



**RRRPO TCC ZOOM Meeting
Tuesday-September 8, 2020
10 am – 12 noon**

Public is Invited to Attend

ZOOM Link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88575502017>



AGENDA: TECHNICAL COORDINATING COMMITTEE

Tuesday, September 8, 2020
ZOOM Mtg.
10 am-12 noon

1. Ethics Statement

Bridgette Helms, Chairperson

2. Amend/Adopt Agenda.....(ACTION NEEDED)

Bridgette Helms, Chairperson

3. Approval of Minutes from May 2020.....(ACTION NEEDED)

Bridgette Helms, Chairperson

4. Strategic Transportation Corridor Master Plan.....(INFORMATION)

Nastasha Earle-Young, NCDOT-TPD

5. RRRPO Letters of Support(ACTION NEEDED)

Lee Snuggs, RRRPO

- Union County/Build Grant
- City of Albemarle/Build Grant
- Town of Oakboro/Bike & Ped Grant

6. US #74 Master Plan Vision Resolution.....(ACTION NEEDED)

Lee Snuggs, RRRPO

7. FY 2019-2020 PWP Amendment.....(ACTION NEEDED)

Lee Snuggs, RRRPO

8. Transit Providers

- a. SCUSA.....Randy Shank
- b. ACTS.....Scott Rowell
- c. UCT.....Theresa Torres

9. NCDOT Updates

- a. County Updates.....Division Staff
- b. Mobility & Safety Division.....Regional Traffic Staff
- c. Corridor Development Engineer.....Scott Miller
- d. Transportation Planning Division.....John Bailey

10. Old Business
11. New Business
12. Public Comment
13. Adjourn

Next Meeting: Tuesday~ November 10, 2020



Technical Coordinating Committee Meeting Minutes

Members Present: Bridgette Helms (Chairperson - Stanfield), Jay Almond (Vice Chair – Badin), John Bailey (NCDOT-Planning Division), Anita Blair (Misenheimer), Susan Almond (New London), Scott Efird (Locust), Ross Holshouser (Albemarle-Alt.), Scott Howard (Norwood), Scott Rowell (Anson County), Randy Shank (Stanly County – Alt.), Ken Swaringen (Stanly County Airport), Lynn Griffin (Peachland), Jason Ritter (Richfield), and Lee Snuggs (RRRPO).

Members Absent: Bud Smith (Oakboro), Minnie Staton (Polkton), Joey Estridge (Ansonville), Bjorn Hansen (Union County), David Edwards (Wadesboro) and Brett Canipe (NCDOT-10).

Others Present: Scott Miller (NCDOT), Jeff Littlefield (NCDOT), Hannah Cook (NCDOT), Travis Preslar (NCDOT) and Lisa Park (RRRPO).

Welcome

The meeting convened at 10:00 am. Quorum was established.

1. Ethics Statement

The Ethics Statement was read to members by Chairperson Bridgette Helms.

2. Approval of Agenda

A motion was made by Scott Efird to approve the agenda.
It was seconded by Anita Blair and unanimously approved.

3. Approval of Minutes from March 2020

A motion was made by Anita Blair to approve the minutes.
It was seconded by Susan Almond and unanimously approved.

4. Letter of Support/Pledge for CCOG Build Grant Application (Approved)

Lee Snuggs, RRRPO

A letter of support and a pledge of \$5000 (contingent on CCOG receiving grant) over the next two years from the RRRPO was discussed. Support on behalf of the RRRPO for Centralina Council of Governments' application to the U.S. Department of Transportation's BUILD Discretionary Grant fund to support the Regional Transportation Systems Management and Operations (TSMO) Vision and Regional Intelligent Transportation System (ITS) Architecture and Strategic Deployment Plan and what this could mean regionally was also a topic of discussion.

A motion was made by Scott Rowell to approve the pledge/support for the CCOG Build Grant Application and recommend to the TAC.

It was seconded by Anita Blair and unanimously approved.

5. 2020-2021 PWP Final Review (Approved)

Lee Snuggs, RRRPO

Board members were presented for discussion and approval the final draft of the RRRPO PWP for 2020-2021.

