ALBEMARLE RURAL PLANNING ORGANIZATION
Board Meetings Agenda

Wednesday, October 21, 2026 10:00am.
Location: Albemarle Commission▪ 512 South Church Street, Hertford, NC 27944
Virtual (Zoom) for members of the board and presenters only

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**. **4**
4.	Approval of Agenda	Shelley Cox, RTCC Chair	**Pg**. **5**
5.	Approval of 08/19/2026 Meeting Minutes	Shelley Cox, RTCC Chair	**Pg**. **6**
6.	Adoption of the 2027 Meeting Schedule	Shelley Cox, RTCC Chair	**Pg**. **11**
7.	Ratification of ARPO Letters of Support	Shelley Cox, RTCC Chair	**Pg**. **13**
8.	ARPO Letter of Support	Shelley Cox, RTCC Chair	**Pg**. **17**
9.	Public Comment	Shelley Cox, RTCC Chair	**Pg**. **22**
10.	Assignment of Division Needs Local Input Points	Shelley Cox, RTCC Chair	**Pg. 23**
11.	Resolution of Support for Naming the MV Silver Lake Replacement	Shelley Cox, RTCC Chair	**Pg. 26**
12.	Adjournment	Shelley Cox RTCC Chair	

Presentations and Updates

- NCDOT Division 1 **Pg**. **28**
- NCDOT Ferry Division **Pg**. **30**
- NCDOT Transportation Planning Office **Pg**. **31**
- NCDOT Integrated Mobility Division **Pg**. **32**
- Albemarle RPO Staff **Pg**. **34**

Rural Transportation Advisory Committee: Starts at 11:00 AM

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**. **4**
4.	Approval of Agenda	Lloyd Griffin III, RTAC Chair	**Pg**. **5**
5.	Approval of 08/19/2026 Meeting Minutes	Lloyd Griffin III, RTAC Chair	**Pg**. **6**
6.	Approval of the 2027 Meeting Schedule	Lloyd Griffin III, RTAC Chair	**Pg**. **11**
7.	Ratification of ARPO Letters of Support	Lloyd Griffin III, RTAC Chair	**Pg**. **13**
8.	ARPO Letter of Support	Lloyd Griffin III, RTAC Chair	**Pg**. **17**
9.	Public Comment	Lloyd Griffin III, RTAC Chair	**Pg**. **22**
10.	Assignment of Division Needs Local Input Points	Lloyd Griffin III, RTAC Chair	**Pg**. **23**
11.	Resolution of Support for Naming the MV Silver Lake Replacement	Lloyd Griffin III, RTCC Chair	**Pg. 26**
12.	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 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	brandonshoaf@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
Rural Transportation Advisory Committee

Camden County	Primary County Commissioner Rep.	Troy Leary	tleary@camdencountync.gov
	Alternate County Commissioner Rep.	Tiffany White	tiffneywhite@camdennccountync.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.		
	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
Winfall	Primary Representative		

Albemarle Rural Planning Organization
10/21/2026 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 AWARNESS & 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
10/21/2026 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 October 21, 2026 Albemarle RPO Board Meetings.

Staff Recommendations/Motions:

1. RTCC Approval of Agenda for October 21, 2026 Albemarle RPO Board Meetings
2. RTAC Approval of Agenda for October 21, 2026 Albemarle RPO Board Meetings

---

Attachments:

Albemarle Rural Planning Organization
10/21/2026 Board Meetings
Agenda Abstract

Agenda Item Number: 5.

Agenda Title: Approval of 08/19/2026 Meeting Minutes

Presenter(s): RTCC Chair Cox
RTAC Chair Griffin

Summary of Information:

August 19, 2026 ARPO Board Meeting Minutes.

Staff Recommendations/Motions:

1. RTCC approval of August 19, 2026 ARPO Board Meeting Minutes
2. RTAC approval of August 19, 2026 ARPO Board Meeting Minutes

---

Attachments:

1. August 19, 2026 *ARPO Board Meeting Minutes*

ALBEMARLE RURAL PLANNING ORGANIZATION
Wednesday, August 19, 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, August 19, 2026. 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 RTCC Chair Shelley Cox at 10:00 AM.

Roll Call

Ethan Sommers, ARPO Staff, determined a quorum was met with the following members in attendance: Sheely Cox, Pasquotank County; David Clegg, Tyrrell County; Kris Noble, Hyde County; Lisa Cherry, Gates County; Kevin Howard, Chowan County; Rebecca Gay, Currituck County; Curtis Potter, Washington County; Josh Houston, Manteo; William Midgett, Kitty Hawk; 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

Wes Haskett motioned to approve the agenda, Lisa Cherry seconded the motion. With no further discussion, the motion passed unanimously.

Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

Wes Haskett made a motion to approve the meeting minutes from the June 17, 2026, meeting. The motion was seconded by Curtis Potter. The motion passed unanimously.

Resolution of Support for Outer Banks Health Hospital RTP Grant

Joe Costello presented to the board regarding the Outer Banks Health Hospital Recreational Trail Program Grant Application. Ethan Sommers then reviewed the resolution of support. A motion was made by William Midgett and seconded by Kevin Howard. The motion passed unanimously.

ARPO Letter of Support

Ethan Sommers presented the letter of support requested by the RTAC during its June 17, 2026, meeting. Ethan Sommers asked the board to provide recommendations for the direction of the letter. This discussion resulted in numerous revisions to the letter of support, which will be addressed and presented at the next ARPO RTCC and RTAC meetings.

Public Comment

No public comments were made

Assignment of Regional Impact Local Input Points

Ethan Sommers presented the State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) Prioritization 8.0 local input assignment. He reviewed the ARPO local input point methodology that was adopted at the February 18, 2026, RTCC and RTAC meetings. Ethan then discussed the projects selected through the methodology and explained that public input reflected significant opposition to many of those projects. Additionally, several projects prioritized by the counties were not reflected in the methodology's results. Ethan then presented the staff-recommended local input point assignment, which deviated from the adopted methodology to better account for public input and county priorities. No motion was made on this matter, and it was forwarded to the RTAC without a recommendation.

