

Ashe County

Planning Department

Staff Report

7/1/2019

RE: STIP 2022-2031

Summary:

The NCDOT is currently soliciting projects for the upcoming State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP). This gives local governments a chance to submit transportation projects in their region to be evaluated and scored, based on traffic, crash data, economic development and other quantitative measures. Once scored, the projects are ranked among transportation projects in our division and the top projects will be approved, based on available funding.

Ashe County is eligible to submit 4 projects this year. Based on projects submitted in the past, and based on requests by the towns, the following projects will be submitted;

1. US 221 from Ashe Memorial Hospital (AMH) to the 221/16 split – modernization
2. US221/16 split – intersection improvement
3. Mt Jefferson Rd – Oakwood Dr to Campus Dr – Modernization
4. Airport Terminal

All of these projects are included in the Ashe County Comprehensive Transportation Plan (CTP) or the Airport Layout Plan (ALP)

Other projects in the works, identified in other STIPs include:

1. US 221 E – NC 163 intersection to AMH – September 19 bid date (delayed 6 months to a year)
2. Beaver Creek School Rd & US 221 Bus Intersection (McDonalds/Ingles) – approved but on hold
3. Hwy 88 – Jefferson to Warrensville – ROW 2022 and Construction 2024
4. Apron Expansion at Airport – Construction 2022

Attachments:

1. Memo – David Graham, HCCOG, Transportation Planner
2. Project List



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MEMORANDUM

TO: Mike James, Alleghany County Manager
Adam Stumb, Interim Ashe County Manager
Phillip Barrier, Avery County Manager
Kathy Young, Mitchell County Manager
Deron Geouque, Watauga County Manager
John Yates, Wilkes County Manager
Lynn Austin, Yancey County Manager
John Ward, Boone Town Manager

FROM: David Graham, Transportation Planner

SUBJECT: Solicitation of New Transportation Projects for the
2022-2031 State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP)

DATE: June 3, 2019

The High Country RPO utilizes a project prioritization system to produce a Priority Needs List of transportation projects for the High Country RPO region. The Priority Needs List is typically submitted to NCDOT every other year as the STIP is drafted. The first step in the project prioritization process and the development of the Priority Needs List is the solicitation of **new transportation projects** from each county and the Town of Boone. According to the High Country RPO project prioritization system, each county and the Town of Boone can submit up to the requisite number of **new projects within each mode** (highway, bicycle & pedestrian, transit, aviation, and rail) as follows:

- Alleghany County - 2 projects
- Ashe County - 4 projects
- Avery County - 3 projects
- Mitchell County - 2 projects
- Watauga County - 4 projects
- Wilkes County - 6 projects
- Yancey County - 3 projects
- Boone – 1 project

Please provide a detailed description of each new project (widen highway from/to, new van, extend runway, etc...).

Note: Projects identified as "Committed" or "Carryover" projects on the attached list should not be submitted as a new project. A Carryover project may be removed and replaced with another project only if there is agreement between the applicable NCDOT Division and the RPO to do so. "Holding Tank" projects identified on the attached list are eligible to be submitted as a new project.

Committed projects are defined as projects that are programmed for Right-of-Way or Construction in the first 6 years in the 2020-2029 STIP.

Carryover projects are defined as projects that automatically carry over from the previous round of project prioritization (P5.0) for evaluation in the current round of project prioritization (P6.0).

Modifications of Carryover projects that create segments will count toward the maximum number of submittals. Modifications that change a project's limits or scope will not count toward the maximum number of submittals. All modifications must have agreement between the Division(s) and the RPO.

Holding Tank projects are those projects that will be removed from the current round of project prioritization (P6.0) unless they are re-submitted as new projects.

Note: Multiple projects are allowed along the same section of roadway. If two conflicting projects along the same section score high enough to be funded, a discussion with the NCDOT STIP Unit and the associated Division(s)/RPO will be held to pick the project that will remain in the STIP.

New Bicycle, Pedestrian, and Transit Projects Requirements

Please note that for a bicycle and pedestrian project to be eligible, a cost estimate for the project must be provided and a commitment letter (on letterhead) for the 20% project match from the local government is required with project submission. A 10% local match for transit projects is required for new transit projects. Acknowledgement correspondence of the required 10% local match from local government is required with project submission.

Please submit to me by July 12, 2019 the designated modes and number of **new** projects in accordance with the schedule noted above that your jurisdiction would like to have considered in the development of the Priority Needs List and the 2022-2031 STIP. *As individual municipalities (with the exception of the Town of Boone) will not be submitting projects to the RPO for consideration, the county requests should include both rural and urban projects. Therefore, I encourage all counties to discuss new projects with their respective municipalities prior to submittal of new projects.*

The next step in the project prioritization process will be the solicitation of Priority Projects with a supplemental overall project scores list beginning in early August of 2020 for local scoring and ranking due to recent changes to the P6.0 schedule.