A motion was made by Jay Almond to approve the 2020-2021 PWP and recommend to the TAC. It was seconded by Susan Almond and unanimously approved.

6. STIP Projects Final Review (Approved)

Scott Miller, NCDOT

Lee Snuggs, RRRPO

The members were provided the STIP Final Project Review spreadsheet and presented a lengthy discussion of all the projects that would be submitted by the end of July, 2020.

A motion was made by Scott Efird to approve the project list and recommend to the TAC. It was seconded Jay Almond and unanimously approved.

7. Transit Providers:

a. SCUSA: Randy Shank

- Stanly County will receive money from Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (**CARES**) Act to help pay for operating expenses.

b. ACT: Scott Rowell

- Anson County will also receive money from Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (**CARES**) Act to help pay for operating expenses.

8. NCDOT Updates:

a. County: Division Staff

- **NC 24/27 Widening Project (R-2530B)** - The widening of NC 24/27 from Albemarle to Lake Tillery. Work began shortly after Thanksgiving and is underway on the project. Contractor is currently working on storm drains and other items in preparation for the full widening of NC 24/27. It is scheduled to be complete at the end of 2023.
- **NC 24/27 Bridges (B-4974)** – End bents and approach work is continuing. Rehab work on the existing bridge piers continues to move forward. Arch pier and spandrel column construction work is ongoing in preparation for the new, wider bridge deck.
- **Pinkston River Bridge (B-2506)** – Contractor has been shut down for several weeks earlier in the Spring due to heavy rains in the area and extremely wet working conditions. Construction has been completed and a final inspection was held on Friday, May 8th. The bridge was opened to traffic. Some lane closures may be necessary over the next couple of weeks as the contractor works to complete punch list items and wrap up construction.
- **NCDOT Bike and Ped Planning Grant Initiative** – NCDOT is currently accepting applications from communities for a 2020 Bicycle & Pedestrian Planning Grant Initiative. All North Carolina municipalities are eligible to apply for a standard bike or pedestrian plan. Additionally, the following options are available:
 - Counties with populations of less than 50,000 may apply for a bicycle or pedestrian plan.
 - Smaller municipalities with populations of less than 10,000 can also apply to develop combined bicycle and pedestrian plans.
 - Municipalities of less than 5,000 population may apply for a Project Acceleration Plan – an abbreviated plan primarily focusing on priority project identification and implementation.
 - Municipalities (and counties with populations of less than 50,000) with a bicycle or pedestrian plan may also apply to update their plan if it is at least five years old. The deadline for applications to be submitted electronically was May 19 at 5 p.m. That deadline has recently been extended to June 30th. For more information, please contact Bryan Lopez at 919-707-2606 or at balopez@ncdot.gov.

- b. Mobility & Safety Division: No Updates**
- c. Corridor Development Engineer: Scott Miller**
 - Updates given during STIP P6.0 discussion
- d. Transportation Planning Division: John Bailey**
 - NCDOT financial situation uncertain due to the decrease of tax revenue from gas/car sales during pandemic.
 - Plans are being made on how to best proceed with the loss of tax revenue.
 - Legislature approved \$300 million for NCDOT, but it is federal COVID funds and NCDOT is unsure if these funds can supplement the loss of tax revenue.
 - More projects may be cut or delayed.
 - Potential NCDOT employee furloughs.

9. Old Business: None

10. New Business: None

11. Public Comment: None

12. Adjourned at 11:12 am.

Scott Efird made the motion to adjourn and it was seconded by Susan Almond.
The motion was unanimously approved.

Adopted: This the 8th day of September, 2020.

