



NCDOT Rail Division

The Rail Report



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Central Carolina Connector Update

NCDOT is partnering with CSX to construct an intermodal transfer hub and intermodal facility along the CSXT A-Line in Rocky Mount to benefit goods movements in and out of central and eastern North Carolina. Intermodal transportation moves freight in a container without any handling of the freight itself when changing modes. Intermodal transport allows shippers to combine the long-haul efficiencies of rail with the flexibility of short-haul trucks to achieve cost-effective, efficient and reliable freight transport. Those savings benefit North Carolina businesses and industries.

The facility in Rocky Mount will be the second intermodal hub of its kind in the eastern US (the first in Northwest Ohio). In addition to typical intermodal transfers from trucks to trains, the facility will serve as a rail hub where containers are switched between trains to and from destinations through CSX's network.

The project includes the construction of the CCX intermodal hub terminal, construction of approximately seven miles of second mainline along the CSX A-Line, north of the terminal, and some limited highway improvements.

In total, the project is anticipated to cost \$264 million. NCDOT is contributing \$100 million in capital for the project and has provided \$10 million for preliminary engineering. The state funding is included in the Transportation Improvement Program as TIP Project P-5711.

Project Benefits

- CCX provides shipper savings and access to domestic and international markets to existing industries and businesses in the Triangle and eastern North Carolina.
- CCX provides intermodal rail access to the Port of Wilmington and intermodal access in eastern NC.
- CCX will provide public benefits to both the state and nation. The benefits include less pavement maintenance, reduced traffic congestion, improved emissions, and fewer vehicular accidents. On their website, CSX notes that intermodal transportation can save shippers up to 40% on their transportation costs.
 - \$1.77B in public benefits to the US over 30 years
 - \$310M in public benefits to NC over 30 years
- CCX expects to process 240,000 to 505,000 containers per year over the next 20 years.
- CCX anticipates processing of more than 270,000 truckloads coming into the facility, after a four-year ramp up period.



- It eliminates nearly 194 million truck-miles from the nation's highways and 16 million truck-miles from North Carolina's highways.
- Over 30 years, CCX is anticipated to reduce truck-miles by over 7.3 billion miles.

Jobs and Economic Impact

- CCX will provide ongoing employment for 109 people in its opening year, 149 people by 2023, and 236 people by 2035
- The economic output in the first year would reach \$33.9M and \$684M by 2035.
- Economic impacts for areas surrounding CCX can be maximized through comprehensive planning. Once development reaches its full potential in ten to 15 years, CCX is anticipated to generate between 8,000 and 20,000 jobs. A Freight Strategic Master Plan is currently being prepared by the NCDOT Rail Division and Carolinas Gateway Partnership to help guide economic development and transportation needs surrounding CCX.

Project Schedule

- CSX is leading the design, environmental, and permitting process. NCDOT will review designs, environmental documents and permits.
- CSX is planning to open the facility for operation in late 2019; schedules are contingent on applicable local, state, and federal permits and approvals.

October Railroad Trivia Question

Who was the engineer of the first train into Raleigh and what was the name of the locomotive?

(See answer on page 6)

Fibertex Personal Care to Open Manufacturing Plant in Asheboro

Fibertex Personal Care, a Danish textile company, will add 145 jobs in Asheboro with its first U.S. manufacturing facility, Governor Cooper announced today. The company plans to invest \$60 million by December 31, 2021 with a project facilitated in part by a Job Development Investment Grant (JDIG). The Rail Division will invest \$200,000 towards the construction of a \$900,000 industrial spur track through the Rail Industrial Access Program.

“Fibertex Personal Care could go anywhere in the world, but they chose North Carolina,” said Governor Cooper. “Our state’s workforce and leadership in manufacturing and textiles brought this company here.”

Fibertex Personal Care manufactures nonwoven materials for different applications in the personal care industry, including

diapers, feminine hygiene and incontinence care products.

“Fibertex Personal Care chose the right location in Asheboro for its first facility on U.S. soil,” said Senator Jerry W. Tillman. “I’m proud to welcome the company to our community.”

“The people of Randolph County are ready to welcome the Fibertex Personal Care people and get to work,” said Representative Pat B. Hurley. “Fibertex chose to locate here in Asheboro over any place in America, and we couldn’t be more excited.”

Partnering with N.C. Commerce and the EDPNC on this project were the N.C. General Assembly, the N.C. Community College System, the North Carolina Railroad Company, the City of Asheboro, Randolph County, the Randolph County Economic Development Corporation, Duke Energy and Norfolk Southern.

NCDOT and Blue Ridge Southern Railroad Make Safety Improvements at Crossings

The NCDOT Rail Division and Division 14 recently collaborated to improve two crossings on the Blue Ridge Southern Railroad in Jackson County, N.C. The first crossing improvement was Mineral Springs Road, SR 1456, where a two track timber and asphalt crossing was replaced with a rubber and asphalt crossing. This crossing has heavy truck traffic to a nearby industry and daily school bus use. The new surface provides a significantly improved and smoother crossing for highway traffic.

The second crossing improvement was on Dark Ridge Road, SR 1705. This single track timber and asphalt crossing was also changed to a rubber and asphalt crossing. The timbers were deteriorated, resulting in a rough ride for the motorists and school buses that used this crossing. The new surface will provide motorists with a smooth ride for many years to come.