I look forward to your new transportation projects submissions. Please call (828) 265-5434 ext. 135 or email dgraham@regiond.org if you have any questions or if you would like to set up a meeting.

Enclosure

cc: High Country RPO Rural Transportation Advisory Committee (RTAC) members
Julie Wiggins, Executive Director, High Country Council of Governments
Phil Trew, Planning Director, High Country Council of Governments
High Country Town Managers
Ronnie Tipton, Town of Burnsville
Todd Moody, Town of Boone
Joe Furman, Watauga County

SPOT ID	Mode	TIP	Project Category	Route / Facility Name	From / Cross Street	To / Cross Street	Description	Specific Improvement Type	Statewide Mobility Quantitative Score (Out of 100)	Regional Impact Total Score (Out of 100)	Division Needs Total Score (Out of 100)	County(s)	P6.0 Status (Draft)
H141040	Highway		Regional Impact	US 221	NC 113		Construct roundabout.	10 - Improve Intersection	N/A	32.70	24.38	Alleghany	Holding Tank
H170959	Highway		Regional Impact	NC 18	SR 1206 (Sparta Parkway)		Improve intersection for safety	10 - Improve Intersection	N/A	51.86	51.78	Alleghany	Holding Tank
H150358	Highway	R-5833	Regional Impact	NC 194, US 221 BUS (South Jefferson Avenue)	SR 1248 (Beaver Creek School Road)		Construct superstreet intersection	10 - Improve Intersection	N/A	65.55	N/A	Ashe	Carryover
H150440	Highway		Regional Impact	NC 194	US 221 Business (2nd Street)	NC 88	Modernize Roadway	16 - Modernize Roadway	N/A	19.35	15.41	Ashe	Holding Tank
H170854	Highway		Regional Impact	US 221	US 221 Business	NC 16	Widen facility from 11' lanes to 12' lanes, add median with turn bays, and add traffic signals	1 - Widen Existing Roadway	N/A	35.43	39.22	Ashe	Holding Tank
H170858	Highway		Division Needs	SR 1248 (Beaver Creek School Road)	US 221 Business	SR 1133 (Ray Taylor Road)	Modernize roadway to 12 foot lanes	16 - Modernize Roadway	N/A	N/A	20.87	Ashe	Holding Tank

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H170866	Highway		Division Needs	SR 1149 (Mount Jefferson Road)	Oakwood Road	Campus Drive	Widen the roadway to a four lane divided facility	1 - Widen Existing Roadway	N/A	N/A	6.51	Ashe	Holding Tank
H090169	Highway	R-5902	Regional Impact	NC 184	NC 105	SR 1342 (Hickory Nut Gap Road)	NC 105 to Hickory Nut Gap Rd (SR 1342) in Banner Elk. Widen to Construct roundabout at the intersection of NC 181 and SR 1370 (Avery)	1 - Widen Existing Roadway	N/A	66.61	N/A	Avery	Carryover
H141043	Highway		Regional Impact	NC 181	SR 1370 (Avery County High School Road)			10 - Improve Intersection	N/A	44.48	18.99	Avery	Holding Tank
H170957	Highway	R-5911	Statewide Mobility	US 19E	NC 194		Construct right turn lane from 19E onto NC 194	10 - Improve Intersection	51.09	63.58	73.76	Avery	Committed
H090921-A	Highway	R-2568A	Statewide Mobility	NC 105	US 221	SR 1136 in Watauga County	Widen to Multi-Lanes.	1 - Widen Existing Roadway	62.92	59.49	36.22	Avery, Watauga	Holding Tank
H170834	Highway	R-2599	Regional Impact	NC 226	NC 197	NC 261	Upgrade roadway from NC 187 to NC 261	16 - Modernize Roadway	N/A	50.06	17.28	Mitchell	Holding Tank
H090110-A	Highway	R-2520A	Statewide Mobility	US 19	East of Spruce Pine in Mitchell County	SR 1106 (Mullin Hill Road) in Avery County	Widen to Multi-Lanes.	1 - Widen Existing Roadway	49.50	58.56	78.29	Mitchell, Avery	Committed
B170742	BikePed	EB-5983	Division Needs	Town of Boone Multi-Use Path	Grove Street	Brookshire Road	The path will extend the existing sidewalk network one mile east, connecting residential apartment dwellers and greenway users to businesses along US 421/E King Street and downtown Boone.	2 - Off-Road/Separated Linear Bicycle Facility (Bicycle)	N/A	N/A	53.22	Watauga	Committed
B170760	BikePed		Division Needs	Middle Fork Greenway Section 5	Jordan Cook Road (SR 1543)	Niley Cook Road (SR 1532)	Construct section of multi-use path along US 321 between Boone and Blowing Rock	2 - Off-Road/Separated Linear Bicycle Facility (Bicycle)	N/A	N/A	52.61	Watauga	Holding Tank