Bridgette Helms, TCC Chairperson

Lee Snuggs, Secretary

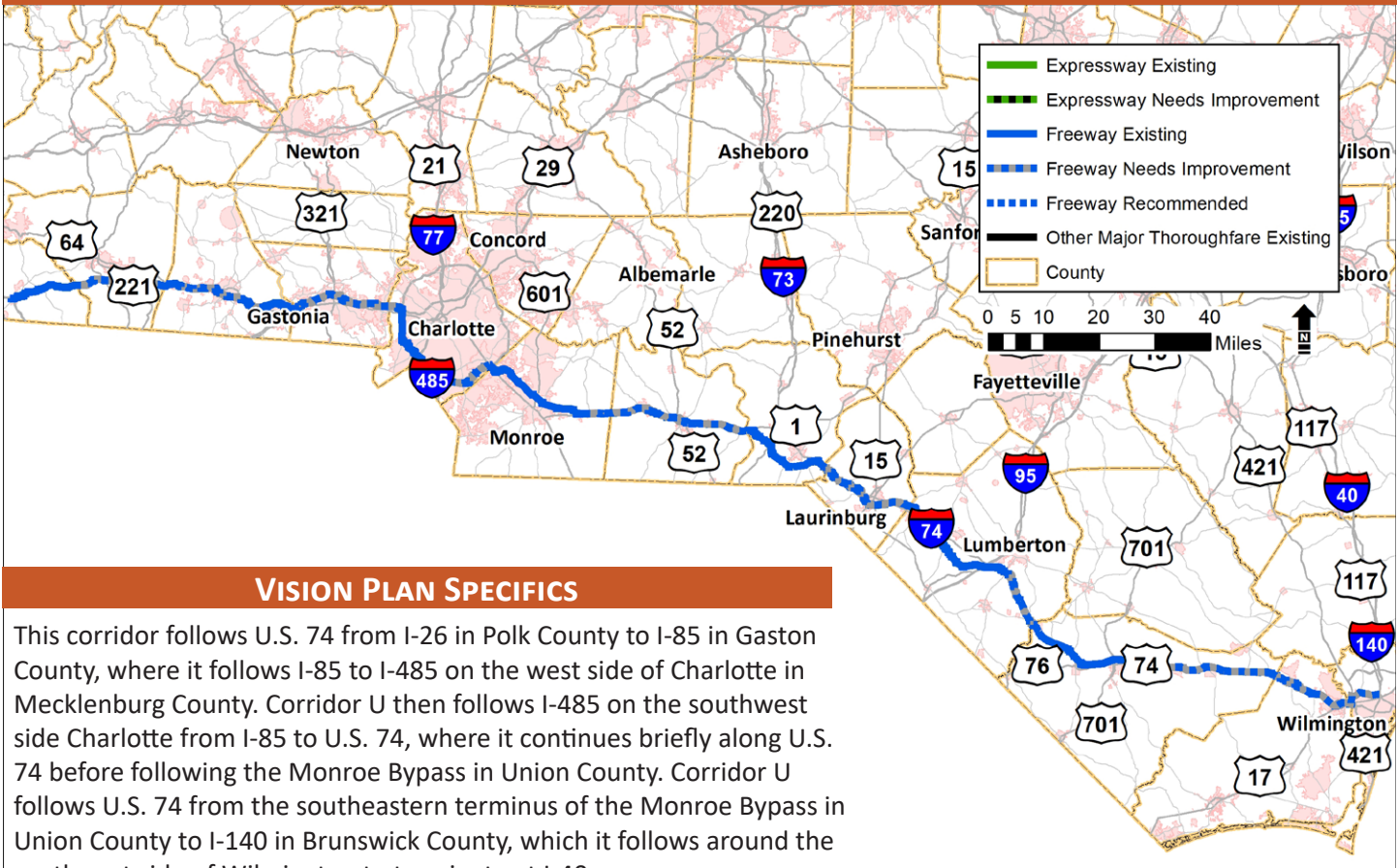
CORRIDOR U

U.S. 74/I-74/I-85/I-485 – I-26 in Polk County to U.S. 117 in Wilmington

GENERAL DESCRIPTION

The 292-mile Corridor U serves southwest North Carolina from I-26 in Polk County to U.S. 117 in Wilmington, the primary access to the Port at Wilmington, traversing the state's southern tier counties and the Charlotte metropolitan area. U.S. 74 carries high truck volumes for the entire length of the corridor and high passenger volumes from Shelby to Monroe. Corridor U overlaps Corridor H (Future I-74) for 91 miles from Rockingham to Columbus County. The corridor is used as both a regional and statewide connection to major employment centers, airports, and health centers.

