

ALBEMARLE RURAL PLANNING ORGANIZATION
Board Meetings Agenda

Wednesday, April 15, 2026 10:00am.
Location: Albemarle Commission ▪ 512 S Church St, Hertford, NC
Virtual (Zoom) option available upon request

Rural Technical Coordinating Committee: Starts at 10:00 AM

- | | | |
|---|---------------------------|--------------|
| 1. Call to Order | Shelley Cox, RTCC Chair | |
| 2. Roll Call | Ethan Sommers, ARPO Staff | |
| 3. Ethics Awareness & Conflict of Interest Reminder | Ethan Sommers, ARPO Staff | Pg.3 |
| 4. Approval of Agenda | Shelley Cox, RTCC Chair | Pg.4 |
| 5. Approval of 02/18/2026 Meeting Minutes | Shelley Cox, RTCC Chair | Pg.5 |
| 6. Public Comments | Shelley Cox, RTCC Chair | Pg.11 |
| 7. STIP Project R-2576(Mid-Currituck Bridge) | Shelley Cox, RTCC Chair | Pg.12 |
| 8. Express Designs Selections | Shelley Cox, RTCC Chair | Pg.23 |
| 9. Adjournment | Shelley Cox RTCC Chair | |

Presentations and Updates

- NCDOT Division 1 **Pg.28**
- NCDOT Ferry Division **Pg.30**
- NCDOT Transportation Planning Division **Pg.31**
- Albemarle RPO **Pg.33**

Rural Transportation Advisory Committee: Starts at 11:00 AM

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|---|-------------------------------|--------------|
| 1. Roll Call | Ethan Sommers, ARPO Staff | |
| 2. Call to Order | Lloyd Griffin III, RTAC Chair | |
| 3. Ethics Awareness & Conflict of Interest Reminder | Ethan Sommers, ARPO Staff | Pg.3 |
| 4. Approval of Agenda | Lloyd Griffin III, RTAC Chair | Pg.4 |
| 5. Approval of 02/18/2026 Meeting Minutes | Lloyd Griffin III, RTAC Chair | Pg.5 |
| 6. Update from RTCC | Shelley Cox, RTCC Chair | |
| 7. Public Comments | Lloyd Griffin III, RTAC Chair | Pg.11 |
| 8. STIP Project R-2576 (Mid-Currituck Bridge) | Lloyd Griffin III, RTAC Chair | Pg.12 |
| 9. Express Designs Selections | Lloyd Griffin III, RTAC Chair | Pg.23 |
| 10. Adjournment | Lloyd Griffin III, RTAC Chair | |

Members of the public who are present may address the RTCC and RTAC. Each speaker will be limited to three (3) minutes, and each group's representative will be limited to a maximum of five (5) total minutes. Prior to addressing the RTCC and RTAC, each speaker must state their name and, if applicable, the group that they are representing.

**Albemarle Rural Planning Organization
Rural Transportation Advisory Committee**

Camden County	Primary County Commissioner Rep.	Troy Leary	tleary@camdencountync.gov
	Alternate County Commissioner Rep.	Tiffany White	tiffneywhite@camdenncountync.gov
Chowan County	Primary County Commissioner Rep.	Larry McLaughlin	larry.mclaughlin@chowan.nc.gov
	Alternate County Commissioner Rep.	Ellis Lawrence	ellistech1@gmail.com
Currituck County	Primary County Commissioner Rep.	Troy Breathwaite	troy.breathwaite@currituckcountync.gov
	Alternate County Commissioner Rep.		
Dare County	Primary County Commissioner Rep.	Carson Creef	carson.creef@darenc.gov
	Alternate County Commissioner Rep.	Mary Ellon Ballance	maryellon.ballance@darenc.gov
Gates County	Primary County Commissioner Rep.	Nathan Berryman	nberryman@gatescountync.gov
	Alternate County Commissioner Rep.		
Hyde County	Primary County Commissioner Rep.	Randal Mathews, Vice-Chair	randal.g.mathews@gmail.com
	Alternate County Commissioner Rep.		
Pasquotank County	Primary County Commissioner Rep.	Lloyd Griffin III, Chair	legriffin111@gmail.com
	Alternate County Commissioner Rep.		
Perquimans County	Primary County Commissioner Rep.	Charles Woodard	woodardsrx@inteliport.com
	Alternate County Commissioner Rep.		
Tyrrell County	Primary County Commissioner Rep.	Nina Griswell	ngriswell@tyrrellcounty.net
	Alternate County Commissioner Rep.		
Washington County	Primary County Commissioner Rep.	Carol Phelps	cphelpscocomm@gmail.com
	Alternate County Commissioner Rep.	John C. Spruill	John@jcspruill.com
Board of Transportation	Primary Representative	Tess Judge	bot-tsjudge@ncdot.gov
	Alternate Representative	David Womack	dhwomack@ncdot.gov
Columbia	Primary Representative		
Creswell	Primary Representative		
Duck	Primary Representative	Marc Murray	Marc.Murray@ducknc.gov
Edenton	Primary Representative		
Elizabeth City	Primary Representative		
Gatesville	Primary Representative		
Hertford	Primary Representative		
Kill Devil Hills	Primary Representative		
Kitty Hawk	Primary Representative	Dylan Tillett	Dylan.tillett@kittyhawktown.net
Manteo	Primary Representative	Betty Selby	bselby@manteonc.gov
Nags Head	Primary Representative	Ben Cahoon	ben.cahoon@nagsheadncgov
Plymouth	Primary Representative		
Roper	Primary Representative		
Southern Shores	Primary Representative	Paula Sherlock	Psherlock@southernshores-nc.gov