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H090163-A	Highway	R-5903	Regional Impact	US 421	Tennessee Line	US 321-US 421 Junction Near Vilas	Tennessee Line to US 321-US 421 Junction near Vilas. Widen to Multi-Lanes.	1 - Widen Existing Roadway	N/A	65.32	N/A	Watauga	Carryover
H090314	Highway	U-5867	Regional Impact	NC 194	US 421 (King Street)	SR 1306 (Howards Creek Rd)	Widen to 4 Lanes Curb and Gutter.	1 - Widen Existing Roadway	N/A	42.85	41.94	Watauga	Holding Tank
H111016	Highway		Regional Impact	SR 1107 (NC 105 Bypass Road), US 321 TRUCK, US 421 TRUCK	NC 105	US 421/321/NC194	Widen to Multi-Lanes with Bike Lanes. (4 Lanes W/Median and Bike Lanes)	1 - Widen Existing Roadway	N/A	53.20	51.69	Watauga	Holding Tank
H170838	Highway	R-5915	Statewide Mobility	New Route - Boone Bypass (Daniel Boone Parkway)	Intersection of US 421/221 and Old 421 (SR 1416) east of Boone	US 421/321 west of Boone approximately .75 of a mile west of US 421/SR 1107	Construct freeway on new location south of the City of Boone	5 - Construct Roadway on New Location	65.46	58.38	59.30	Watauga	Carryover
H170872	Highway		Statewide Mobility	US 421, US 221	SR 1416 (Old US 421 South), SR 1672 (Old US 421 South)		Upgrade intersection to interchange to improve safety	7 - Upgrade At-grade Intersection to Interchange or Grade Separation	60.07	41.66	30.73	Watauga	Holding Tank
H170956	Highway		Division Needs	SR 1522 (Deerfield Road)	SR 1514 (Bamboo Road)		Upgrade intersection	10 - Improve Intersection	N/A	N/A	22.92	Watauga	Holding Tank
H171686	Highway	R-5872	Statewide Mobility	US 421 (W King Street)	SR 1180 (Poplar Grove Connector)		Construct a roundabout at the intersection of US 421 (W King St.) and SR 1180 (Poplar Grove Connector)	10 - Improve Intersection	79.62	N/A	N/A	Watauga	Committed
H171760	Highway	R-5874	Statewide Mobility	US 321	Deerfield Road, Meadowview Road		Realign offset intersections	21 - Realign Multiple Intersections	75.22	N/A	N/A	Watauga	Carryover
H172180	Highway		Statewide Mobility	US 321	SR 1541 (Payne Branch Rd.)	SR 1602 (Fairway Dr.)	Modernize roadway w/ curve realignment	16 - Modernize Roadway	58.07	54.94	30.14	Watauga	Holding Tank

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A130280	Aviation		Division Needs	UKF - Wilkes County Airport	UKF - Taxiway and Hangar Construction (Phase 1&2)	N/A	Phase I - paving two taxiways for a 10 bay T-hangar building on a previously prepared area and the construction of a 10 bay T-hangar building. Phase II - paving one taxiway for a proposed 10 bay T-hangar building on the north hangar development area and the construction of a 10 bay T-hangar building. Phase includes paving a connector taxiway, one taxiway and construction of a 20 bay T-hangar building on the north hangar development area. (includes Project Request Numbers: 2301)	1240 - Corporate and T-hangar Taxiway Construction	N/A	N/A	23.97	Wilkes	Holding Tank
A170731	Aviation		Division Needs	UKF - Wilkes County Airport	UKF - New Airport Terminal	N/A	Construct new airport terminal. Anticipated size of the new terminal	1305 - General Aviation Terminal Building: New Construction	N/A	N/A	21.39	Wilkes	Holding Tank
A170733	Aviation		Division Needs	UKF - Wilkes County Airport	UKF - Eastside Parallel Taxiway	N/A	Construct eastside partial parallel taxiway PC#3803	1100 - Taxiway Requirements	N/A	N/A	29.61	Wilkes	Holding Tank
A170736	Aviation		Division Needs	UKF - Wilkes County Airport	UKF - Eastside development and Access Road	N/A	An expansion of the Wilkes County Airport to the east is planned with the establishment of the Wilkes Business Airport. To facilitate the development for the 100+ acre site, a suitable access road is desired. PC# 2307	1100 - Taxiway Requirements	N/A	N/A	30.39	Wilkes	Holding Tank
A170738	Aviation	AV-5894	Division Needs	UKF - Wilkes County Airport	UKF - Runway Extension to 7,000'	N/A	Extend runway from 6,250 feet to 7,000 feet to facilitate larger aircraft take off and landing PC#3802	0500 - Runway Length/Width	N/A	N/A	57.94	Wilkes	Committed