GEOGRAPHIC LOCATION



VISION PLAN SPECIFICS

This corridor follows U.S. 74 from I-26 in Polk County to I-85 in Gaston County, where it follows I-85 to I-485 on the west side of Charlotte in Mecklenburg County. Corridor U then follows I-485 on the southwest side of Charlotte from I-85 to U.S. 74, where it continues briefly along U.S. 74 before following the Monroe Bypass in Union County. Corridor U follows U.S. 74 from the southeastern terminus of the Monroe Bypass in Union County to I-140 in Brunswick County, which it follows around the northwest side of Wilmington to terminate at I-40.

- Freeway cross-section
- AASHTO Design Classification of Interstate or Freeway
- Minimum 4 lanes with a median
- Connections provided only at interchanges
- Traffic signals and driveways not allowed

AREAS IDENTIFIED FOR ADDITIONAL STUDY

- Complete high-capacity, high-speed improvements for improved route continuity
- Increase reliability and capacity from Shelby to Monroe
- Safety improvements on rural, uncontrolled access sections to address high crash sections or hot spots
- Establish consistent route continuity for improved freight operations
- Park and Ride and Express Bus providing additional public transit options to address congestion
- Track improvements to facilitate rail freight/passenger flow based on rail and freight plans
- Wilmington area improvements

CORRIDOR U

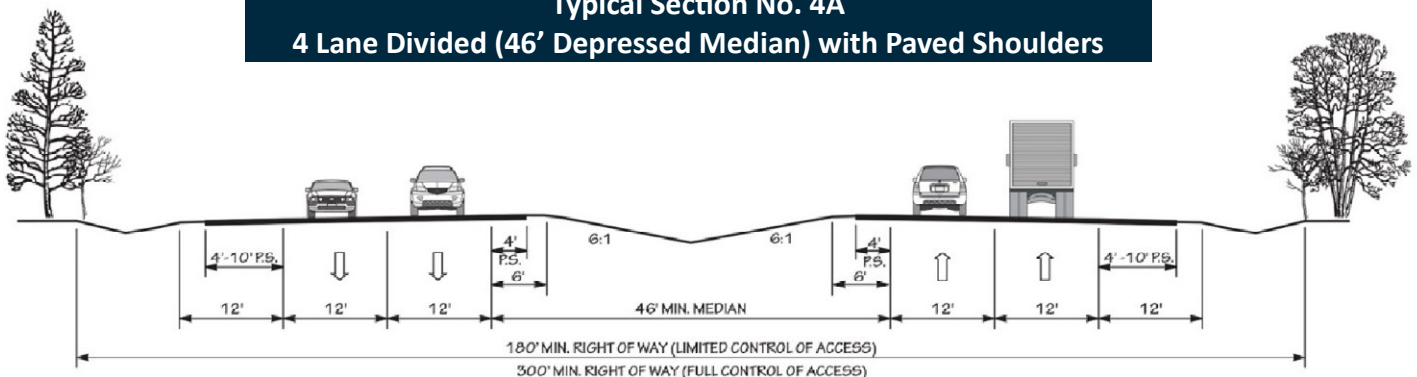
U.S. 74/I-74/I-85/I-485 – I-26 in Polk County to U.S. 117 in Wilmington

KEY FUNCTIONS AND EXPECTATIONS (FUNCTIONS OF CORRIDOR IN CONTEXT OF STC GOALS AND CRITERIA)

- **Connectivity:** Corridor U is a part of the STRAHNET and STRACNET military networks and is becoming part of the interstate system from Richmond County to Columbus County.
- **Mobility:** This corridor connects Charlotte, Wilmington, and other regional population centers with multiple interstates and major routes including I-26, I-85, and I-95 providing passenger and freight mobility across the state's southern tier.
- **Economic Prosperity:** U.S. 74 connects multiple statewide economic resources including two international airports, Carolinas Medical Center, and the Port of Wilmington.
- **Expectation:** Corridor U is expected to remain the principal east-west corridor through NC's southern tier of counties. The principal mobility expectations are safe, reliable transition through the greater Charlotte region and consistent, high-speed travel from the Port of Wilmington to the Charlotte metro region, in support of high-level economic activities.