Adjournment

Upon motion by Joe Costello seconded by Wes Haskett, the RTCC voted unanimously to adjourn at 10:52 AM.

Presentations and Updates

NCDOT Division 1:	Chris Slachta, Division 1 Planning Engineer
NCDOT Ferry Division:	Melissa Dickerson, Transportation Planner
NCDOT TPO:	Maksym Bezruchko, Transportation Engineer II
NCDOT IMD:	Cambell Pfister, Transportation Planner
Albemarle RPO:	Ethan Sommers, ARPO Staff

Minutes of the Rural Transportation Advisory Committee (RTAC) Meeting – 11:15AM

ALBEMARLE RURAL PLANNING ORGANIZATION
Wednesday, August 19, 2026
RTCC & RTAC MEETINGS

Call to Order

The Albemarle RPO Rural Transportation Advisory Committee (RTAC) met in regular session on Wednesday, August 19, 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 11:12 AM.

Roll Call

Voting Members:	Chairman Lloyd Griffin III, Pasquotank County; Mary Ellon Ballance Dare County; Nathan Berryman, Gates County; Tess Judge Board of Transportation;
Non-Voting Members:	Ronnie Sawyer, NCDOT Division 1; Paula Sherlock, Southern Shores; Marc Murray, Duck;
Staff:	Ethan Sommers, Albemarle RPO

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. Tess Judge noted that she had a conflict of interest regarding the Resolution of Support for the Outer Banks Health Hospital RTP Grant. Mary Ellon Ballance made a motion to recuse Tess Judge, which was seconded by Lloyd Griffin III. The motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Approval

Mary Ellon Ballance made a motion to approve the agenda Chairman Griffin seconded, with no further discussion, the motion passed unanimously.

Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

Mary Ellon Balance made a motion to approve the of June 17, 2026, regular meeting minutes Nathan Berryman seconded the motion. With no further discussion, the motion passed unanimously.

Resolution of Support for Outer Banks Health Hospital RTP Grant

Ethan Sommers then reviewed the grant and the resolution of support. A motion was made by Nathan Berryman and seconded by Mary Ellon Ballence. The motion passed unanimously.

ARPO Letter of Support

Ethan Sommers presented the letter of support requested by the RTAC during its June 17, 2026, meeting. Ethan Sommers asked the board to provide recommendations for the direction of the letter. This discussion resulted in numerous revisions to the letter of support, which will be addressed and presented at the next ARPO RTCC and RTAC meetings.

Public Comment

There was no public in attendance.

Assignment of Regional Impact Local Input Points

Ethan Sommers presented the State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) Prioritization 8.0 local input assignment. He reviewed the ARPO local input point methodology that was adopted at the February 18, 2026, RTCC and RTAC meetings. Ethan then discussed the projects selected through the methodology and explained that public input reflected significant opposition to many of those projects. Additionally, several projects prioritized by the counties were not reflected in the methodology's results. Ethan then presented the staff-recommended local input point assignment, which deviated from the adopted methodology to better account for public input and county priorities. Mary Ellon Ballance made a motion to approve the staff recommendation which was seconded by Nathan Berryman. The motion passed unanimously.

Adjournment

Upon motion by Tess Judge, seconded by Mary Ellon Ballance, the RTAC voted unanimously to adjourn at 11:21 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ethan Sommers, Secretary
Albemarle Rural Planning Organization

Albemarle Rural Planning Organization
10/21/2026 Board Meetings
Agenda Abstract

Agenda Item Number: 6.

Agenda Title: Adoption of the 2027 Meeting Schedule

Presenter(s): Ethan Sommers, ARPO Staff

Summary of Information:

Staff has created a meeting schedule for 2027. Staff asks the boards to review and adopt the schedule for 2027.

Staff Recommendations/Motions:

1. RTCC motion to adopt Albemarle RPO 2027 Meeting Schedule

2. RTAC motion to adopt Albemarle RPO 2027 Meeting Schedule

Attachments:

- *Draft Albemarle RPO 2027 Meeting Schedule*

Albemarle Rural Planning Organization 2027 RTCC & RTAC Meeting Schedule

Location	Month	Date	Time
Camden County	February	2/17/2027	11:00am
Albemarle Commission	April	4/21/2027	11:00am
Dare County	June	6/16/2027	11:00am
Albemarle Commission	August	8/18/2027	11:00am
Gates County	October	10/20/2027	11:00am
Albemarle Commission	December	12/15/2027	11:00am

Albemarle Rural Planning Organization
10/21/2026 Board Meetings
Agenda Abstract

Agenda Item Number: 7.

Agenda Title: Ratification of Letters of Support

Presenter(s): Ethan Sommers, ARPO Staff

Summary of Information:

The staff have prepared three letters of support: one for the NCDOT Ferry Division PROTECT Grant application and two for Section 5310 applications, one for Dare County Transit and one for the Gates County Inter-Regional Transportation System. The staff request ratification of these letters.

Staff Recommendations/Motions:

1. RTCC motion to ratify the letters of support

2. RTAC motion to ratify the letters of support

Attachments:

- *Dare County Transit Albemarle RPO Letter of Support 2026*
- *Gates County Inter-Regional Transportation System Albemarle RPO Letter of Support 2026*
- *Ferry Division (ANCHOR) Albemarle RPO Letter of Support 2026*

August 27, 2026

NCDOT
Public Transportation Division
1550 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27699-1550

Re: DCTS - 5310 Letter of Support

To Whom It May Concern:

The Albemarle Rural Planning Organization (ARPO) supports Dare County Transit in applying for a 5310 Elderly and Disabled Transportation Assistance Program Grant.

The objective of these funds is to provide transportation services that meet the special needs of elderly persons and persons with disabilities for who mass transportation services are unavailable, insufficient, or inappropriate.

Without the assistance of the funds requested Elderly and/or Disabled individuals who are currently independent as a result of the transportation services provided by Dare County Transit. They will lose their independence and access to critical destinations such as medical appointments, human service agencies, pharmacies, shopping, education, etc. These clients could become homebound and/or be forced from their homes to assisted living facilities at the expense of our local, state, and federal government.

