\$30,000	\$30,000	\$540,000
Record of Decision	\$50,000	\$2,500	\$2,500	\$45,000
NPS/Other Decision Documents	\$150,000	\$-	\$22,500	\$127,500
Project Closeout	\$15,000	\$1,875	\$1,875	\$11,250
Task 5 Total	\$2,385,000	\$81,000	\$98,500	\$2,205,500
PROJECT TOTAL	\$7,722,431	\$1,465,106	\$928,650	\$5,328,675