CROSS-SECTION

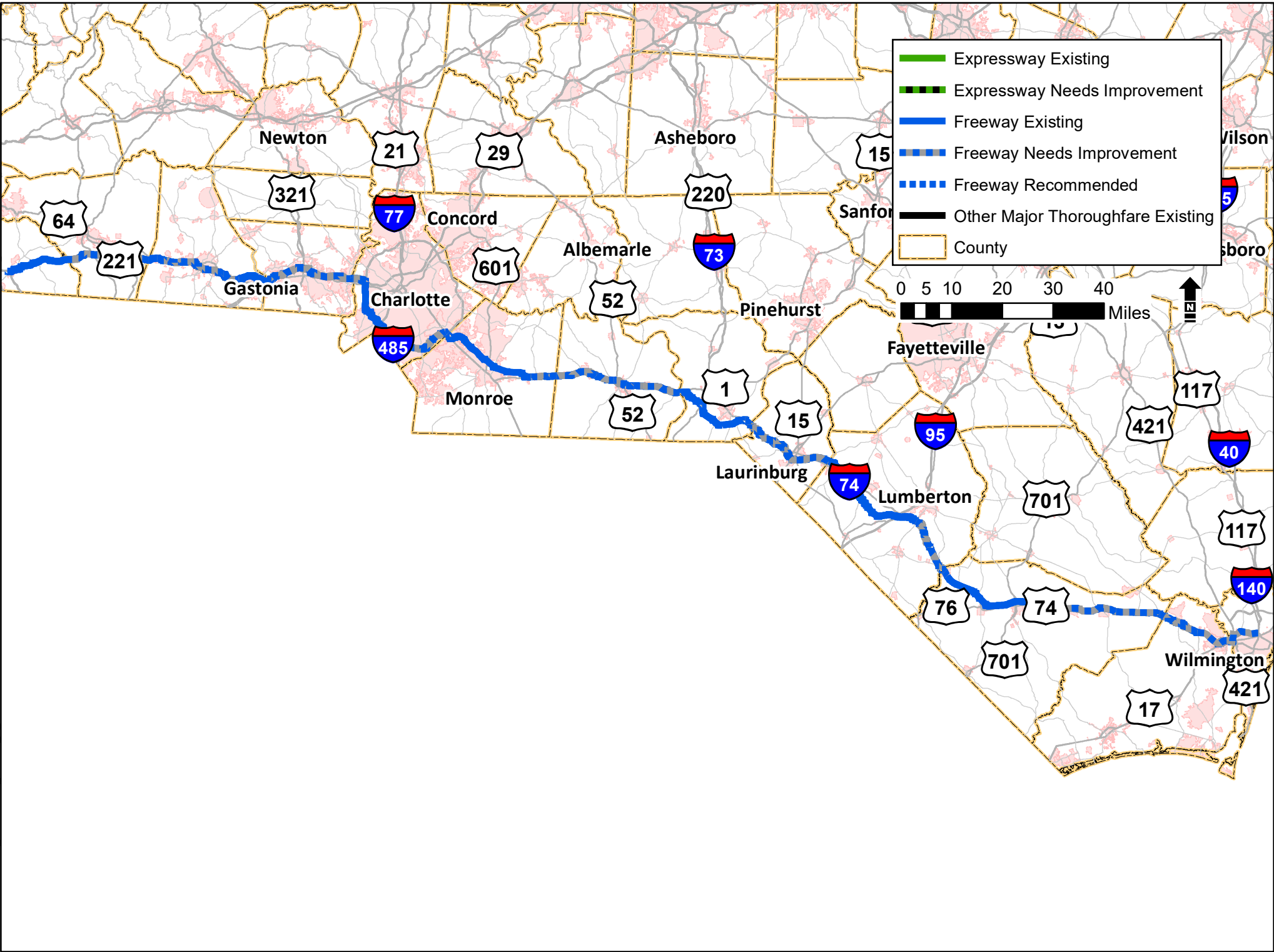
Typical Section No. 4A 4 Lane Divided (46' Depressed Median) with Paved Shoulders



Posted Speed 45-70 mph

FACILITY INFORMATION

| STIP Projects & CTP Recommendations | Connections and Freight | Primary Activity Centers |
|--|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • R-2707, U.S. 74 Shelby Bypass • I-5719, I-85 from U.S. 321 to N.C. 273 widen to eight lanes • I-6016, I-85 and I-485 interchange improvements • R-5878, U.S. 74 Wadesboro Bypass • I-6055, Upgrade U.S. 74 corridor to interstate standards in Richmond and Scotland counties • I-6011, Upgrade U.S. 74 corridor to interstate standards in Columbus and Robeson counties | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • U.S. 74 carries high truck volumes along the entire length of the corridor • U.S. 74 carries high passenger volumes from Shelby to Monroe • Almost entire route is part of the National Highway System • Entire route is Federal designated truck route • 304 bridges along the corridor: 6 are structurally deficient, 91 are functionally obsolete | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Charlotte Douglas International Airport • Wilmington International Airport • Port of Wilmington • Charlotte region employment centers • UNC Charlotte • UNC Pembroke • UNC Wilmington • New Hanover Regional Medical Center • Charlotte Inland Terminal |





May 11, 2020

Mr. Bjorn E. Hansen
Senior Planner – Long Range Planning
Union County Planning Department
500 North Main Street, Suite 70
Monroe, NC 28112

RE: Building a Resilient Carolinas USDOT BUILD Grant Application

Dear Mr. Hansen,

On behalf of Rocky River Rural Planning Organization (RRRPO), I want to express support for Union County's "Building a Resilient Carolinas" application for a US Department of Transportation BUILD grant. Damaged and closed roadways due to flooding are a recurring issue in the area. We support a study to identify a list of targeted improvements to the transportation system, as well as recommended development regulations that can reduce the impact of new development on the stormwater and transportation systems. We are eager to participate in this needed study once it is awarded.

Please let me know if you have any questions. I may be reached at 704.512.8163 or lsnuggs@rockyriverrpo.org.

Sincerely,

Chris Whitley,
RRRPO TAC Chairman

Lee Snuggs,
RRRPO Director



5/13/2020

Elaine L. Chao
U.S. Transportation Secretary
Office of the Secretary of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave, SE
Washington, DC 20590
United States

Dear Secretary Chao:

On behalf of Rocky River Rural Planning Organization (RRRPO), I want to express support for the City of Albemarle's application for a US Department of Transportation BUILD grant. The RRRPO supports the City of Albemarle's plan to build the Business Center and update safety enhancements at the 5-Points intersection. They are developing a Bio-Medical corridor from 5-Points to the Business Center with plans to recruit medical and other industry. The grant would make safety improvements at 5-Points intersection and relieve traffic to improve safety on Hwy. 24-27. This is a top priority project on the RRRPO's SPOT 6.0 project list.

Please let me know if you have any questions. I may be reached at 704.985.8640 or cwhitley@ci.albemarle.nc.us.

Sincerely,

Chris Whitley,
TAC Board Chairman, RRRPO

Lee Snuggs,
Director, RRRPO



June 29, 2020

Town of Oakboro
109 North Main Street, #A
Oakboro, North Carolina 28129

RE: Town of Oakboro Bicycle/Pedestrian Grant Application

On behalf of the Rocky River Rural Planning Organization, I want to express support for the Town of Oakboro's bicycle/pedestrian grant application.

The Town of Oakboro is applying for the Project Acceleration Plan - designed for municipalities with a population under 5,000 to focus on priority project identification and implementation. This grant would fund a bicycle/pedestrian plan/system that will enable Oakboro to plan and seek out future projects that would make Oakboro a safer place to walk/ride, with better connected facilities.

Please let me know if you have any questions. I may be reached at 704.512.8163 or lsnuggs@rockyriverrpo.org.

Sincerely,

Lee Snuggs,
Rocky River RPO Director

Chris Whitley,
Rocky River RPO TAC Chairman



**A RESOLUTION
SUPPORTING THE U.S. 74 MASTER PLAN VISION,
FROM I-26 IN POLK COUNTY TO
U.S. 117 WILMINGTON,
CORRIDOR U OF THE STRATEGIC
TRANSPORTATION CORRIDORS NETWORK**

WHEREAS, the N.C. Department of Transportation adopted the Strategic Transportation Corridors (STC) Network in 2015 to establish a multimodal, high-priority system of highways, rail lines, ports, and airports to support smart planning, help set long-term investment decisions, and ensure that North Carolina’s economic prosperity goals are achieved; and

WHEREAS, the *North Carolina Transportation Network and Strategic Transportation Corridors Framework* calls for the development of individual strategic corridor master plans in each of the 25 designated corridors with a buffer of 20 miles on either side of each facility; and

WHEREAS, the corridor master plan for U.S. 74, from I-26 in Polk County to U.S. 117 in Wilmington, identified as Corridor U in the STC Framework, is being advanced from its more general network-level identification to a corridor-specific master plan vision built upon a common technical framework; and

WHEREAS, the intent of the Corridor U Master Plan is to develop a consistent transportation vision for the corridor, based on stakeholder input and sound technical assessment, that recognizes statewide economic development objectives, advances subsequent regional planning and corridor project development activities, and can serve to streamline the project development process; and

WHEREAS, it is the intent of the N.C. Department of Transportation to expand and maintain Corridor U as a freeway from I-26 in Polk County to U.S. 117 in Wilmington; and

WHEREAS, the Rocky River Rural Planning Organization represents Corridor U along U.S. 74 through Anson County.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THIS ____ DAY OF _____ 2020, that the Rocky River Rural Planning Organization, does hereby adopt this resolution supporting the N.C. Department of Transportation master plan vision for Corridor U along U.S. 74 through Anson County.

ATTEST:

Lee Snuggs, Director
Rocky River Rural Planning Organization

Chris Whitley , Chairman
Rocky River Rural Planning Organization

| | FY 2019-2020 RRRPO AMENDMENT | | | Adopted FY 2019-2020 RRRPO | | |
|--|---|----------------------|---------------|-----------------------------------|----------------------|---------------|
| | LOCAL 20% | STATE 80% | TOTAL | LOCAL 20% | STATE 80% | TOTAL |
| DATA | \$ 4,100 | \$ 16,400 | 20500 | \$ 4,100 | \$ 16,400 | 20500 |
| | No Change | | | | | |
| CTP DEVELOPMENT | 4800 | 19200 | 19000 | 4800 | 19200 | 24000 |
| | Subtraction: \$5000 will not be used because the Anson CTP wasn't started due to NCDOT-Transportation reduction in staff. | | | | | |
| PRIORITIZATION | 1000 | 4000 | 5000 | 1000 | 4000 | 5000 |
| | No Change | | | | | |
| PROGRAM AND PROJECT DEVELOPMENT | 640 | 2560 | 8200 | 640 | 2560 | 3200 |
| | Adding: \$5000 to Program & Project Development. This line item involved more work than anticipated with the STIP P6.0. | | | | | |
| GENERAL TRANSPORTATION PLANNING | 5960 | 23840 | 29800 | 5960 | 23840 | 29800 |
| | No Change | | | | | |
| ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIVITIES | 3000 | 12000 | 15000 | 3000 | 12000 | 15000 |
| | No Change | | | | | |
| PROGRAMMATIC DIRECT CHARGES | 4400 | 17600 | 22000 | 4400 | 17600 | 22000 |
| | No Change | | | | | |
| ADVERTISING | 40 | 160 | 200 | 40 | 160 | 200 |
| | No Change | | | | | |
| LODGING, MEALS, INCIDENTALS | 800 | 3200 | 4000 | 800 | 3200 | 4000 |
| | No Change | | | | | |
| POSTAGE | 40 | 160 | 200 | 40 | 160 | 200 |
| | No Change | | | | | |
| REGISTRATION / TRAINING | 214 | 855 | 1069 | 214 | 855 | 1069 |
| | No Change | | | | | |
| TRAVEL | 1600 | 6400 | 8000 | 1600 | 6400 | 8000 |
| | No Change | | | | | |
| TOTAL | 54969 | 78000 | 132969 | 54969 | 78000 | 132969 |

_____, September 17, 2020
RRRPO Chairman

_____, September 17, 2020
RRRPO Secretary