Our agency supports Dare County Transit in applying for the 5310 Elderly and Disabled Transportation Assistance Program Grant as we see it as a way to allow elderly persons and persons with disabilities to maintain their independence and access local services at a fraction of what it will cost taxpayers if transportation services are not available due to lack of funding.

Sincerely,

Ethan Sommers

Ethan Sommers, Transportation Planner
Albemarle Rural Planning Organization

CAMDEN
CHOWAN
CURRITUCK
DARE
GATES
HYDE
PASQUOTANK
PERQUIMANS
TYRRELL
WASHINGTON
COLUMBIA
CRESWELL
DUCK
EDENTON
ELIZABETH CITY
GATESVILLE
HERTFORD
KILL DEVIL HILLS
KITTY HAWK
MANTEO
NAGS HEAD
PLYMOUTH
ROPER
SOUTHERN SHORES
WINFALL

Lloyd E. Griffin III, RTAC Board Chair | Shelley Cox, RTCC Board Chair | Ethan Sommers, Transportation Planner | www.albemarlecommission.org/planning | 512 South Church Street, Hertford, NC 27944 | P: 252.426.5775 F: 252.426.8482

ALBEMARLE COMMISSION
REGIONAL COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
Albemarle Rural Planning Organization

CAMDEN
CHOWAN
CURRITUCK
DARE
GATES
HYDE
PASQUOTANK
PERQUIMANS
TYRRELL
WASHINGTON
COLUMBIA
CRESWELL
DUCK
EDENTON
ELIZABETH CITY
GATESVILLE
HERTFORD
KILL DEVIL HILLS
KITTY HAWK
MANTEO
NAGS HEAD
PLYMOUTH
ROPER
SOUTHERN SHORES
WINFALL

October 6, 2026

NCDOT
Public Transportation Division
1550 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27699-1550

Re: GITS - 5310 Letter of Support

To Whom It May Concern:

The Albemarle Rural Planning Organization (ARPO) supports Gates County Inter-Regional Transportation System (GITS) in applying for a 5310 Elderly and Disabled Transportation Assistance Program Grant.

The objective of these funds is to provide transportation services that meet the special needs of elderly persons and persons with disabilities for who mass transportation services are unavailable, insufficient, or inappropriate.

Without the assistance of the funds requested Elderly and/or Disabled individuals who are currently independent as a result of the transportation services provided by GITS. They will lose their independence and access to critical destinations such as medical appointments, human service agencies, pharmacies, shopping, education, etc. These clients could become homebound and/or be forced from their homes to assisted living facilities at the expense of our local, state, and federal government.

Our agency supports GITS in applying for the 5310 Elderly and Disabled Transportation Assistance Program Grant as we see it as a way to allow elderly persons and persons with disabilities to maintain their independence and access local services at a fraction of what it will cost taxpayers if transportation services are not available due to lack of funding.

Sincerely,

Ethan Sommers

Ethan Sommers, Transportation Planner
Albemarle Rural Planning Organization

Lloyd E. Griffin III
RTAC Board Chair

Shelley Cox
RTCC Board Chair

Ethan Sommers
Transportation Planner

www.albemarlecommission.org/planning

512 South Church Street
Hertford, NC 27944

P: 252.426.5775
F: 252.426.8482

ALBEMARLE COMMISSION
REGIONAL COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
Albemarle Rural Planning Organization

CAMDEN
CHOWAN
CURRITUCK
DARE
GATES
HYDE
PASQUOTANK
PERQUIMANS
TYRRELL
WASHINGTON
COLUMBIA
CRESWELL
DUCK
EDENTON
ELIZABETH CITY
GATESVILLE
HERTFORD
KILL DEVIL HILLS
KITTY HAWK
MANTEO
NAGS HEAD
PLYMOUTH
ROPER
SOUTHERN SHORES
WINFALL

October 7, 2026

The Honorable Sean Duffy
Secretary of Transportation
US Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E.
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Duffy,

On behalf of the Albemarle Rural Planning Organization, I am pleased to express our strong support for North Carolina Department of Transportation's (NCDOT's) Adaptation for North Carolina's Critical Hatteras-Ocracoke Route (ANCHOR, or "the Project") application to USDOT's Promoting Resilient Operations for Transformative, Efficient, and Cost-saving Transportation Program (PROTECT) grant program. ANCHOR is a vital step to securing viable, long-term access to Ocracoke Island, which is located within the 70-mile Cape Hatteras National Seashore.

Ferry service from Hatteras is the Island's primary means of access, making it a lifeline for both residents and visitors. According to the Institute for Transportation Research and Education, over 750,000 residents and visitors access Ocracoke Island by ferry annually. Ferry service is not simply for convenience and recreation; it is an essential transportation link that enables access to essential services like off-island medical care while also supporting key economic needs like the movement of freight, commercial goods, and service vehicles to and from the island. However, the natural wind and wave action that shape this barrier island along with increasingly frequent and severe storm events are contributing to closures and costly repetitive damage to NC 12 during storm or high tide events and erosion at the existing South Dock ferry terminal at the north end of Ocracoke Island. The damage has led to the destruction of vehicle stacking lanes and the loss of the existing septic field for the visitor restrooms.

To address this urgent concern, NCDOT is requesting PROTECT funding to complete an alternatives analysis and a streamlined environmental review to satisfy the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process. Environmental approvals for a resilient, long-term, multimodal solution for Ocracoke Island access is a critical milestone, and needs to be supported with the detailed analyses, interagency coordination, and public engagement necessary to advance a viable solution in this complex coastal environment. A successful project will position NCDOT and its federal, state and local partners to pursue future construction funding and quickly move toward project delivery.

The Albemarle Rural Planning Organization serves a 10-county region that includes Ocracoke. Developing a plan to preserve and ensure long-term access to this unique community is vital to the economic vitality, connectivity, and resilience of our region.