**Albemarle Rural Planning Organization
Rural Transportation Coordinating Committee**

Camden County	County Manager or His/Her Designee	Amber Curling	acurling@camdencountync.gov
Chowan County	County Manager or His/Her Designee	Kevin Howard	kevin.howard@chowan.nc.gov
Currituck County	County Manager or His/Her Designee	Rebecca Gay	rebecca.gay@currituckcountync.gov
Dare County	County Manager or His/Her Designee	Noah Gillam	noah.gilliam@darenc.gov
Gates County	County Manager or His/Her Designee	Lisa Cherry	Lcherry@gatescountync.gov
Hyde County	County Manager or His/Her Designee	Kris Cahoon Noble, Vice Chair	knoble@hydecountync.gov
Pasquotank County	County Manager or His/Her Designee	Shelley Cox, Chair	coxs@co.pasquotank.nc.us
Perquimans County	County Manager or His/Her Designee	Brandon Shoaf	brandonsohaf@perquimanscountync.gov
Tyrrell County	County Manager or His/Her Designee	David Clegg	dclegg@tyrrellcounty.net
Washington County	County Manager or His/Her Designee	Curtis Potter	cpotter@washconc.org
Columbia	Chief Admin. Official of His/ Her Designee		
Creswell	Chief Admin. Official of His/ Her Designee		
Duck	Chief Admin. Official of His/ Her Designee	Jim Gould	Jgould@ducknc.gov
Edenton	Chief Admin. Official of His/ Her Designee	Corey Gooden	Corey.gooden@edenton.nc.gov
Elizabeth City	Chief Admin. Official of His/ Her Designee		
Gatesville	Chief Admin. Official of His/ Her Designee		
Hertford	Chief Admin. Official of His/ Her Designee		
Kill Devil Hills	Chief Admin. Official of His/ Her Designee	Meredith Guns	Meredith@kdhnc.com
Kitty Hawk	Chief Admin. Official of His/ Her Designee	William Midgett	willie.midgett@kittyhawknc.gov
Manteo	Chief Admin. Official of His/ Her Designee	Josh Houston	jhouston@manteonc.gov
Nags Head	Chief Admin. Official of His/ Her Designee	Joe Costello	joe.costello@nagsheadnc.gov
Plymouth	Chief Admin. Official of His/ Her Designee		
Roper	Chief Admin. Official of His/ Her Designee		
Southern Shores	Chief Admin. Official of His/ Her Designee	Wes Haskett	whaskett@southernshores-nc.gov
Winfall	Chief Admin. Official of His/ Her Designee		
NCDOT Division 1	Division Engineer or His/Her Designee	Chris Slachta	cslachta@ncdot.gov
NCDOT-TPD	TPD Coordinator	Maksym Bezruchko	mbezruchko@ncdot.gov



Albemarle Rural Planning Organization
04/15/2026 Board Meetings
Agenda Abstract

Agenda Item Number: 3.
Agenda Title: Ethics Awareness & Conflict of Interest Reminder
Presenter(s): Ethan Sommers, ARPO Staff

Summary of Information:

Pursuant to G.S. §138A-15 (e) - ETHICS AWARENESS & CONFLICT OF INTEREST REMINDER:
Does any member have any known conflict of interest with respect to matters coming before the board(s) today? If so, please identify the conflict and refrain from any participation in the particular matter involved.

Staff Recommendations/Motions:

Attachments:



Albemarle Rural Planning Organization
04/15/2026 Board Meetings
Agenda Abstract

Agenda Item Number: 4.
Agenda Title: Approval of Agenda
Presenter(s): RTCC Chair Cox
RTAC Chair Griffin

Summary of Information:

Agenda for the April 15, 2026 Albemarle RPO Board Meetings.

Staff Recommendations/Motions:

1. RTCC Approval of Agenda for April 15, 2026 Albemarle RPO Board Meetings
 2. RTAC Approval of Agenda for April 15, 2026 Albemarle RPO Board Meetings
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Attachments:



Albemarle Rural Planning Organization
04/15/2026 Board Meetings
Agenda Abstract

Agenda Item Number: 6.
Agenda Title: Approval of 02/18/2026 Meeting Minutes
Presenter(s): RTCC Chair
RTAC Chair Griffin

Summary of Information:

February 18, 2026 ARPO Board Meeting Minutes.

Staff Recommendations/Motions:

1. RTCC approval of February 18, 2026 ARPO Board Meeting Minutes
 2. RTAC approval of February 18, 2026 ARPO Board Meeting Minutes
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Attachments:

1. February 18, 2026 *ARPO Board Meeting Minutes*

ALBEMARLE RURAL PLANNING ORGANIZATION
Wednesday, February 18, 2026
RTCC & RTAC MEETINGS

Minutes of the Rural Technical Coordinating Committee (RTCC) Meeting – 10:00 AM

Call to Order

The Albemarle RPO Rural Transportation Advisory Committee (RTCC) met in regular session on Wednesday, February 18, 2025. The meeting was held in person at the Albemarle Commission and had a virtual format via Zoom. The RTCC meeting was opened and called to order by RTAC Chairman Lloyd Griffin III at 10:00 AM.

Roll Call

Ethan Sommers, ARPO Staff, determined a quorum was met with the following members in attendance: Amber Curling, Camden County; Shelley Cox, Pasquotank County; Kris Noble, Hyde County; Lisa Cherry, Gates County; Kevin Howard, Chowan County; Rebecca Gay, Currituck County; Brandon Shoaf, Perquimans County; Curtis Potter, Washington County; Josh Houston, Manteo; William Midgett, Kitty Hawk; Sandy Cross, Duck; Wes Haskett, Southern Shores; Joe Costello, Nags Head; Chris Slachta, NCDOT Division 1; Maksym Bezruchko, TPD

Ethics Awareness & Conflict of Interest Reminder

Ethan Sommers read the ethics awareness and conflict of interest reminder (G.S. 138A-15 (e)) to both committees. No conflicts were disclosed.

Agenda Approval

Brandon Shoaf motioned to approve the agenda, Jim Gould seconded the motion. With no further discussion, the motion passed unanimously.

Election of The RTCC Chair

Kris Noble made a motion for Vice Chair Shelley Cox to become acting chair for the remainder of Rhett White's term. The motion was seconded by Kevin Howard. With no further discussion the motion passed unanimously. This left a vacancy in the Vice Chair role. Wes Haskett made a motion to nominate Kris Noble for the Vice Chair position. This motion was seconded by Rebecca Gay. With no further discussion the motion passed.

Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

Wes Haskett made a motion to approve the meeting minutes from the November 19, 2025, meeting. The motion was seconded by Kevin Howard.

ALBEMARLE RURAL PLANNING ORGANIZATION
Wednesday, February 18, 2026
RTCC & RTAC MEETINGS

Change of the Albemarle Rural Planning Organization 2026 Schedule

Ethan Sommers presented on Albemarle Rural Planning Organization 2026 schedule going over the new date changing it from April 22, 2026, to April 15, 2026. This was just making everyone aware of the typo made when creating the schedule.