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B170763	BikePed		Division Needs	Yadkin River Greenway Bridge Over Yadkin River	end of Yadkin River Greenway south	end of Yadkin River Greenway north	Construct bridge over the Yadkin River to connect the Yadkin River Greenway to the north and south of the Yadkin River	1 - Grade-Separated Bicycle Facility or National, State, or Regional Bicycle Route (Bicycle)	N/A	N/A	50.09	Wilkes	Holding Tank
B170765	BikePed		Division Needs	Yadkin River Greenway Bridge Over Reddies River	west side of Reddies River	east side of Reddies River	Construction of a multi-use path bridge connecting the existing greenways on the east and west banks of the Reddies River north of the existing US 421 Business / D Street bridge	1 - Grade-Separated Bicycle Facility or National, State, or Regional Bicycle Route (Bicycle)	N/A	N/A	50.58	Wilkes	Holding Tank
H090048	Highway	R-0616	Regional Impact	New Route - NC 268 Relocation (Wilkesboro-North Wilkesboro Bypass)	NC 18	US 421	NC 18 to US 421. Multi-Lanes, Part on New Location.	5 - Construct Roadway on New Location	N/A	65.13	N/A	Wilkes	Committed
H090173	Highway	R-5906	Regional Impact	NC 268	SR 1966 in Wilkes County	Elkin Bypass	SR 1966 in Wilkes County (R-2603) to Elkin Bypass (R-2604). Upgrade Two Lanes.	16 - Modernize Roadway	N/A	60.77	77.84	Wilkes	Carryover
H090193	Highway		Division Needs	New Route	US 421	NC 268	Construct new facility, part on new location.	6 - Widen Existing Roadway and Construct Part on New Location	N/A	N/A	45.76	Wilkes	Holding Tank
H140146	Highway		Division Needs	SR 1304 (Boone Trail Road)	SR 1372 (Curtis Bridge Road)	US 421 Business (D Street)	Build to current NCDOT standards	16 - Modernize Roadway	N/A	N/A	16.03	Wilkes	Holding Tank
H150294	Highway		Regional Impact	NC 16	US 421	SR 1317 (Pleasant Home Church Road)/SR 1347	Widen to four-lane divided facility.	1 - Widen Existing Roadway	N/A	29.33	19.06	Wilkes	Holding Tank
H150297	Highway		Regional Impact	NC 115 (Statesville Road)	SR 2340 (Fishing Creek Road)	US 421	Upgrade roadway.	16 - Modernize Roadway	N/A	29.67	24.17	Wilkes	Holding Tank
H170846	Highway		Regional Impact	US 421 Business (West D Street)	US 421	NC 18/268 (CBD Loop Road)	Widen existing roadway	1 - Widen Existing Roadway	N/A	38.83	46.18	Wilkes	Holding Tank

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H170650	Highway		Division Needs	Brown Ford Road	US 421	NC 268	Modernize roadway, partially on new location to straighten curves at Yadkin River crossing	16 - Modernize Roadway	N/A	N/A	41.03	Wilkes	Holding Tank
H171412	Highway		Regional Impact	SR 2366 (Wilkesboro Ave), NC 18 (8th Street)	NC 18 (Wilkesboro Boulevard)	NC 18 (Main Street)	Widen to 3 - Lane Facility w/ Bike and Pedestrian Accommodations	1 - Widen Existing Roadway	N/A	61.01	50.10	Wilkes	Holding Tank
H090645	Highway		Regional Impact	US 19	US 19E	Tennessee State Line	Upgrade the Existing Facility to 24 Ft Shoulder Section. (Mountainous Area)	16 - Modernize Roadway	N/A	15.68	14.14	Yancey	Holding Tank
H170802	Highway		Regional Impact	NC 80	US 19E	Mitchell County line	Upgrade roadway	16 - Modernize Roadway	N/A	13.90	12.85	Yancey	Holding Tank
H170829	Highway		Division Needs	Jacks Creek Road	East Green Mountain Road	Across One-Lane Bridge	Replace existing one lane bridge with two lane facility	1 - Widen Existing Roadway	N/A	N/A	3.88	Yancey	Holding Tank
T170739	Transit	TA-6723	Division Needs	Yancey County Transit Facility	N/A	N/A	Design and construction of 10,000 square foot modern office, training and maintenance facility new	8 - Facility - Administrative	N/A	N/A	72.98	Yancey	Committed