ANCHOR will bring together Federal and State agencies, local communities, academic institutions, and advocacy organizations to establish a streamlined framework for decision-making and advance a resilient, long-term solution for safe and reliable access between Hatteras and Ocracoke Islands. We strongly encourage USDOT to favorably consider ANCHOR for PROTECT funding.

Sincerely,

Ethan Sommers

Ethan Sommers, Transportation Planner
Albemarle Rural Planning Organization

Lloyd E. Griffin III
RTAC Board Chair
Shelley Cox
RTCC Board Chair
Ethan Sommers
Transportation Planner
www.albemarlecommission.org/planning
512 South Church Street
Hertford, NC 27944
P: 252.426.5775
F: 252.426.8482

Albemarle Rural Planning Organization
10/21/2026 Board Meetings
Agenda Abstract

Agenda Item Number: 8.

Agenda Title: ARPO Letter of Support

Presenter(s): Ethan Sommers, ARPO Staff

Summary of Information:

The ARPO RTAC requested during its June 17, 2026, meeting that a letter of support be prepared on behalf of the RPO to demonstrate that the region's 10 counties support and request legislative funding for transportation projects throughout the area. During the August 19, 2026, meeting, both boards discussed the letter and provided several suggested revisions. Those revisions have since been incorporated into the draft. During this meeting, staff are seeking confirmation that the changes accurately reflect the vision and intent of both boards as expressed through this letter.

Staff Recommendations/Motions:

1. RTCC makes a motion to approve the ARPO Letter of Support
2. RTAC makes a motion to approve the ARPO Letter of Support

Attachments:

1. *ARPO 2026 Letter of Support*

ALBEMARLE COMMISSION
REGION R COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
Albemarle Rural Planning Organization

CAMDEN
CHOWAN
CURRITUCK
DARE
GATES
HYDE
PASQUOTANK
PERQUIMANS
TYRRELL
WASHINGTON
COLUMBIA
CRESWELL
DUCK
EDENTON
ELIZABETH CITY
GATESVILLE
HERTFORD
KILL DEVIL HILLS
KITTY HAWK
MANTEO
NAGS HEAD
PLYMOUTH
ROPER
SOUTHERN SHORES
WINFALL

October 21, 2026

The North Carolina General Assembly

RE: Legislative Funding of Critical Transportation Resiliency and Mobility Projects in Northeastern North Carolina

On behalf of the Albemarle Rural Planning Organization (ARPO), which serves ten counties and fifteen municipalities across northeastern North Carolina, we respectfully request your support for legislative funding for several critical transportation projects that are essential to the safety, resilience, economic vitality, and long-term mobility of our region.

The counties represented by ARPO depend upon a reliable transportation system to connect residents, visitors, businesses, emergency responders, and freight movements throughout our region. The increasing frequency and intensity of coastal storms, flooding events, and other natural hazards underscore the need for strategic investments that strengthen our transportation infrastructure and provide critical redundancy when primary routes are disrupted.

Northeastern North Carolina faces transportation challenges that are not always fully reflected in the current Strategic Transportation Investments (STI) funding process. Our region's unique geography, tourism-driven economy, vulnerability to hurricanes and flooding, and limited transportation alternatives place extraordinary demands on its transportation network.

In particular:

- **Tourism and seasonal population**: As one of North Carolina's premier tourism destinations generating over $2.9 billion in total spending in 2025 alone. The region experiences significant seasonal population increases and transportation demands. Because STI scoring places significant emphasis on factors that tend to favor more populous areas, seasonal population surges and tourism-driven transportation demands may not translate into competitive project scores.

- **Rural and coastal competitiveness**: The result is that critical rural and coastal projects can struggle to compete for funding, even when those projects serve significant numbers of visitors or provide essential regional connections.

- **Resiliency and emergency access**: Roads, bridges, ferries, airports, and evacuation routes are essential not only for everyday mobility, but also for hurricane evacuation, disaster response, and recovery. These resiliency benefits can also be difficult to capture through traditional project scoring.

Lloyd E. Griffin III
RTAC Board Chair
Shelley Cox
RTCC Board Chair
Ethan Sommers
Transportation Planner
www.albemarlecommission.org/planning
512 South Church Street
Hertford, NC 27944
P: 252.426.5775
F: 252.426.8482

ALBEMARLE COMMISSION
REGION R COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
Albemarle Rural Planning Organization

CAMDEN
CHOWAN
CURRITUCK
DARE
GATES
HYDE
PASQUOTANK
PERQUIMANS
TYRRELL
WASHINGTON
COLUMBIA
CRESWELL
DUCK
EDENTON
ELIZABETH CITY
GATESVILLE
HERTFORD
KILL DEVIL HILLS
KITTY HAWK
MANTEO
NAGS HEAD
PLYMOUTH
ROPER
SOUTHERN SHORES
WINFALL

Targeted legislative investment can help address these funding gaps while strengthening regional connectivity, supporting economic development, protecting North Carolina's tourism economy, and improving the long-term resilience of coastal communities.

ARPO strongly supports funding for the following projects:

NC-12 Resiliency Improvements along the Outer Banks

NC-12 serves as a lifeline for the residents and businesses of the Outer Banks. Repeated overwash, flooding, erosion, and storm damage have demonstrated the vulnerability of this corridor and the consequences of transportation interruptions for local communities, emergency services, and North Carolina's tourism economy. Strengthening NC-12 will improve public safety, support evacuation efforts, and help ensure uninterrupted access to communities with limited transportation alternatives. This effort would also explore other transportation options to ensure that, in an emergency situation, residents along this vital corridor can be reached.

Dare County Regional Airport Runway Extension to 5,000 Feet

The extension of the Dare County Regional Airport runway to 5,000 feet represents a strategic investment in regional emergency preparedness and disaster response capabilities. A longer runway would accommodate a broader range of emergency response aircraft, medical evacuation operations, disaster relief flights, military support missions, and other critical aviation assets during emergencies. When transportation corridors are impacted by severe weather, the airport serves as a vital gateway for emergency personnel, equipment, and supplies. Enhancing its capabilities will strengthen the resilience of the entire Outer Banks region.