Mineral Springs Road before improvements



Mineral Springs Road after improvements



Dark Ridge Road after improvements



Dark Ridge Road before improvements

Rail Operations Manager Kyle Anderson Receives Prestigious Safety Certification



Matthew D. Thompson, Safety and Health Council Marketing & Public Relations Manager, presents MESH certificate to Kyle Anderson (right).

Kyle O. Anderson, Rail Operations Manager for the Rail Division, has earned the Public Sector - Manager of Environmental, Safety and Health (MESH) certification which is awarded to individuals who demonstrate achievement through education in occupational safety, health, and the environment. MESH is sponsored by the Safety and Health Council of North Carolina, NC State University, and the North Carolina Department of Labor.

"We are tremendously happy to recognize Kyle as a recipient of the Public Sector Manager of Environmental, Safety and Health certificate," said North Carolina's Commissioner of Labor Cherie Berry. "This program prepares managers for keeping their worksites safe and healthy, and that preparation improves employee protection and company productivity."

The MESH program is designed to increase the professionalism of environmental, safety and health managers of commercial, residential or governmental construction sites in North Carolina through a rigorous series of continuing education programs. It strives to recognize environmental managers and raise industry standards, while increasing the value of these practitioners to their employers and others to whom their services are provided.



Visit Safety City at the 150th State Fair and Learn About Rail Safety

NCDOT Rail Division staff, along with Operation Lifesaver, will be on hand to share information about staying safe near railroad tracks for drivers and pedestrians, from Oct. 12-22 at the state fairgrounds.



All Aboard for the Lexington Barbecue Festival!



Are you ready for a day filled with barbecue, live music and family friendly attractions?

On **OCTOBER 28**, board NC By Train at any of the 7 stops between Charlotte and Raleigh to arrive just steps from the festival!

SAVE 15% ON TICKETS
Visit Amtrak.com/ncsave15
(Use city code LEX)

➔ **Go. Reconnect.**
NCBYTRAIN.ORG



Ridership & Revenue on NC By Train Service – *July 2017 vs. 2016

	RIDERSHIP			REVENUE		
	2017	2016	% +/-	2017	2016	% +/-
Piedmont	12,839	12,809	0.2%	\$261,209	\$261,292	-0.03%
Carolinian	27,833	28,854	-4%	\$1,914,171	\$2,008,241	-5%

1,038



Hours Volunteered by N.C. Train Hosts in July, supporting NC By Train onboard and at events

July 2017 service modifications impacted four *Piedmont* trains and two *Carolinian* trains. On July 19, all *Piedmont* and *Carolinian* trains were cancelled due to PIP track work. Track outages are anticipated to reduce significantly as PIP track construction is now complete. Average gasoline prices remained low in July 2017 but were \$0.04 per gallon higher than in July 2016.

Score a Touchdown by Riding NC By Train to Panther Games

It's time for football! Get on board the train with other fans on the way to the game and skip the hassle of traffic and parking.

Back by popular demand for the 2017 football season, NC By Train is hosting its Panthers train to carry fans to and from select home games in Charlotte.

Passengers headed to the 1 p.m. Sunday games on the dates listed below can take *Piedmont Train 73* from any of the eight stations along the corridor to Charlotte and return on *Piedmont Train 76* at 5:15 p.m.

Nov. 5, Dec. 10, Dec. 17, Dec. 24

Tickets can be purchased now online at NCbyTrain.org.



The Charlotte Area Transit System is picking up passengers at the Charlotte station and dropping them off a few blocks from Bank of America Stadium. Passengers can request a transit pass from the conductor to travel from the Charlotte train station to the transportation center. The pass is valid for one ride and one transfer.

Out and About with NC By Train



Save Time and Money

Save 20%
over buying individual tickets

with a Multi-Ride Pass!

Go. Reconnect.

Buy yours today at NCBYTRAIN.ORG/TICKETS



Alison Boswell from the Rail Division Customer Service Team attended the Queen City Battle of the Bands and did tablings at four Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU) - Johnson C. Smith, Livingston, Winston-Salem State, and North Carolina Central - to spread the word about NC By Train service and the benefits of the Multi-Ride Pass.

College students, families, and frequent travelers can save both time and money with a multi-ride pass for NC By Train. No reservations needed—skip the ticket line!

- Just hop on board and show your e-Ticket to the conductor
- Good for 10 rides (5 round trips) between paired cities
- Valid for 6 months from your first trip.

Raleigh Union Station Construction Photos – August 2017



View of south elevation with passenger concourse (center of photo), and footings for high-level center island platform (left center of photo)



South elevation detail

Charlotte Locomotive Railcar and Maintenance Facility Photos – August 2017



Front entrance of Charlotte Locomotive and Railcar Maintenance Facility office building



Grading work at rail yard side of office building

October Railroad Trivia Answer: Albert Johnson was NC's first locomotive engineer and the first person to bring a train into Raleigh, March 21, 1840. The name of the locomotive was the "Tornado." Mr. Johnson rose through the ranks to become the Master Mechanic and Superintendent of both the NCCR and the Raleigh & Gaston RR.