Approval of Update to the Public Participation Plan

Ethan Sommers presented the Updated Public Participation Plan. The only change was to remove the biweekly Transportation updates from ARPO Staff. A motion was made to approve the updated Public Participation Plan by Curtis Potter and seconded by Wes Haskett. With no further discussion the motion carried.

Approval of the Local Input Methodology for P8.0

Ethan Sommers Presented on the Local Input Methodology for P8.0. The presentation covered the process which aims to get input from the individual counties to promote the geographic spacing of the projects that are selected for local input points. A motion was made to approve the Local Input Methodology for P8.0 by Vice Chair Kris Noble and seconded by Rebecca Gay. With no further discussion the motion carried.

Approval of the FY2027 Planning Work Program

Ethan Sommers Presented on the FY2027 Planning Work Program. There were changes made to the travel section and CTP Development. The motion was made by Wes Haskett and seconded by Kevin Howard. With no further discussion the motion carried.

Public Comments

No public comments.

Adjournment

Upon motion by Kevin Howard, seconded by Wes Haskett, the RTCC voted unanimously to adjourn at 10:51 AM.

ALBEMARLE RURAL PLANNING ORGANIZATION
Wednesday, February 18, 2026
RTCC & RTAC MEETINGS

Presentations and Updates

Confident Scope and Cost Estimate (CSCE): Ben Johnson, Division of Planning & Programming STIP
Eastern Region Manager

Mid-Currituck Bridge Update Presentation: Ronnie Sawyer, Division One Engineer
David Roy, N.C. Turnpike Authority

NCDOT Division 1: Chris Slachta, Division 1 Planning Engineer

NCDOT Ferry Division: Jed Dixon, Deputy Director for Maritime Operations & Programming

NCDOT TPD: Maksym Bezruchko, Transportation Engineer II

Albemarle RPO: Ethan Sommers, ARPO Staff

Minutes of the Rural Transportation Advisory Committee (RTAC) Meeting – 11:43AM

Call to Order

The Albemarle RPO Rural Transportation Advisory Committee (RTAC) met in regular session on Wednesday, February 18, 2026. The meeting was held in person at the Albemarle Commission and had a virtual format via Zoom. The RTAC meeting was opened and called to order by RTAC Chairman Lloyd Griffin III at 11:43 AM.

Roll Call

Voting Members: Chairman Lloyd Griffin III, Pasquotank County; Vice-Chairman Randal Mathews, Hyde County; Mary Ellon Ballance Dare County; Carol Phelps, Washington County; Larry McLaughlin, Chowan County; Troy Breathewaite, Currituck County; Tess Judge Board of Transportation;

Non-Voting Members: Ronnie Sawyer, NCDOT Division 1;

Staff: Ethan Sommers, Albemarle RPO

Others: Jed Dixon, NCDOT Ferry Division; Wongoo Lee, NCDOT TPD; Kevin Howard, Chowan County;

ALBEMARLE RURAL PLANNING ORGANIZATION
Wednesday, February 18, 2026
RTCC & RTAC MEETINGS

Ethics Awareness & Conflict of Interest Reminder

Ethan Sommers ARPO staff, read the ethics awareness and conflict of interest reminder (G.S. 138A-15 (e)) to both committees. No conflicts were disclosed.

Agenda Approval

A motion was made to amend the agenda to have the Mid-Currituck Bridge Update Presentation included by Mary Ellon Ballance, Carol Phelps, seconded the motion. With no further discussion, the motion passed unanimously.

Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

Carol Phelps made a motion to approve the of November 19, 2025, regular meeting minutes. Troy Breathwaite seconded the motion. With no further discussion, the motion passed unanimously.

Change of the Albemarle Rural Planning Organization 2026 Schedule

Ethan Sommers presented on Albemarle Rural Planning Organization 2026 schedule going over the new date changing it from April 22, 2026, to April 15, 2026. This was just making everyone aware of the typo made when creating the schedule.

Approval of Update to the Public Participation Plan

Ethan Sommers presented the Updated Public Participation Plan. The only change was to remove the biweekly Transportation updates from ARPO Staff. A motion was made to approve the updated Public Participation Plan by Mary Ellon Ballance and seconded by Carol Phelps. With no further discussion the motion carried.

Approval of the Local Input Methodology for P8.0

Ethan Sommers Presented on the Local Input Methodology for P8.0. The presentation covered the process which aims to get input from the individual counties to promote the geographic spacing of the projects that are selected for local input points. A motion was made to approve the Local Input Methodology for P8.0 by Vice Chair Randal Mathews and seconded by Larry McLaughlin. With no further discussion the motion carried.

ALBEMARLE RURAL PLANNING ORGANIZATION
Wednesday, February 18, 2026
RTCC & RTAC MEETINGS

Approval of the FY2027 Planning Work Program

Ethan Sommers Presented on the FY2027 Planning Work Program. There were changes made to the travel section and CTP Development. The motion was made by Carol Phelps and seconded by Larry McLaughlin. With no further discussion the motion carried.

Public Comments

No public comments.

Adjournment

Upon motion by Carol Phelps, seconded by Vice-Chairman Randle Mathews, the RTAC voted unanimously to adjourn at 12:14 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ethan Sommers, Secretary
Albemarle Rural Planning Organization



Albemarle Rural Planning Organization
04/15/2026 Board Meetings
Agenda Abstract

Agenda Item Number: 6.
Agenda Title: Public Comments
Presenter(s): RTCC Chair Cox
RTAC Chair Griffin

Summary of Information:

Members of the public who are present may address the RTCC and RTAC.

Staff Recommendations/Motions:

Attachments:



Albemarle Rural Planning Organization
04/15/2026 Board Meetings
Agenda Abstract

Agenda Item Number: 7.
Agenda Title: STIP Project R-2576 (Mid-Currituck Bridge)
Presenter(s): Ethan Sommers, ARPO Staff
Ronnie Sawyer, PE, NCDOT Division One
David Wasserman, PE, NCDOT Division of Planning & Programming

Summary of Information:

On February 18, 2026, NCDOT presented a Mid-Currituck Bridge update to the RTCC and RTAC. This update showed that the project is currently ~\$800,000,000 short in funding for right-of-way and construction. NCDOT stated that the project is not financially feasible without additional funds. They showed the two options to move forward:

1. No change – project continues to tie up funds in Division 1 (default)
 - Ultimately without additional funds, the project cannot move to right-of-way and construction
2. Project status changed to Preliminary Engineering to be evaluated in P8 to seek Statewide Mobility, Region A, or Division 1 funds
 - \$173M becomes available for other projects in Division 1 selected in P8
 - **Joint decision between ARPO and Division needed by April 17th if project is to compete in P8**

Possible Motions:

1. Motion for No Change
2. Motion to Change the Status of STIP Project R-2576 (Mid-Currituck Bridge) to Preliminary Engineering

Attachments:

1. *Mid-Currituck Bridge Update – ARPO – 4-15-26*
2. *Currituck County Resolution for ARPO Support for Committed Funding for Mid-Currituck Bridge*
3. *Dare County Resolution for Supporting the Continued Inclusion of the Mid-Currituck Bridge*
4. *ARPO Resolution for Option Two a Status Change of the Project to Preliminary Engineering*



NORTH CAROLINA
Department of Transportation

Mid-Currituck Bridge (R-2576) Update

Ronnie Sawyer, PE, NCDOT Division One

David Wasserman, PE, NCDOT Division of Planning & Programming

April 15, 2026

Connecting people, products and places safely and efficiently with customer focus, accountability and environmental sensitivity to enhance the economy and vitality of North Carolina

Latest Cost (as of Sept 2025) and Comparative Analysis

Item	Description		Traditional Toll ¹	P3 Toll ²
Design-Build Cost	Design and construction costs	+	\$955 M	\$940 M
Right-of-Way, Utilities, Toll Integration, and Landscaping	Right-of-way, utility relocation work, ITS/tolling equipment, and landscaping costs	+	\$64 M	\$ 64 M
Contingencies & Other Agency and Developer Costs	Contingency funding and other agency and developer costs (for P3) during the design and construction period.	+	\$181 M	\$86 M
Total Project Cost (YOE \$)		=	\$1,200 M	\$1,090 M
Net Cash Flow from Tolling Operations	Toll revenues minus lifecycle costs (O&M, tolling, renewal and replacement) and financing costs (debt service).	-	\$195 M	\$215 M
Total Project Funding Gap (without STIP Funding)		=	\$1,005 M	\$875 M
STIP Funding	Funding allocated from P3.0 in the Division Needs – Division 1 category	-	\$173 M	\$173 M
Funding Gap		=	\$832 M	\$702 M

Project is not financially feasible without additional funding

1 - Traditional Toll Delivery: Financial, operational, and construction-related risks are borne by the State (via NCDOT/NCTA)

2 - P3 Toll Delivery: Revenue, financial, operational and construction-related risks are borne by the private sector/single Developer.

Where Do We Go From Here?

Two Options:

1. Status Quo: No change (default)
 - NCDOT continues to work through legal challenges
 - NCDOT continues to seek additional alternative funds (such as federal grants)
 - Project continues to tie up the \$173M in Division 1 (\$145M in the 10-year STIP window)
 - **Ultimately without additional funds, the project cannot move to right-of-way and construction**

2. ARPO and NCDOT agree to change the project to Funded for Preliminary Engineering Only
 - Project competes in P8 – eligible for Statewide Mobility, Region A, or Division 1 funds
 - NCDOT continues to work through legal challenges
 - NCDOT continues to seek additional alternative funds (such as federal grants)
 - \$173M is available for other selected projects in Division 1
 - ~~Would be used to potentially accelerate existing project(s) and/or~~ used on projects selected in P8 (in Division 1 Division Needs category)
 - **Need to decision by April 17th if the project is to compete in P8**

Where Do We Go From Here?

P8 Possible Outcomes

1. Project scores high enough for funding in Statewide Mobility, Region A, or Division 1
 - Project will likely be scheduled for Preliminary Engineering Only until legal challenges are resolved
 - Project will automatically re-compete in P9 (project submittal currently planned in 2027)
 - If project doesn't score high enough for funding in Statewide Mobility or Region A, ARPO and Division can assign local input points to help project score high enough for funding in the Division Needs category
 - 50% of the total Division Needs score is based on local input points (25% ARPO & 25% Division 1)
 - If project scores high enough for funding, project would likely be funded for PE Only & \$173M is freed up for other projects
2. Project does not score high enough for funding or funding is not available in Statewide Mobility, Region A, or Division 1
 - Likely would not score high enough if both ARPO and Division don't assign local input points to MCB in P8
 - NCDOT will need to decide how to bring Preliminary Engineering (including permitting) to a logical stopping point and how to handle legal challenges
 - Project would need to be submitted by ARPO to compete in P9

Where Do We Go From Here?

Scoring Analysis

- NCDOT conducted analysis to see how the project would have scored if evaluated in P7
- Analysis indicated it would have ranked:
 - 206 out of 590 in Statewide Mobility (not high enough for funding; only top 22 projects selected)
 - 15 out of 156 in Region A, presuming both RPO and Division each assigned 100 points*

Funding will still remain a challenge

- Based on P7 scoring analysis, the project is not likely to score high enough for funding in Statewide Mobility
 - Competing against highly congested routes throughout the state
- Region A is smallest region by population (only receives 8% of Regional Impact funds)
- In the 2026-2035 STIP, only ~\$800M in Region A was available for ALL projects
 - Includes bridge, safety, and projects selected through Prioritization
- For comparison, in the 2026-2035 STIP, ~\$800M in Division 1 was available for ALL projects

*Subject to funding availability

Summary

Project is not financially feasible without additional funds

Two Options:

1. No change – project continues to tie up funds in Division 1 (default)
 - Ultimately without additional funds, the project cannot move to right-of-way and construction
2. Project evaluated in P8 to seek Statewide Mobility, Region A, or Division 1 funds
 - \$173M becomes available for other projects in Division 1 **selected in P8**
 - **Joint decision between ARPO and Division needed by April 17th if project is to compete in P8**

Questions?



COUNTY OF CURRITUCK

Resolution Requesting Support From the Albemarle Rural Planning Organization (ARPO) for the Mid-Currituck Bridge Project (R-2576) to Remain Committed for Funding in the 2026-2035 State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP)

WHEREAS, the Mid-Currituck Bridge Project, State Transportation Improvement Project (STIP) R-2576, is an approximately seven-mile long, two-lane toll project that would cross Currituck Sound and connect the mainland at U.S. 158 near Aydlett with N.C. 12 in Corolla; and

WHEREAS, the project was first proposed in 1975 through a resolution adopted by the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) Board of Transportation and the need was verified by traffic studies in the 1980's and an initial feasibility study completed in the 1990's; and

WHEREAS, the Mid-Currituck Bridge is a project of county and regional significance necessary to substantially improve traffic flow on N.C. 12 and U.S. 158, substantially reduce travel time between the Currituck County mainland and the Currituck County Outer Banks and substantially reduce hurricane evacuation clearance time for residents and visitors who use U.S. 158 and N.C. 168 during a coastal evacuation; and

WHEREAS, the Mid-Currituck Bridge was adopted in the STIP as "New Bridge over Currituck Sound" per the Trust Fund Act in 1989 and upon establishment of the North Carolina Turnpike Authority in 2002 was identified as one of three toll projects in North Carolina; and

WHEREAS, the State Transportation Investment (STI) Act became law in 2013 and removed annual appropriations for the Mid-Currituck Bridge; and

WHEREAS, in 2014, the Albemarle Rural Planning Organization (ARPO) submitted the toll project in Prioritization 3.0 and the project scored for funding in the Division Needs category securing \$173 million from STI funds; and

WHEREAS, the project was programmed in the 2016-2025 STIP with right of way and construction in 2019 as a toll project with a maximum of \$173 million in STI funds; and

WHEREAS, the project was delayed by legal challenges that were resolved in 2023 and the project team obtained regulatory permits in late 2025; and

WHEREAS, the NCDOT completed a Comparative Analysis (Value for Money) which considers funding and cost, construction and project risk, tolling policy and risks, and other factors for project delivery as a traditional toll project and public-private partnership (P3) project; and

WHEREAS, the analysis shows both the traditional toll delivery and P3 delivery are not currently financially feasible without additional funding; and

WHEREAS, the NCDOT has requested the ARPO consider removing the Mid-Currituck Bridge Project from Committed for Funding status from the 2026-2035 STIP; and

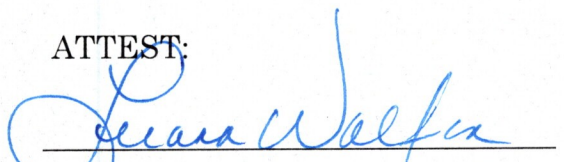
WHEREAS, removing the project from the STIP will undermine decades of planning and environmental review, and regional support for the project; and

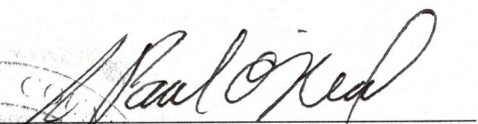
WHEREAS, maintaining committed for funding status for the project in the 2026-2035 STIP will provide sufficient time to identify and secure alternative funding sources for the project.

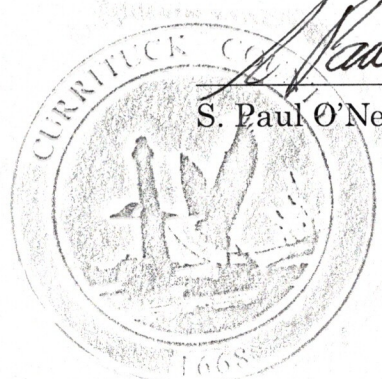
NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Currituck County Board of Commissioners requests support from the ARPO for the Mid-Currituck Bridge to remain committed for funding in the 2026-2035 STIP.

ADOPTED this, the 6th day of April, 2026.

ATTEST:


Leeann Walton, Clerk to the Board


S. Paul O'Neal, Chairman





26-04-05

RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE CONTINUED INCLUSION OF THE MID-CURRITUCK BRIDGE PROJECT IN THE NCDOT STATE TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

WHEREAS, the Mid-Currituck Bridge is a vital infrastructure project intended to provide a second crossing of the Currituck Sound, connecting the mainland to the Outer Banks near Corolla; and

WHEREAS, the project is critical to improving hurricane evacuation clearance times, which currently exceed the state-designated standard for the northern Outer Banks; and

WHEREAS, Dare County has long supported this project to alleviate severe seasonal traffic congestion on N.C. 12 and U.S. 158, which impacts the quality of life and safety of residents and visitors; and

WHEREAS, recent financial analysis indicates that the estimated construction costs for the bridge have risen, creating a significant funding gap beyond currently committed state funds and projected toll revenues; and

WHEREAS, the County believes the base toll rate of \$15 is well below what users would likely pay and urges NCDOT to analyze the potential impact of a higher toll rate to reduce the revenue gap.

WHEREAS, the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) has recently considered pulling back committed funds and requiring the project to re-compete for funding in the State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP); and

WHEREAS, the Dare County Board of Commissioners believe that removing or de-prioritizing the project now would undermine decades of planning, environmental review, and recent legal victories that have cleared the way for construction; and

WHEREAS, keeping the project in the STIP for one additional funding cycle provides the necessary timeframe for stakeholders, including the N.C. Turnpike Authority and regional partners, to identify and secure alternative revenue sources, such as federal grants or updated tolling strategies.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Dare County Board of Commissioners that:

Retention in STIP: The County strongly urges the NCDOT and the North Carolina Board of Transportation to retain and advance the Mid-Currituck Bridge project (STIP Number R-2576) in the current and future State Transportation Improvement Program.

Funding Search: The County supports a concentrated effort by state and local officials to aggressively pursue new revenue streams, including federal U.S. Department of Transportation grants and public-private partnerships, to bridge the current funding gap.

Regional Priority: The County reaffirms the Mid-Currituck Bridge as its highest transportation priority for regional safety, emergency management, and economic stability.



Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Robert L. Woodard, Jr.", written over a horizontal line.

Robert L. "Bob" Woodard, Chairman
Dare County Board of Commissioners

ATTEST:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Skyler Foley", written over a horizontal line.

Skyler Foley
Clerk to the Board

**ALBEMARLE RURAL PLANNING ORGANIZATION
RURAL TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**RESOLUTION
REQUESTING THE STATUS CHANGE OF THE MID-CURRITUCK BRIDGE PROJECT (R-2576)
IN THE 2026-2035 STATE TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM**

WHEREAS, the Albemarle Rural Planning Organization (ARPO) provides cooperative, comprehensive, and continuing transportation planning services for the Counties of Camden, Chowan, Currituck, Dare, Gates, Hyde, Pasquotank, Perquimans, Tyrrell, and Washington; and

WHEREAS, the Rural Transportation Advisory Committee (RTAC) is the duly recognized transportation planning policy board for the Albemarle Rural Planning Organization; and

WHEREAS, STIP Project R-2576 proposes the construction of a seven-mile long two-lane toll bridge across the Currituck Sound, connecting US 158 and NC 12; and

WHEREAS, the ARPO RTAC has reviewed the status of the Mid-Currituck Bridge project and its associated funding requirements; and

WHEREAS, current financial projections for the North Carolina Turnpike Authority and State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) indicate a substantial funding shortfall that is significantly below the total cost necessary to construct the Mid-Currituck Bridge; and

WHEREAS, maintaining the project in the STIP under these conditions while funded in the Division Needs category, prevents the funds from being used on other high-priority regional transportation needs; and

WHEREAS, changing the status Mid-Currituck Bridge project to Funded for Preliminary Engineering Only at this time would release approximately **\$173 million** in Division Needs funds currently reserved funds the project, of which \$145 million would be available for projects within the ongoing Prioritization cycle known as P8;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Albemarle RPO RTAC Board formally requests that the status of the Mid-Currituck Bridge project in the State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) be changed from *Scheduled for Delivery* to *Funded for Preliminary Engineering Only*, in order to release the approximately \$145 million previously reserved for the project, which shall be reallocated to eligible transportation projects within the current prioritization cycle (P8), in accordance with applicable state guidelines and funding procedures.

ADOPTED, this the 15th day of April, 2026.

Lloyd E. Griffin III, RTAC Chair
Albemarle Rural Planning Organization

Ethan Sommers, Secretary
Albemarle Rural Planning Organization



Albemarle Rural Planning Organization
04/15/2026 Board Meetings
Agenda Abstract

Agenda Item Number: 8.
Agenda Title: Express Design Selections
Presenter(s): Ethan Sommers, ARPO Staff

Summary of Information:

Prioritization 9.0 begins the express design requirement for highway projects submittals. This new requirement aims to mitigate the risk of cost overruns on projects that make it into the STIP. The Albemarle RPO has eight express design submittals to complete prior to Prioritization 9.0. NCDOT has divided these into three groups, with the first group was submitted on November 30, 2025 the second group will be submitted before June 30, 2026. Attachment One outlines the projects that ARPO staff plan to submit by this deadline.

Staff Recommendations/Motions:

Attachments:

1. *List of Express Design Submittals for P9*
2. *Maps of the Express Design Submittals for P9*
3. *P9 Express Design Calendar*

Albemarle RPO Express Design Submittals (2/3)

County	Roadway	From	To	Description of the Project
Washington	US-64	NC-149	Washington County Elementary/ High School	A Reduce Conflict Intersection (RCI) corridor designed to improve safety and multimodal connectivity, featuring a continuous multi-use path on one side, a sidewalk on the other, and enhanced pedestrian crossing features along the route to minimize vehicle–pedestrian and vehicle–bicycle conflicts.
Chowan/ Perquimans	US-17 (Future I- 87)	NC-37		Convert at-grade intersection to and interchange that is to Interstate standard
Gates	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD

US-64 RCI Express Design Map

Legend

- US-64 Express Design Section One
- US-64 Express Design Section Two





NC-37/US-17 Interchange

- Legend**
- NC-37 Bridge
 - New Roadway
 - Ramp
 - Roundabout

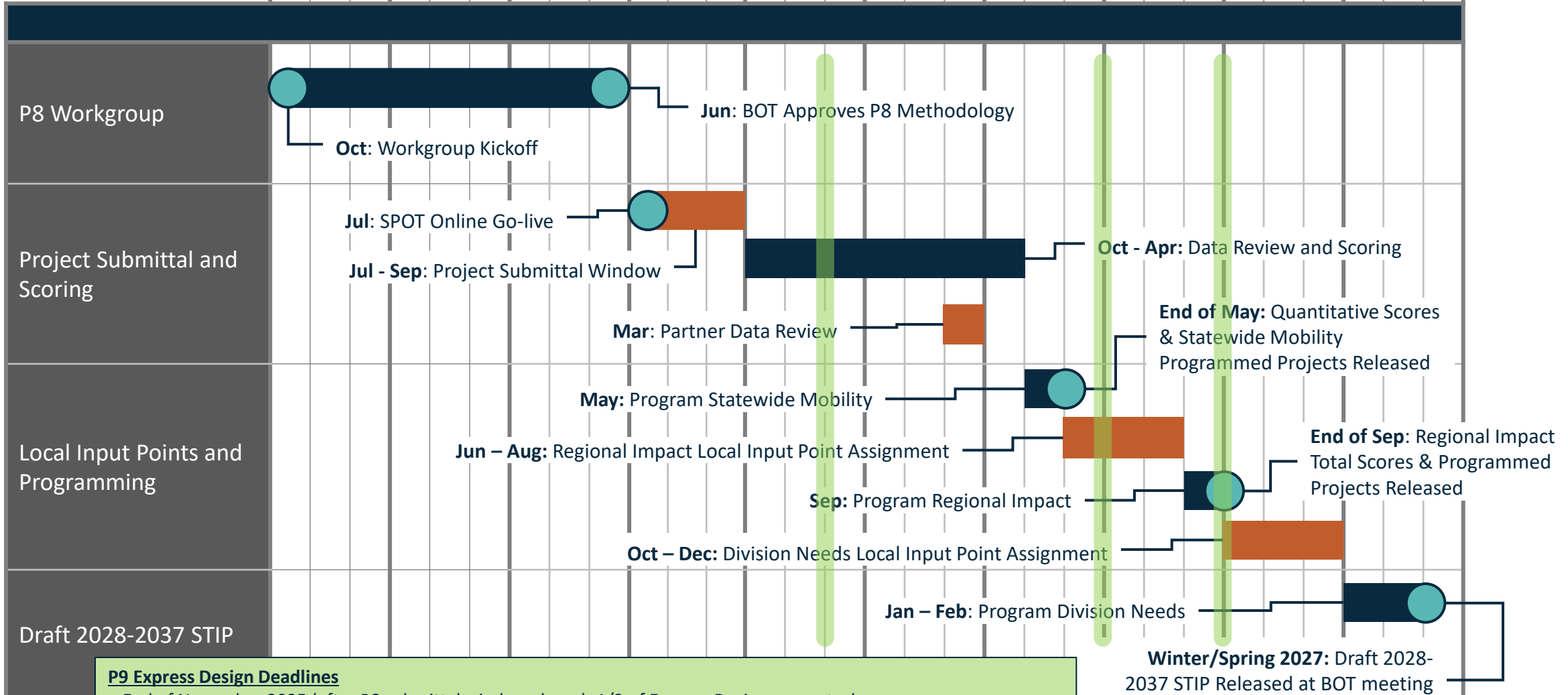


P8 Schedule (with P9 Express Design deadlines)