Mid-Currituck Bridge

The Mid-Currituck Bridge remains one of the most important mobility and resiliency projects in northeastern North Carolina. The bridge would provide an additional access point to the northern Outer Banks, reduce congestion on existing routes, improve travel reliability, and strengthen hurricane evacuation operations. By providing an alternative route for residents and visitors, the bridge would create greater network redundancy and enhance overall regional resiliency.

The bridge is currently underfunded, despite the State having already earmarked $172 million for the project in the State Transportation Improvement Program. We respectfully request that the remaining funding gap be closed to allow for the construction of this vital project.

Morgans Corner Interchange (US-17 and US-158) for Interstate 87 Development

Lloyd E. Griffin III
RTAC Board Chair
Shelley Cox
RTCC Board Chair
Ethan Sommers
Transportation Planner
www.albemarlecommission.org/planning
512 South Church Street
Hertford, NC 27944
P: 252.426.5775
F: 252.426.8482

ALBEMARLE COMMISSION
REGION R COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
Albemarle Rural Planning Organization

CAMDEN
CHOWAN
CURRITUCK
DARE
GATES
HYDE
PASQUOTANK
PERQUIMANS
TYRRELL
WASHINGTON
COLUMBIA
CRESWELL
DUCK
EDENTON
ELIZABETH CITY
GATESVILLE
HERTFORD
KILL DEVIL HILLS
KITTY HAWK
MANTEO
NAGS HEAD
PLYMOUTH
ROPER
SOUTHERN SHORES
WINFALL

The proposed interchange at Morgans Corner represents a critical regional transportation investment and a foundational component of future Interstate 87 development in northeastern North Carolina. As traffic volumes continue to grow along the US-17 and US-158 corridors, this project will improve safety, enhance mobility, reduce congestion, and facilitate the efficient movement of goods and services throughout the region. The interchange will also strengthen connections between Hampton Roads, the Albemarle region, and destinations throughout North Carolina.

Widening US-64 Between Columbia and Manns Harbor to Four Lanes

The US-64 corridor between Columbia and Manns Harbor is a vital transportation route for the entire region, connecting the Outer Banks to mainland North Carolina. As it currently exists, the corridor is a heavily traveled and dangerous rural roadway. It also serves as a primary evacuation route for the Outer Banks. Expanding this corridor to four lanes is necessary to safely and efficiently accommodate evacuation traffic, as well as the significant increase in travel during the summer tourism season**.**

Funding for Last-Mile Pedestrian Connections

The northeastern corner of the state experiences a significant amount of pedestrian activity despite being a predominantly rural region. This has led to numerous safety and mobility concerns for both residents and visitors. We request funding to address these needs, which have historically been difficult to fund through the STI process. As a result, these rural counties and small municipalities are often left to shoulder the financial burden of making these critical pedestrian improvements on their own.

Investing in the Future of Northeastern North Carolina

Together, these projects represent a comprehensive approach to addressing the transportation challenges facing our coastal and rural communities. They will improve public safety, strengthen emergency response capabilities, support economic development, enhance freight and passenger mobility, and increase the resilience of critical infrastructure in the face of future storms and natural disasters.

These investments will provide lasting benefits not only for the communities directly served by these facilities but also for the broader regional and statewide transportation network.

Thank you for your consideration and for your continued commitment to improving transportation infrastructure across northeastern North Carolina.

Lloyd E. Griffin III
RTAC Board Chair

Shelley Cox
RTCC Board Chair

Ethan Sommers
Transportation Planner

www.albemarlecommission.org/planning

512 South Church Street
Hertford, NC 27944

P: 252.426.5775
F: 252.426.8482

Sincerely,

Lloyd Griffin III, Chair
Pasquotank County
Rural Transportation Advisory Committee

Randle Mathews, Vice-Chair
Hyde County
Rural Transportation Advisory Committee

Troy Leary
Camden County
Rural Transportation Advisory Committee

Larry Mclaughlin
Chowan County
Rural Transportation Advisory Committee

Steven Hedrick
Currituck County
Rural Transportation Advisory Committee

Mary Ellon Ballance
Dare County
Rural Transportation Advisory Committee

Nathan Berryman
Gates County
Rural Transportation Advisory Committee

Charles Woodard
Perquimans County
Rural Transportation Advisory Committee

Nina Griswell
Tyrrell County
Rural Transportation Advisory Committee

Carol Phelps
Washington County
Rural Transportation Advisory Committee

Albemarle Rural Planning Organization
10/21/2026 Board Meetings
Agenda Abstract

Agenda Item Number: **9**.

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
10/21/2026 Board Meetings
Agenda Abstract

Agenda Item Number: 10.

Agenda Title: Assigning Division Needs Local Input Points

Presenter(s): Ethan Sommers, ARPO Staff

Summary of Information:

The State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) Prioritization 8.0 process is currently in the local input point assignment phase. This phase runs from June 2026 through November 2026 and is divided into two categories: Regional Impact and Division Needs. Each category represents a separate funding allocation for which local input can influence a project's quantitative score. For this agenda item, we are assigning local input points to projects that are eligible for funding under the Division Needs category.

Public Input on the Projects- ARPOP8PublicInput

Staff Recommendations/Motions:

1. RTCC motion to approve the assignment of Division Needs Local Input Points to eligible projects in the quantities recommended by staff
2. RTAC motion to approve the assignment of Division Needs Local Input Points to eligible projects in the quantities recommended by staff

---

Attachments:

1. *Recommended Division Needs Local Input Assignment*
2. *Division Needs Scores with Methodology Applied*

DRAFT ARPO Division Needs Local Input Points

County Name	Project Description	Points Assigned
Camden	Dismal Swamp Virginia Connection (B250658)	100
Chowan	West Queen St Multi-Use Path (B141955)	100
Currituck	ONX Airport Taxiway and Apron Lighting (A231416)	100
Dare	Relocate NC 12 to the west at the Pea Island Visitor's Center (H250491)	100
Gates	US-158 and Acorn Hill Road intersection Improvement (H250481)	100
Hyde	Replace Dorm 2 at Hatteras(F250809)	100
Pasquotank	Create an interchange at Morgan's Corner that meets Interstates standards as a part of future I-87 (H250314)	100
Perquimans	Convert Wiggins Road/ US-17 intersection to an RCI. (H250407)	100
Tyrrell	US-64 from East of Columbia to US-264 Upgrade to Freeway Standards (H250523)	100
Washington	Construct an RCI at the intersection of US-64 and NC-32 (H250526)	100
Regardless of County 1	Construct Access Management Improvements with bicycle and pedestrian accommodations on US 158 in Kill Devil Hills and Kitty Hawk (H250496)	100
Regardless of County 2	Construct Multi-Use Path and Crosswalks on River Rd(B141353)	100
Regardless of County 3	Adding a Sidewalk to NC-12 between Kitty Hawk Rd and Byrd Street(B190394)	50
Regardless of County 4	Adding a Multi-Use Path to US-158 from W Seachase Dr to W Baymeadow Dr (B231414)	50
Regardless of County 5	7W6 - Hyde County Airport: Corporate Hangars Apron and Taxiway (A130004)	25
Regardless of County 6	ONX - Currituck County Airport: T-Hangar Apron and Taxiway (A130038)	25
Regardless of County 7	Construct a 8' multi-use path on the east side of Harvey Point Rd (B141355)	25
Regardless of County 8	Construct a 8' multi-use path along NC-12, This project is part of the Buxton-Frisco Scenic Byway (B250657)	25

ARPO Methodology Calculation

County Name	Spot ID	Prioirity Points	Quantitative Score	Total Score	County Rank	Total Rank
Camden	B250658	100	10.57	60.57	1	25
Camden	H250090	90	8.62	53.62	3	35
Camden	H090139	80	17.80	57.80	2	28
Camden	B250656	70	9.37	44.37	5	48
Camden	H141931	60	20.50	50.50	4	41
Camden	B141791	50	4.08	29.08	6	66
Camden	R250711	40	4.61	24.61	7	68
Camden		30				
Camden		20				
Camden		10				
Chowan	A130014	100	19.36	69.36	1	13
Chowan	B141955	90	22.46	67.46	2	16
Chowan	H090868	80	23.72	63.72	3	22
Chowan	H231404	70	21.34	56.34	4	31
Chowan	H141929	60	22.33	52.33	5	37
Chowan		50				
Chowan		40				
Chowan		30				
Chowan		20				
Chowan		10				
Currituck	A231416	100	31.58	81.58	1	3
Currituck	A130037	90	21.17	66.17	2	19
Currituck	A130038	80	22.51	62.51	3	23
Currituck	H090139	70	17.80	52.80	4	36
Currituck	F130012	60	13.55	43.55	6	50
Currituck	B141937	50	7.54	32.54	9	63
Currituck	R250697	40	23.71	43.71	5	49
Currituck	F251115	30	28.20	43.20	7	51
Currituck	F231109	20	27.80	37.80	8	56
Currituck	F250451	10	24.20	29.20	10	65
Dare	H250491	100	28.21	78.21	3	5
Dare	H250496	90	37.28	82.28	2	2
Dare	F250809	80	43.00	83.00	1	1
Dare	A130025	70	20.58	55.58	5	33
Dare	B231409	60	29.25	59.25	4	27
Dare	B190394	50	26.08	51.08	6	40
Dare	B231414	40	24.79	44.79	7	46
Dare	B250657	30	14.89	29.89	9	64
Dare	F192751	20	27.10	37.10	8	58
Dare	B141780	10	18.09	23.09	10	69
Gates	H250481	100	22.40	72.40	1	8
Gates	H090868	90	23.72	68.72	2	14
Gates	H090099-B	80	20.36	60.36	3	26
Gates	H090145	70	16.57	51.57	4	38
Gates		60				
Gates		50				
Gates		40				
Gates		30				
Gates		20				
Gates		10				
Hyde	7W6 - Hyde County	100	17.82	67.82	3	15
Hyde	Cedar Island -	90	35.80	80.80	1	4
Hyde	Cedar Island -	80	31.80	71.80	2	10

Hyde	Hatteras - Ocracoke	70	31.20	66.20	4	18
Hyde	Cedar Island -	60	31.00	61.00	5	24
Hyde	Hatteras - Ocracoke	50	29.80	54.80	6	34
Hyde	Statewide: Support	40	28.20	48.20	7	43
Hyde	Statewide: Support	30	27.80	42.80	8	52
Hyde	Swan Quarter -	20	27.80	37.80	9	56
Hyde	Hatteras - Ocracoke	10	27.58	32.58	10	62
Pasquotank	H250314	100	23.01	73.01	1	7
Pasquotank	B141353	90	27.21	72.21	2	9
Pasquotank	A190809	80	24.52	64.52	3	21
Pasquotank	R250690	70	16.09	51.09	4	39
Pasquotank	H141931	60	20.50	50.50	5	41
Pasquotank	H141929	50	22.33	47.33	6	44
Pasquotank	H090145	40	16.57	36.57	7	59
Pasquotank	R250711	30	4.61	19.61	8	70
Pasquotank		20				
Pasquotank		10				
Perquimans	H250407	100	27.46	77.46	1	6
Perquimans	H090286	90	24.59	69.59	2	12
Perquimans	B141355	80	17.63	57.63	3	29
Perquimans	H141220	70	5.19	40.19	5	54
Perquimans	R250687	60	9.35	39.35	6	55
Perquimans	R250706	50	10.70	35.70	7	60
Perquimans	H141929	40	22.33	42.33	4	53
Perquimans	H230513	30	19.90	34.90	8	61
Perquimans	R250529	20	18.54	28.54	9	67
Perquimans	H090285	10	14.10	19.10	10	71
Tyrrell	H250523	100	16.63	66.63	1	17
Tyrrell	H150679	90	11.82	56.82	2	30
Tyrrell		80				
Tyrrell		70				
Tyrrell		60				
Tyrrell		50				
Tyrrell		40				
Tyrrell		30				
Tyrrell		20				
Tyrrell		10				
Washington	H250526	100	21.24	71.24	1	11
Washington	A250770	90	20.10	65.10	2	20
Washington	R250747	80	6.48	46.48	4	45
Washington	R250743	70	21.25	56.25	3	32
Washington	R250729	60	14.48	44.48	5	47
Washington		50				
Washington		40				
Washington		30				
Washington		20				
Washington		10				

Albemarle Rural Planning Organization
10/21/2026 Board Meetings
Agenda Abstract

Agenda Item Number: 11.

Agenda Title: Resolution of Support for Naming the MV Silver Lake Replacement the MV Pamlico

Presenter(s): Ethan Sommers, ARPO Staff

Summary of Information:

NCDOT Ferry Division is requesting a resolution of support to name the MV Silver Lake replacement that is currently in the pre-construction phase, the MV Pamlico.

Staff Recommendations/Motions:

1. RTCC motion to adopt Resolution 2027-02

2. RTAC motion to adopt Resolution 2027-02

Attachments:

- Resolution of Support for Naming the MV Silver Lake Replacement the MV Pamlico (2027-02)

ALBEMARLE RURAL PLANNING ORGANIZATION

RURAL TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

RESOLUTION

SUPPORTING THE NAMING OF THE MV SILVER LAKE REPLACEMENT THE MV PAMLICO

WHEREAS, the Albemarle Rural Planning Organization 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 is the duly recognized transportation planning policy board for the Albemarle Rural Planning Organization; and

WHEREAS, the Albemarle Rural Planning Organization (RPO) is located within the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) Division 1 region; and

WHEREAS, the Albemarle RPO supported the NC Ferry "Silver Lake" replacement through the Strategic Transportation Investments (STI) process; and

WHEREAS, the Silver Lake replacement process was funded in Prioritization 5, 2019; and

WHEREAS, in keeping with the tradition of naming NC Ferries after towns, regions and bodies of water of coastal NC; and

WHEREAS, the name "Pamlico" recognizes the Pamlico Sound, a significant body of water in coastal North Carolina through which the vessel will operate; and;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Albemarle Rural Planning Organization respectfully requests that the replacement ferry for the MV Silver Lake to be named the MV Pamlico.

ADOPTED, this the 21st day of October, 2026

Lloyd Griffin III, Chair

Rural Transportation Advisory Committee

Ethan Sommers, Secretary

Albemarle Rural Planning Organization

2027-02

Albemarle Rural Planning Organization
10/21/2026 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.

Map Link: ARPO Progress Report Map - Google Earth

Staff Recommendations/Motions:

Attachments:

1. *Construction Progress Report*

Contract Number	Division	County	TIP#	Route	Location Description	Contract Amount	Length	Contractor	NCDOT Contact	NCDOT Contact #	Letting Date	Completion Date	Construction Progress
C204775	1	Dare	HB-0017	US-64	BRIDGE #9 ON US-64 IN MANNS HARBOR.	$33,758,848.88	2.70 miles	COASTAL GUNITE CONSTRUCTION COMPANY	Pablo A. Hernandez, PE	(252) 473-3637	9/20/2022	11/1/2026	80%
C204854	1	Gates, Pasquotank	R-5808	US-158	US-158 FROM SR-1002 (ACORN HILL ROAD) TO EAST OF PASQUOTANK COUNTY LINE.	$20,776,667.76	4.10 miles	FSC II LLC DBA FRED SMITH COMPANY	Caleb Sawyer, PE	(252) 621-6400	12/17/2024	2/28/2028	57%
C204999	1	Dare, Tyrrell	HB-0001	US-64	BRIDGE #880007 OVER THE ALLIGATOR RIVER ON US-64.	$449,777,300.00	0 miles	SKANSKA USA CIVIL SOUTHEAST INC	Pablo A. Hernandez, PE	(252) 473-3637	12/2/2024	5/20/2030	56%
DA00620	1	Dare		US-64	1 SECTION OF US-64	$2,654,321.00	5.80 miles	FSC II LLC DBA FRED SMITH COMPANY	Caleb Sawyer, PE	(252) 621-6400	5/21/2025	12/15/2026	96%
DA00632	1	Dare	ER-5600AD	-	NAGS HEAD, NC (WHALEBONE JUNCTION)	$94,881.58	0 miles	RICHARD J CARLSON LLC DBA CARLSONS LANDSCAPING	Caleb Sawyer, PE	(252) 621-6400	2/19/2025	3/1/2027	0%
DA00648	1	Camden	HS-2401A	US-17	INTERSECTION OF US-17 & US-17 BUSINESS / NC-343	$985,382.47	0.30 miles	C D ROSE CONSTRUCTION LLC	Caleb Sawyer, PE	(252) 621-6400	5/20/2026	5/14/2027	0%
DA00657	1	Hyde, Tyrrell	SS-6201R	US-264	1 SECTION OF US-264, 3 SECTIONS OF NC-45, 1 SECTION OF NC-94 , & 2 SECTIONS OF SECONDARY ROADS	$4,148,841.00	23.77 miles	FSC II LLC DBA FRED SMITH COMPANY	Gerard E. Mombaerts	(252) 789-6150	1/21/2026	8/27/2027	82%
DA00674	1	Gates		SR-1116	BRIDGE NO. 360007 ON SR 1116 (HARRELLS CHURCH RD) OVER COLE CREEK	$1,498,296.50	0.10 miles	S T WOOTEN CORPORATION	Caleb Sawyer, PE	(252) 621-6400	4/1/2026	2/3/2027	46%
DA00681	1	Dare		-	BILLY MITCHELL AIRPORT (HSE)	$2,644,644.00	0 miles	FSC II LLC DBA FRED SMITH COMPANY	Caleb Sawyer, PE	(252) 621-6400	6/17/2026	11/28/2026	13%
DA00701	1	Dare, Hyde	FF-0001A	-	HATTERAS ISLAND AND OCRACOKE ISLAND	$4,141,776.00	0 miles	CROFTON DIVING CORPORATION	Caleb Sawyer, PE	(252) 621-6400	6/17/2026	3/20/2027	0%

Albemarle Rural Planning Organization
10/21/2026 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
10/21/2026 Board Meetings
Agenda Abstract

Agenda Section: Presentations and Updates

Agenda Title: NCDOT Transportation Planning Office

Presenter(s): NCDOT Transportation Planning Office Staff

Summary of Information:

Updates and Reports from the NCDOT Transportation Planning Office.

Staff Recommendations/Motions:

Attachments:

NCDOT TPO NEWS

NCDOT TPO Albermarle RPO Newsletter October 2026

Transportation Planning Office (TPO)

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 (CCP) Comprehensive Transportation Plan

The draft recommendations for the CTP are nearly complete. The travel demand model has been run again with the proposed projects, and the updated project sheets now include future year traffic volumes. All materials will be provided to the steering committee soon for a final review prior to the public input sessions, with the goal of starting them in December.

Hyde County Comprehensive Transportation Plan

Hyde County CTP background data collection is currently underway, and the CUR is nearing completion. Progress has been delayed due to staff turnover and limited available resources. Once these issues are resolved, work on Hyde County CTP will resume at full capacity.

Helpful Links: To learn more, click on the following links or do an internet search using "NCDOT: and names in black:

- 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 - **The FAMPO area is counted during even years and released in August of the following year.**

Contact Us

Maksym Bezruchko

NCDOT TPO
1 S. Wilmington Street
Raleigh, NC

(919) 707-0974
mbezruchko@ncdot.gov

Visit us on the web
www.ncdot.gov

Upcoming	Date
Transportation Planning provides MPO/RPO planning fund allocations for FY 27	November 2, 2026
1st Quarter invoice and work summary due	November 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/

Albemarle Rural Planning Organization
10/21/2026 Board Meetings
Agenda Abstract

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

Summary of Information:

Updates and Reports from the NCDOT Integrated Mobility Division.

Staff Recommendations/Motions:

Attachments:

1. *IMD Newsletter October 2026*

IMD PLANNING UPDATES & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Integrated Mobility Division
N.C. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

October 2026

IMD NEWS

MEENC PROJECT AWARD

The MEENC project (Mobility for Everyone, Everywhere in NC initiative) spearheaded by IMD received a regional award at the 2026 Southern Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (SASHTO) conference where it won the regional America's Transportation Award in the Quality of Life/Community Development category. We are honored to have been selected for this award and continue to support communities across the state.

STATEWIDE PLANNING

SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL STRATEGIC PLAN

This Summer IMD kicked off it's first Safe Routes to School (SRTS) Strategic Plan in coordination with the National Safe Routes to School Partnership. The plan is currently at the halfway mark. The strategic plan will help to guide future program development, partnerships, engagement, and infrastructure, and non-infrastructure investments across North Carolina.

STATEWIDE ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION PLAN

The plan recently kicked off and is anticipated to be completed in summer 2027. The survey below is currently open for community input:
Be a Part of North Carolina's Active Transportation Story

E-BIKE EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS

IMD is developing educational and outreach materials to support the safe and informed use of e-bikes and e-scooters across North Carolina. Materials may include online resources, fact sheets, videos, flyers, brochures, and rack cards focused on safety, e-bike and e-scooter laws and policies, e-bike classifications, and guidance on safe operation. These resources will be designed for use by communities, agencies, and partners statewide.

TRANSIT

2025 ON-DEMAND MICROTRANSIT ANNUAL REPORT

NCDOT Published the 2025 On-Demand Microtransit Report that provides an overview of all agencies operating microtransit services through FY2025, including operational statistics and other service characteristics. This is a great resource to review the variety and types of microtransit implementation happening around the State.
On-Demand Microtransit Annual Report

GRANTS AWARDED

MULTIMODAL PLANNING GRANT PROGRAM

Eleven municipalities were awarded Multimodal Planning Grant projects for FY27, with projects anticipated to kick off in December 2026. Looking ahead, the call for FY28 projects is expected to open in spring 2027. The MMPG Program provides funding and planning assistance to communities across North Carolina to develop bicycle, pedestrian, and multimodal transportation plans.

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL PLANNING AND PROGRAMMING GRANTS

The Safe Routes to School (SRTS) Planning and Programming Grant application period is now open and will close November 6 at 11:59 p.m. These grants support local and regional efforts to conduct SRTS-related planning and implement programs and activities that create safe opportunities for students to walk, bike, and roll to school and within their communities.

Funded projects will range from $25,000 to $300,000 and require a 20% local match. The grant period will run from January 1, 2027 through June 30, 2028.
An informational webinar was held and recorded and is published alongside additional information on the website below:
Safe Routes to School Grant Application & Guidance

PAVED TRAIL FEASIBILITY STUDIES

The Call for Projects opened on October 1 and will close on November 6th. These feasibility studies aim to build upon higher-level planning efforts and take a comprehensive approach to identify possible route alternatives of multimodal corridors. The purpose of this type of study is to evaluate technical feasibility of a project from a design, permitting, and constructability perspective. Project types eligible for these studies include paved trails, greenways, shared-use paths, sidepaths, and sidewalks. Any municipality, county, MPO, or RPO within North Carolina is eligible to apply. To learn more information, IMD hosted a webinar on October 1 and posted the recording on the website below alongside additional information:
Paved Trail Feasibility Studies Website

MICROTRANSIT FEASIBILITY STUDIES

More information is coming soon!

QUESTIONS?

Contact:
Cambell Pfister
Regional Transportation Planner – Coastal Plains
Integrated Mobility Division
Office: 919-707-2601
Capfister@ncdot.gov

Albemarle Rural Planning Organization
10/21/2026 Board Meetings
Agenda Abstract

Agenda Section: Presentations and Updates

Agenda Title: Albemarle RPO

Presenter(s): Ethan Sommers, Albemarle RPO Staff

Summary of Information:

- STIP P9.0 pushed back to 2028
- Pedestrian Safety Call for Projects
- Camden, Currituck, Pasquotank CTP

Staff Recommendations/Motions:

Attachments: