
**TRANSYLVANIA COUNTY TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MINUTES
April 26, 2022, 6:00PM**

- I. Welcome and Introductions:** Chair David Carter called the meeting to order at 6:00PM. Mr. Rick Lasater, Mr. Jimmy Whitmire, Mr. Scott McCall, Rick Houck, and Mr. Mark Tooley were also present. A quorum was present. Mark Burrows, Steve Williams, Lonnie Watkins, Troy Wilson, Vicki Eastland, Allen McNeill and Katlyn Galloway were also present.
- II. Public Comment:** Mr. Edward Winstead provided Public Comment on the Green River Bridge Project to the Commission. He expressed his concern of future flooding and the impact it could have on surrounding properties, given the area is already prone to flooding.
- III. Agenda Modifications:** There were no proposed agenda modifications.
- IV. Presentations and Recognitions:**
- A.** Green Road Bridge Update- Mr. Lonnie Watkins, the NCDOT District Engineer, gave a presentation on the Green River Bridge Project. He explained NCDOT has met with many community leaders, environmental and engineering experts to plan the project. He addressed the bridge itself, the surrounding road and flooding risks. He explained the old bridge is currently insufficient for vehicle carrying capacity. The new bridge will be 36 feet longer than the old one. It will also be widened from a one lane to a two lane and will have shoulders added. The opening under the bridge will also be 340sq feet greater than the former. There will also be improvements to the approaching road to decrease flooding and increase safety. Mr. Winstead also briefly asked questions on the presentation. Mr. Watkins also clarified that permitting on this project was submitted to FEMA. Mr. Watkins explained that while the road will likely still flood, the new bridge is expected to reduce those occurrences.
- V. Consent Agenda:**
- A.** Minutes (October 12, 2021)
There were no proposed changes to the consent agenda. Mr. McCall moved to approve the consent agenda. Mr. Whitmire seconded the motion. All present members voted in favor and the motion carried.
- VI. Old Business:**
- A.** NCDOT State STIP Program Update
Ms. Eastland gave an update on the budget constraints of the STIP Program. This plan will be updated every four years. The pedestrian bridge across Davidson River and Wilson

Road improvements have been approved and will soon be underway. The new STIP 2024 program is also in its draft stages. The Asheville Hwy project is still on the schedule to be completed despite previous worries about funding. Ms. Eastland also gave a number of other updates on future projects.

- B. NCDOT Current Project Update: Ms. Eastland also explained the future schedule of projects like Davidson River and Country Club Road. Brevard Academy and Davidson River Connector are the current projects. The Commission briefly discussed ongoing projects.
- C. Transylvania County Comprehensive Transportation Plan (CTP) Update: Ms. Eastland gave an update on the CTP that coincides with NCDOTs plans. She said the recommendations were accepted and the draft plan should be finalized by the end of the calendar year.

VII. New Business:

A. Director’s Report

Mr. Allen McNeill, the Planning Director, gave an update on staff changes in the Transportation Department. Due to Ms. Alm leaving, the supervisor position is currently open. Ms. Katlyn Galloway is also Planning and Transportation’s new Administrative Support Specialist.

VIII. Public Comment: Mr. Watkins and the Commission answered more questions from Mr. Winstead on the Green River Bridge Project.

IX. Committee Members’ Comments: Mr. Carter and other members discussed their concerns of the Green River Bridge Project and the risks of potential flooding. Mr. Whitmire also expressed his concerns and suggested flooding concerns caused the Green River Bridge to be delayed in the past. Mr. Lasater moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Whitmire seconded the motion. All present members voted in favor and the motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 7:34PM.

Ashley Minery, Planner

Date

Chair

Date