October 2024
(ED content revised April 2026)

-  Fixed Dates
-  Partner Input

2024			2025						2026						2027														
O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	M



- P9 Express Design Deadlines**
- End of November 2025 (after P8 submittal window closes): 1/3 of Express Design requests due
 - End of June 2026 (after release of P8 quantitative scores): 1/3 of Express Design requests due
 - End of September 2026 (*subject to change*): 1/3 of Express Design requests due



Albemarle Rural Planning Organization
04/15/2026 Board Meetings
Agenda Abstract

Agenda Section: Presentations and Updates

Agenda Title: NCDOT Division 1

Presenter(s): NCDOT Division 1 Staff

Summary of Information:

Updates and Reports from NCDOT Division 1.

Staff Recommendations/Motions:

Attachments:

1. *Construction Progress Report*

Contract Number	Division	County	TIP#	Tier	Route	Location Description	Contractor	NCDOT Contact	Letting Date	Completion Date	Completion Percent
C204775	1	Dare	HB-0017	Statewide	US-64	BRIDGE #9 ON US-64 IN MANNS HARBOR.	COASTAL GUNITE CONSTRUCTION COMPANY	Pablo A. Hernandez, PE	9/20/2022	11/1/2026	71%
C204854	1	Gates, Pasquotank	R-5808	Statewide	US-158	US-158 FROM SR-1002 (ACORN HILL ROAD) TO EAST OF PASQUOTANK COUNTY LINE.	FSC II LLC DBA FRED SMITH COMPANY	Brandon J. Tatum	12/17/2024	2/28/2028	43%
C204999	1	Dare, Tyrrell	HB-0001	Statewide	US-64	BRIDGE #880007 OVER THE ALLIGATOR RIVER ON US-64.	SKANSKA USA CIVIL SOUTHEAST INC	Pablo A. Hernandez, PE	12/2/2024	4/19/2030	42%
DA00610	1	Dare		Statewide	US-64	7 SECTIONS ALONG THE US-64 CORRIDOR	FSC II LLC DBA FRED SMITH COMPANY	Brandon J. Tatum	9/18/2024	12/11/2026	95%
DA00620	1	Dare			US-64	1 SECTION OF US-64	FSC II LLC DBA FRED SMITH COMPANY	Brandon J. Tatum	5/21/2025	12/15/2026	0%
DA00632	1	Dare	ER-5600AD		-	NAGS HEAD, NC (WHALEBONE JUNCTION)	RICHARD J CARLSON LLC DBA CARLSONS LANDSCAPING	Brandon J. Tatum	2/19/2025	3/1/2027	0%
DA00633	1	Dare	ER-5600AE		US-158	KITTY HAWK, NC	RICHARD J CARLSON LLC DBA CARLSONS LANDSCAPING	Brandon J. Tatum	2/19/2025	5/15/2027	0%
DA00636	1	Tyrrell			US-64	US-64 & NC-94 IN COLUMBIA	BARNHILL CONTRACTING CO	Gerard E. Mombaerts	10/29/2025	5/15/2026	5%
DA00657	1	Hyde, Tyrrell			-	1 SECTION OF US-264, 3 SECTIONS OF NC-45, 1 SECTION OF NC-94 , & 2 SECTIONS OF SECONDARY ROADS	FSC II LLC DBA FRED SMITH COMPANY	Gerard E. Mombaerts	1/21/2026	8/27/2027	0%
DA00671	1	Camden	ER-5600AB		US-17	DISMAL SWAMP VISITORS CENTER	NATURAL CHOICE CONTRACTING LLC	Brandon J. Tatum	9/3/2025	4/30/2027	90%
DA00675	1	Dare		None	US-64	DARE COUNTY REST AREA ON US-64 IN MANTEO, NC	A R CHESSON CONSTRUCTION CO INC	Brandon J. Tatum	11/5/2025	5/15/2026	30%
DA00676	1	Dare			-	NCDOT - FERRY DIVISION	STEVENS TOWING CO INC	Craig A. Midgett	1/21/2026	6/2/2026	50%
Additional Resurfacing											
DA00612	1	Camden, Pasquotank			SR-1164	15 SECTIONS OF SECONDARY ROADS	BARNHILL CONTRACTING CO	Brandon J. Tatum	11/20/2024	9/18/2026	0%
DA00613	1	Chowan, Gates, Perquimans			SR-1303	VARIOUS SECONDARY ROUTES	C D ROSE CONSTRUCTION LLC	Brandon J. Tatum	12/4/2024	9/18/2026	0%
DA00616	1	Washington		None	US-64	4 SECTIONS OF US-64 & 6 SECTIONS SECONDARY ROADS	BARNHILL CONTRACTING CO	Gerard E. Mombaerts	3/5/2025	11/20/2026	91%
DA00619	1	Perquimans			-	3 SECTIONS OF NC-37 & 3 SECONDARY ROADS	FSC II LLC DBA FRED SMITH COMPANY	Brandon J. Tatum	5/7/2025	12/15/2026	0%
DA00621	1	Bertie, Hyde, Martin, Tyrrell			SR-1106	12 SECTION OF SECONDARY ROADS	WHITEHURST PAVING CO INC	Gerard E. Mombaerts	6/18/2025	10/15/2026	0%
DA00622	1	Camden, Currituck			SR-VARI	21 SECTIONS OF SECONDARY ROADS	BARNHILL CONTRACTING CO	Brandon J. Tatum	5/21/2025	12/15/2026	0%
DA00624	1	Hyde, Tyrrell			-	1 SECTION OF NC-94 & 3 SECTIONS OF SECONDARY ROADS	FSC II LLC DBA FRED SMITH COMPANY	Gerard E. Mombaerts	7/16/2025	12/15/2026	0%
DA00652	1	Chowan, Perquimans		Subregional	SR-VARI	7 SECTIONS OF SECONDARY ROADS	FSC II LLC DBA FRED SMITH COMPANY	Brandon J. Tatum	9/17/2025	11/6/2026	80%
DA00653	1	Bertie, Hertford, Hyde, Northampton			SR-VARI	11 SECTION OF SECONDARY ROADS	RILEY PAVING INC RILEY PAVING INC	Gerard E. Mombaerts	9/17/2025	11/6/2026	0%



Albemarle Rural Planning Organization
04/15/2026 Board Meetings
Agenda Abstract

Agenda Section: Presentations and Updates
Agenda Title: NCDOT Ferry Division
Presenter(s): NCDOT Ferry Division Staff

Summary of Information:

Updates and Reports from the NCDOT Ferry Division.

Staff Recommendations/Motions:

Attachments:



Albemarle Rural Planning Organization
04/15/2026 Board Meetings
Agenda Abstract

Agenda Section: Presentations and Updates
Agenda Title: NCDOT Transportation Planning Division
Presenter(s): NCDOT Transportation Planning Division Staff

Summary of Information:

Updates and Reports from the NCDOT Transportation Planning Division.

Staff Recommendations/Motions:

Attachments:

1. *TPD Newsletter April 2026*

NCDOT TPD NEWS



NCDOT TPD - Albemarle RPO Newsletter

April 2026

Transportation Planning Division (TPD)

Advancing NC's Mobility Future

Resources to plan for future transportation solutions through the delivery of Comprehensive Transportation Plans (CTP), Traffic Forecasts, Model Research and Development, and other Long Range Planning products & services. These solutions are conducted in partnership with Metropolitan and Rural Planning Organizations, NCDOT Divisions, and local governments.

<https://connect.ncdot.gov/projects/planning/Pages/default.aspx>

“Connecting people, products and places safely and efficiently with customer focus, accountability and environmental sensitivity to enhance the economy and vitality of North Carolina....”

- NCDOT Mission Statement

Camden Currituck Pasquotank Regional CTP Update

The **previous Steering Committee meeting** was held on **March 4**. During the meeting, CTP staff presented the Deficiency Analysis Maps for both the base year and future year, along with the Resiliency Maps.

CTP engineers are currently developing highway project recommendations based on the current STIP and previous SPOT submissions.

Next, the team will prepare project sheets for each highway project and begin coding bicycle and pedestrian projects. Draft project sheets will be presented at the **next Steering Committee meeting** at the end of **May**.

The **estimated completion date** for the CCP CTP is **October 2027**

Freight Plan Update

It is a federal requirement that states update their statewide freight plan every four years. NCDOT is currently working with the consultant firm, WSP, to update its statewide multimodal freight plan. During March, NCDOT held stakeholder engagement meetings in Durham, Charlotte, Asheville, and Wilmington. A lot of great input was collected at these meetings. In April, Freight Forums will be held across the state to connect with industries:

April 22, 2026 – 9am-Noon; CAMPO Office; 1 Fenton Main St. Ste 201; Cary, NC 27511

April 23, 2026 – 1:30-4:30 pm; WUAMPO Office; 525 N 4th St; Wilmington, NC 28401

April 28, 2026 – 9am-Noon; Charlotte DOT; 600 E. 4th St, CMGC 267; Charlotte, NC 28202

April 29, 2026 – 1:30pm-4:30 pm; LOSCOG; 339 New Leicester Hwy, Ste. 140; Asheville, NC 28806

Helpful Links

ncdot.gov—NCDOT home page

<https://drivenc.gov/> - Real-Time Traffic

<https://www.ncdot.gov/contact/Pages/form.aspx?UnitName=pothole&sourceUrl=/contact/> - Report a pothole

[NCDOT Annual Average Daily Traffic \(AADT\) Mapping Application \(arcgis.com\)](#)
- Interactive Annual Average Daily Traffic Map

<https://www.ncdot.gov/initiatives-policies/transportation/stip/Pages/default.aspx>—
NCDOT: State Transportation Improvement Program

<https://www.ncdot.gov/bikeped/ncbikeways/default.aspx>
- Interactive Bicycle Routes Map

<https://connect.ncdot.gov/resources/State-Mapping/Pages/Traffic-Survey-Group.aspx> - Links to all traffic count data information

Contact Us

Maksym Bezruchko

NCDOT TPD

1 S. Wilmington Street
Raleigh, NC

(919) 707-0974
mbezruchko@ncdot.gov

Visit us on the web
www.ncdot.gov

Upcoming	Date
Deadline for TAC members to file SEI and RED with NC Ethics commission	April 15, 2026
Last day to submit adopted FY 27 PWP	May 8, 2026
3rd Quarter invoice and work summary due	May 12, 2026

Statewide Plans (To learn more, click on the following links)

- NC Moves 2050 Plan - <https://www.ncdot.gov/initiatives-policies/Transportation/nc-2050-plan/Pages/default.aspx>
- NCDOT Strategic Transportation Corridors - <https://www.ncdot.gov/initiatives-policies/Transportation/strategic-corridors/Pages/default.aspx>
- NCDOT Comprehensive State Rail Plan (25-Year Vision) - <https://www.ncdot.gov/divisions/rail/Pages/rail-plan.aspx>
- NC Statewide Multimodal Freight Plan (2023) - <https://connect.ncdot.gov/projects/planning/Statewide-Freight-Plan/Pages/default.aspx>
- Great Trails State Plan - <https://www.ncdot.gov/divisions/integrated-mobility/multimodal-planning/great-trails-state/Pages/default.aspx>
- Statewide Pedestrian & Bicycle Plan - <https://www.ncdot.gov/bikeped/walkbikenc/default.aspx>
- Connecting North Carolinians to Opportunities (Public Transportation Strategic Plan - 2018) - <https://digital.ncdcr.gov/documents/detail/3689629>
- NCDOT Resilience Strategy Report (2022) - <https://www.ncdot.gov/initiatives-policies/Transportation/transportation-resilience/Documents/ncdot-resilience-report.pdf>



Albemarle Rural Planning Organization
04/15/2026 Board Meetings
Agenda Abstract

Agenda Section: Presentations and Updates

Agenda Title: Albemarle RPO

Presenter(s): Albemarle RPO Staff

Summary of Information:

- Pedestrian Safety Call for Projects
 - ECU Student Ehringhaus St Study
-

Staff Recommendations/Motions:

Attachments: