

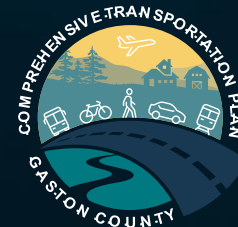


NORTH CAROLINA
Department of Transportation

Understanding Comprehensive Transportation Plans (CTPs) and Gaston County's Unique Approach

2026 National Regional Transportation Conference

July 21, 2026



RS&H

AGENDA



CTP Poll



CTP 101



Gaston County CTP



Key Takeaways

CTP POLL

Mentimeter Poll

- www.menti.com
- Access code: 83587146



Question 1

What is a CTP?

- A. A long range, needs-based, multi-modal transportation plan
- B. A community's consensus on their future transportation system
- C. The long-term vision for the local transportation network
- D. All of the above

Question 2

What modes does a CTP consider?

- A. Highway
- B. Bicycle and Pedestrian
- C. Public Transportation and Rail
- D. Highway and Bicycle and Pedestrian
- E. Highway, Bicycle and Pedestrian, and Public Transportation and Rail

Question 3

Which of the following is NOT a required component of a CTP...

- A. CTP Maps
- B. Recommendations List and/or Project Sheets
- C. Fiscally-Constrained Project List
- D. Analysis and Supplemental Maps

Question 4

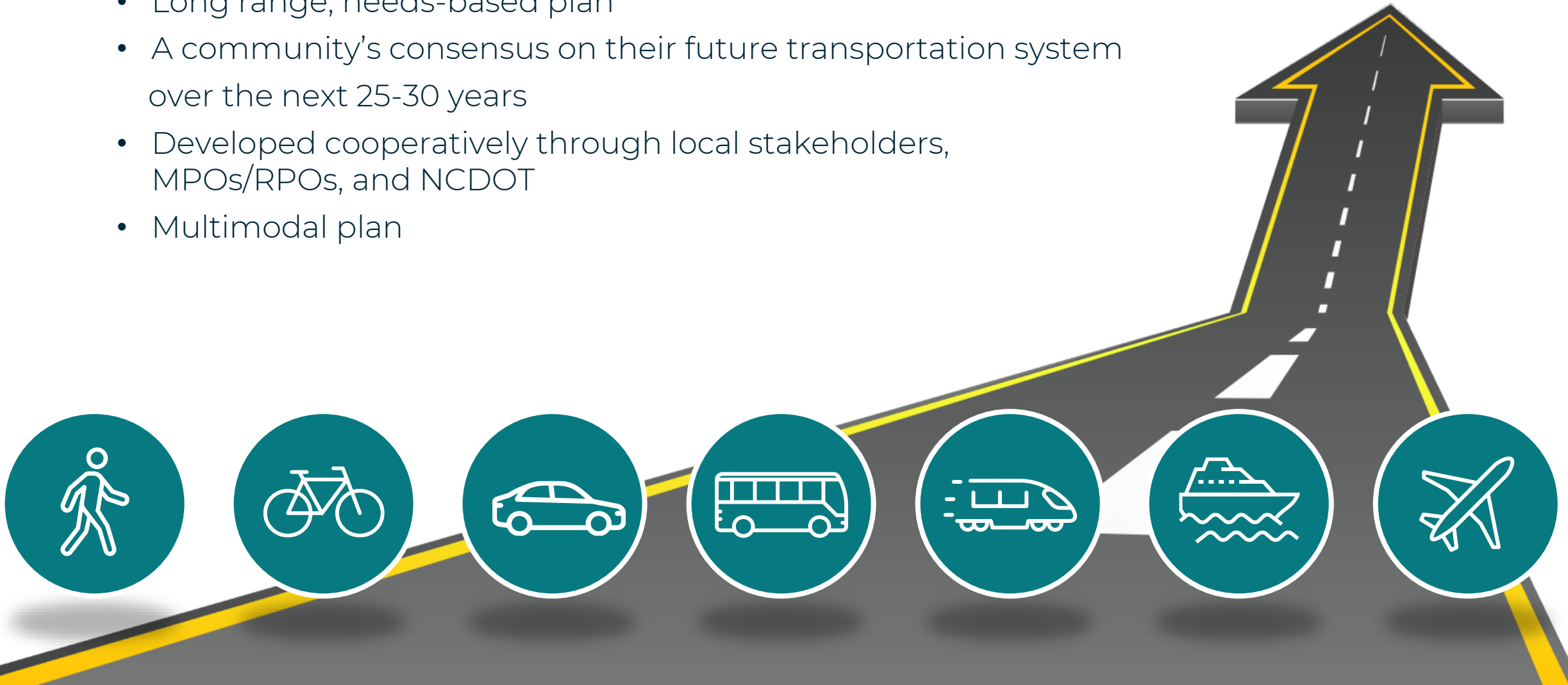
Who is a potential CTP Steering Committee member?

- A. County/City Planner
- B. Bike/Ped Advocate
- C. Business Owner/Chamber of Commerce
- D. EMS
- E. All of the above

CTP 101

What is a CTP?

- Long range, needs-based plan
- A community's consensus on their future transportation system over the next 25-30 years
- Developed cooperatively through local stakeholders, MPOs/RPOs, and NCDOT
- Multimodal plan



Why Develop a CTP?

- Identify existing and future transportation needs
- First step in the NCDOT project delivery process
- Projects should be reflected in the CTP before they are submitted for future funding available through NCDOT
- NCDOT refers to CTP when implementing its Complete Streets Policy
- CTP can help inform land use decisions

NCDOT PROJECT DELIVERY PROCESS

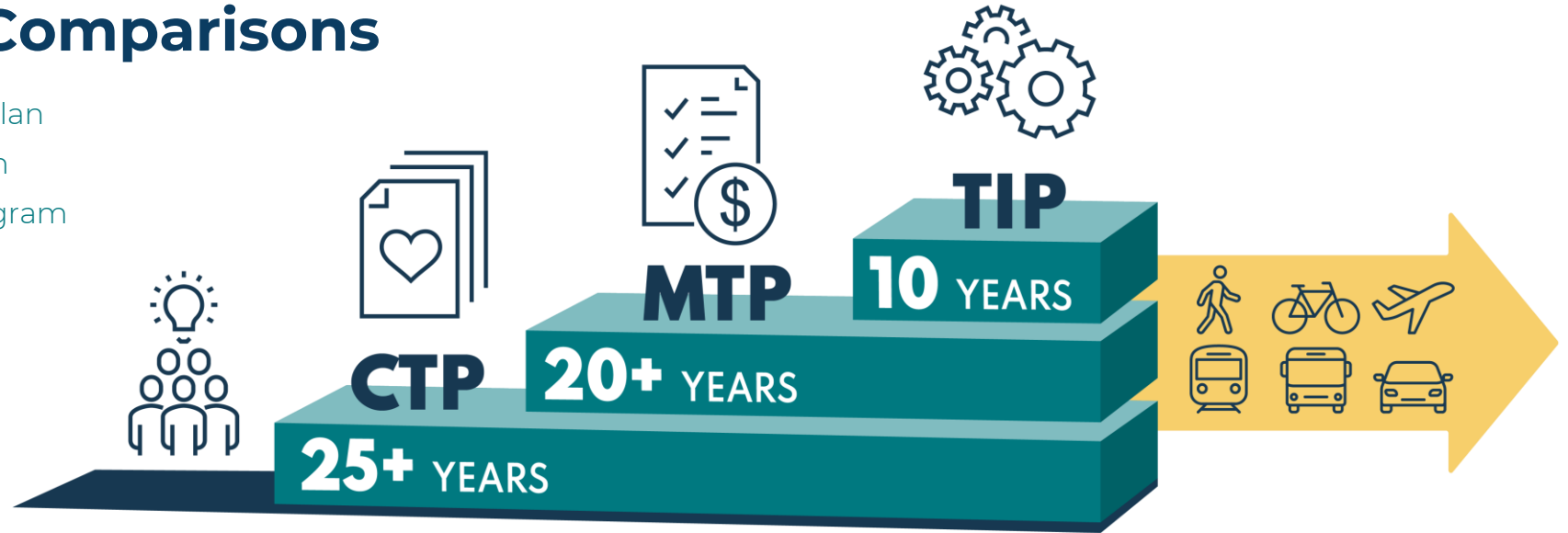


Long-Range Plan Comparisons

CTP – Comprehensive Transportation Plan

MTP – Metropolitan Transportation Plan

TIP – Transportation Improvement Program



CTP

- Non-fiscally constrained
- Evaluates and recommends all transportation needs in a study area
- Provides a framework for selecting future transportation projects in a fiscally constrained MTP

MTP

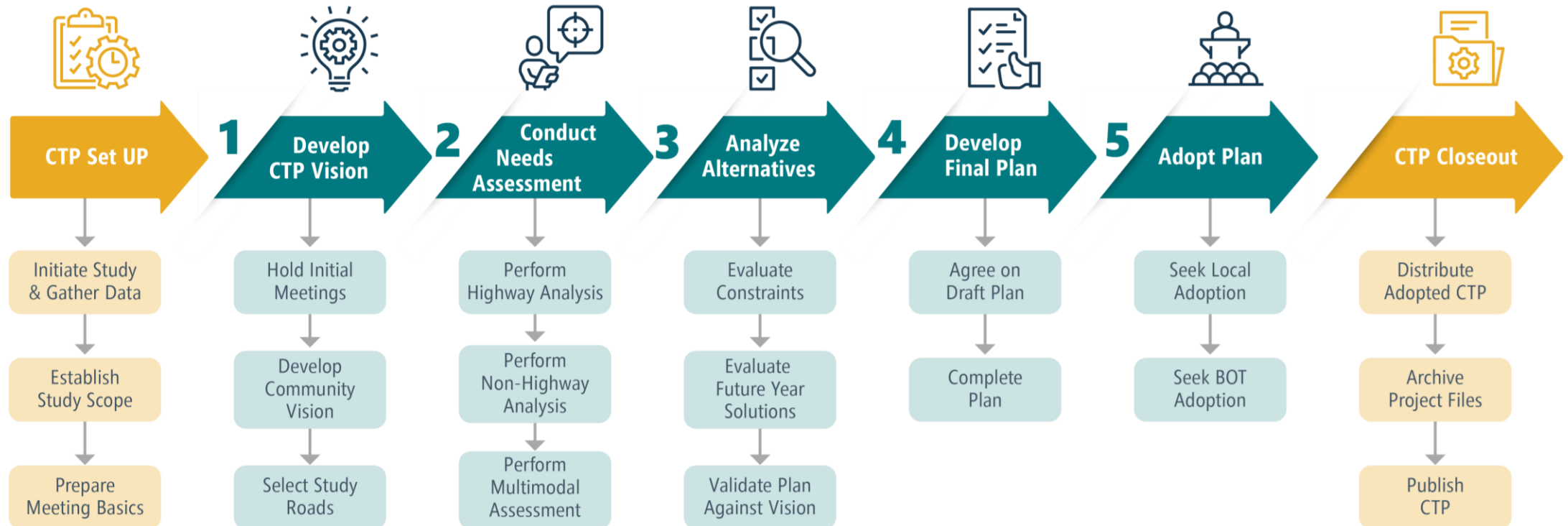
- Fiscally constrained
- Provides a framework for selecting future transportation projects to be prioritized via the Strategic Prioritization Office (SPOT)

TIP

- Highest priority projects are then funded in the Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP)

CTP Process

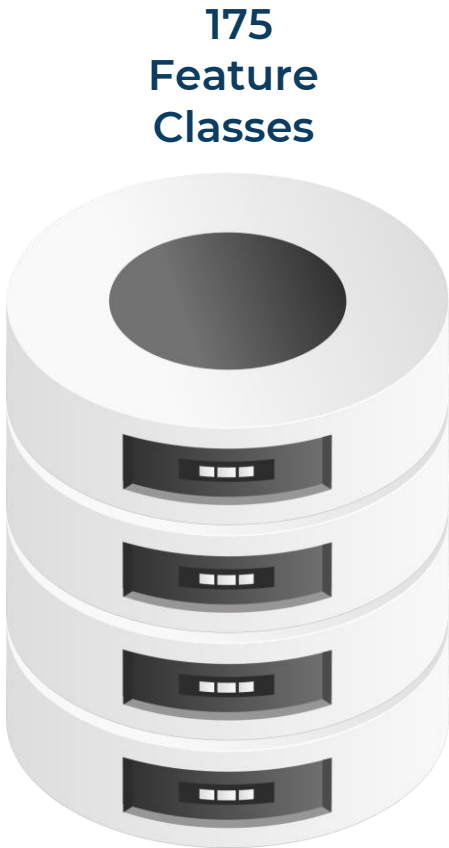
- 5 High Level Steps



CTP Geodatabase

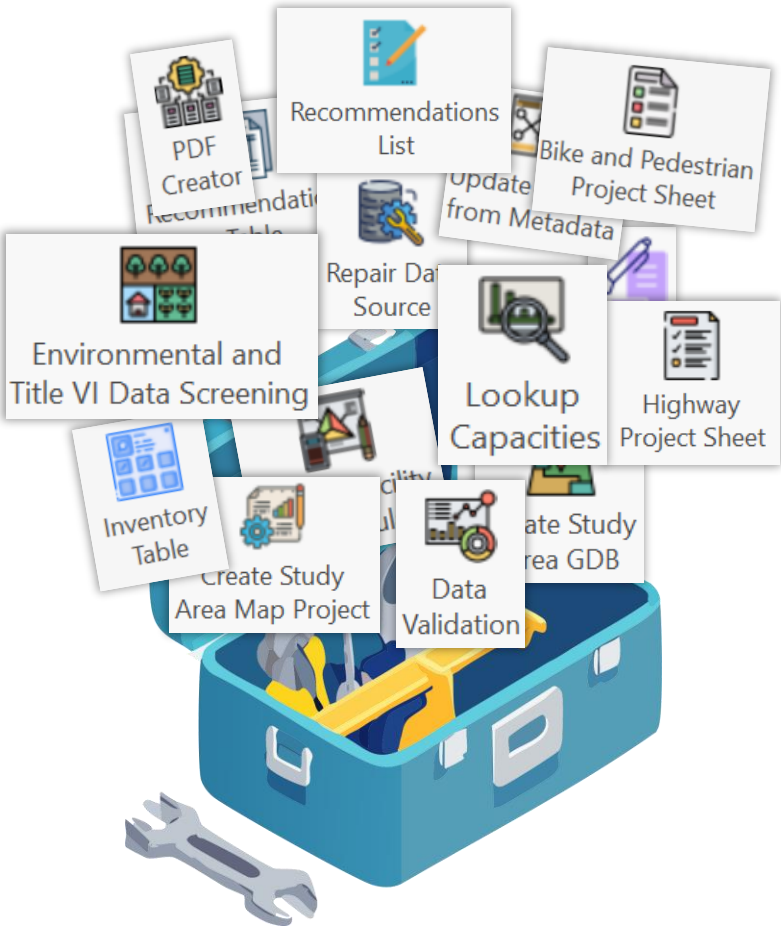
- “One-stop shop” for transportation planning data
- Approximately 175 feature classes
- Data includes:
 - NC Route Characteristics
 - Cultural resources
 - Environmental resources
 - Crash data
 - STIP projects
 - Rail
 - Aviation
 - Freight





175
Feature
Classes

NCDOT
Geodatabase



NCDOT Tools

Highway Recommendations

Highway Class: ■ Congestion ■ Access Management ■ Modernization ■ Other (Safety)

Map ID	Local ID	Improvement Type	Recommendation Name	Limits
1	I-5719A	Congestion	I-85	From US 321 to NC 7
2	I-5719B	Congestion	I-85	From NC 7 to NC 273
3	U-6043	Congestion	US 29/74	From Cox Rd (SR 2200) to 400, Lineberger Rd
4	U-6146	Congestion	US 29/74	From Market St to Alberta Ave
5	U-5961	Access Management	NC 274	From Osceola St to Niblick Dr

NC 742
From Hope St to NC 109
Proposal Length: 0.23 miles

Identified Need
There is currently a lack of sidewalk connectivity between residential areas and the Senior Center to nearby stores and the existing sidewalk.

Recommendation
A sidewalk is recommended to connect residential areas and the Senior Center to nearby stores and the existing sidewalk.

CTP Goal Analysis
This recommendation aims to improve the economic development and quality of life by improving connections between popular destinations by implementing sidewalk improvements.

Local ID: ANSO30004-P
Classification: Pedestrian
Location: Within Right of Way

Existing Road Data	
Facility Type:	Major Thoroughfare
Travel Lanes:	2-lane
Speed Limit (mph):	35
% Trucks:	12.14
ROW (ft):	60
2017 Volume(vpd):	2800
2045 Volume(vpd):	4600

CTP Products

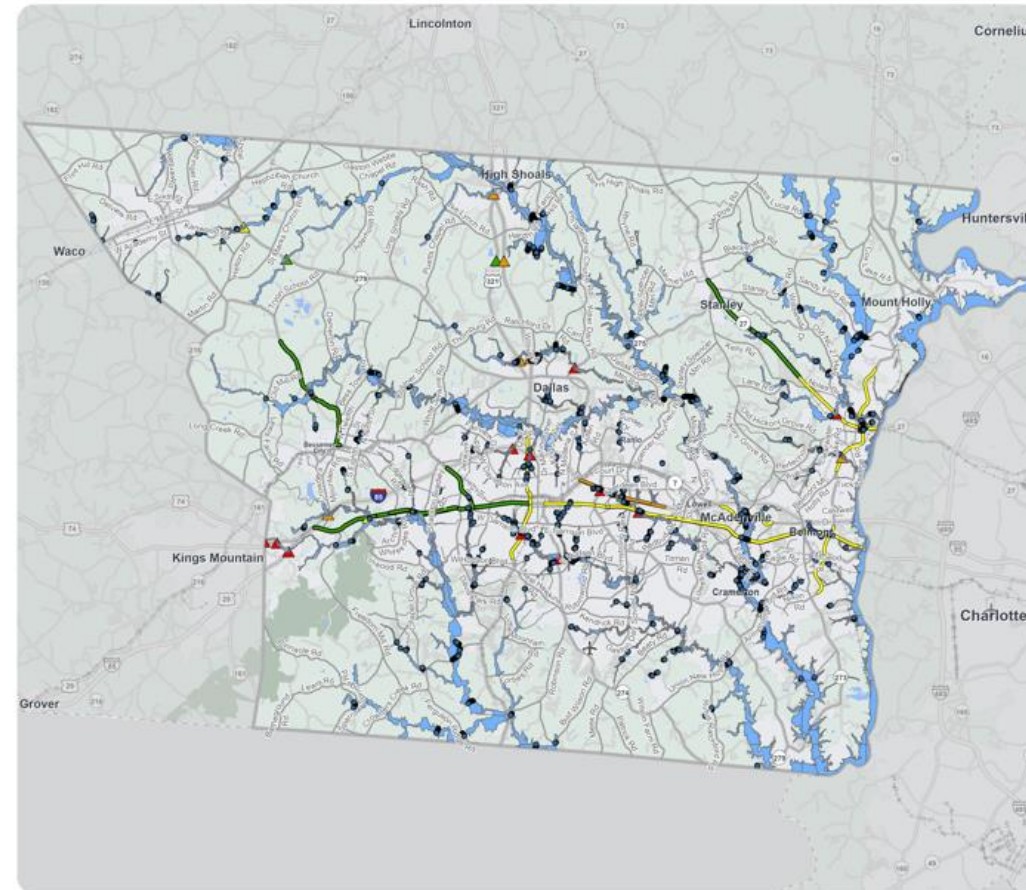
Support Mapping for the CTP

Standard Map Templates:

- Title VI
- Bridge Deficiencies
- Planning Level Crashes
- Bicycle and Pedestrian Crash Locations
- Environmental Features
- Freight
- BY and FY Volume and Capacity Deficiencies

Custom Mapping:

- Resiliency
- Truck Percentage

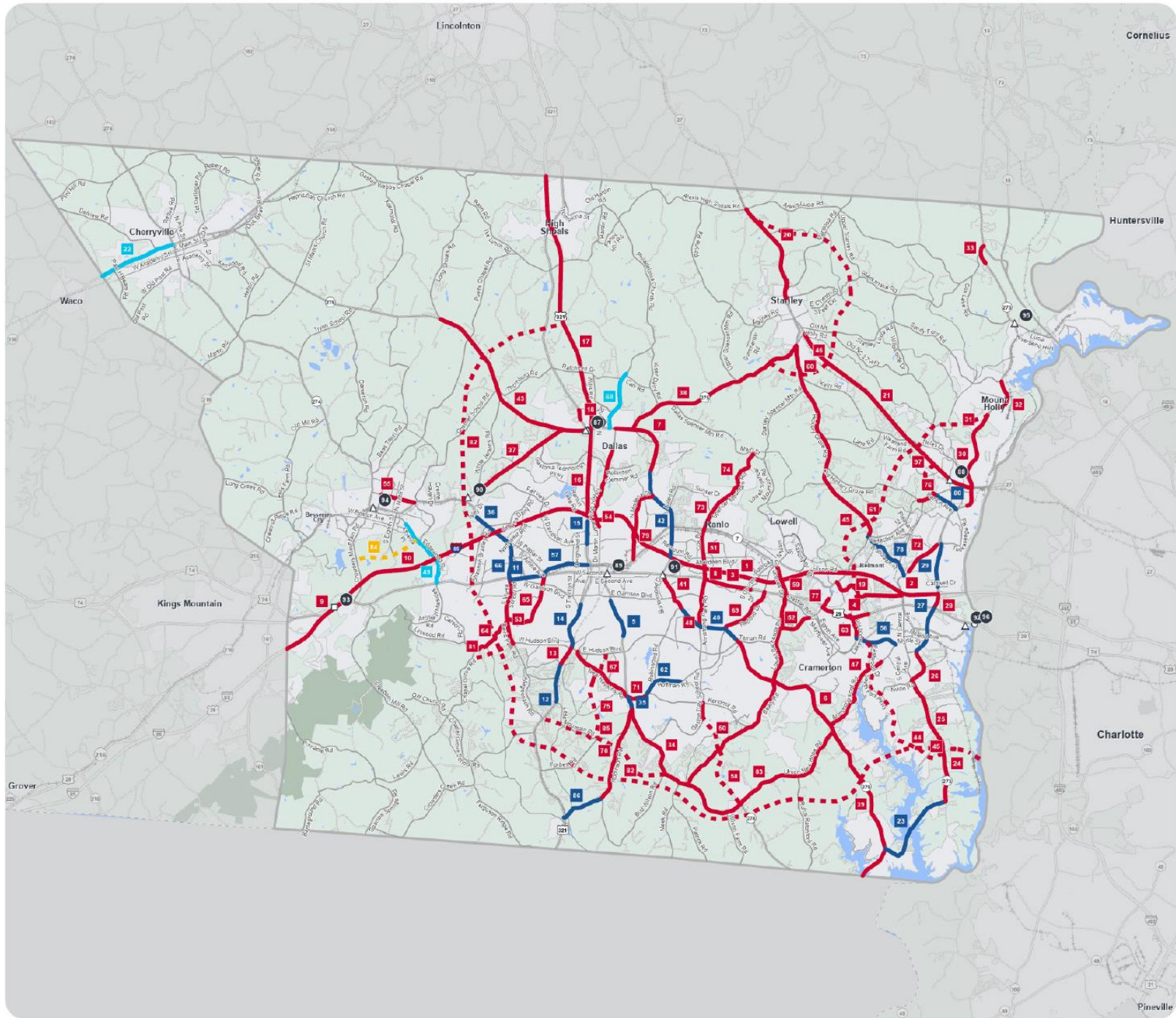


Legal Disclaimer

These concepts will need additional analysis to meet state and federal environmental regulations, to determine final locations and designs, and to be funded for implementation. Local zoning or subdivision ordinances may require the dedication of right of way based on the concepts shown on the Comprehensive Transportation Plan and local collector street plans, based on N.C.G.S. § 136-66.2 and § 136-66.10.

WORKING COPY
Plan Date: January 16, 2026

CTP Deliverables - Maps



HIGHWAY RECOMMENDATIONS

Proposals that address identified needs through 2055



GASTON COUNTY

Comprehensive Transportation Plan

Highway Features

	Proposal ID #	Recommended On Existing	Recommended New Location
Congestion / Mobility (e.g., add lanes)	#	—	- - -
Access Management / Operations (e.g., add median)	#	—	- - -
Modernization (e.g., widen lanes, add turn lanes)	#	—	- - -
Other (e.g., safety, economic development)	#	—	- - -
Interchange	#	□	■
Bridge / Overpass	#	○	●
Intersection	#	△	▲

Other Features
Studied Roads



<https://tinyurl.com/GCL-CTP>

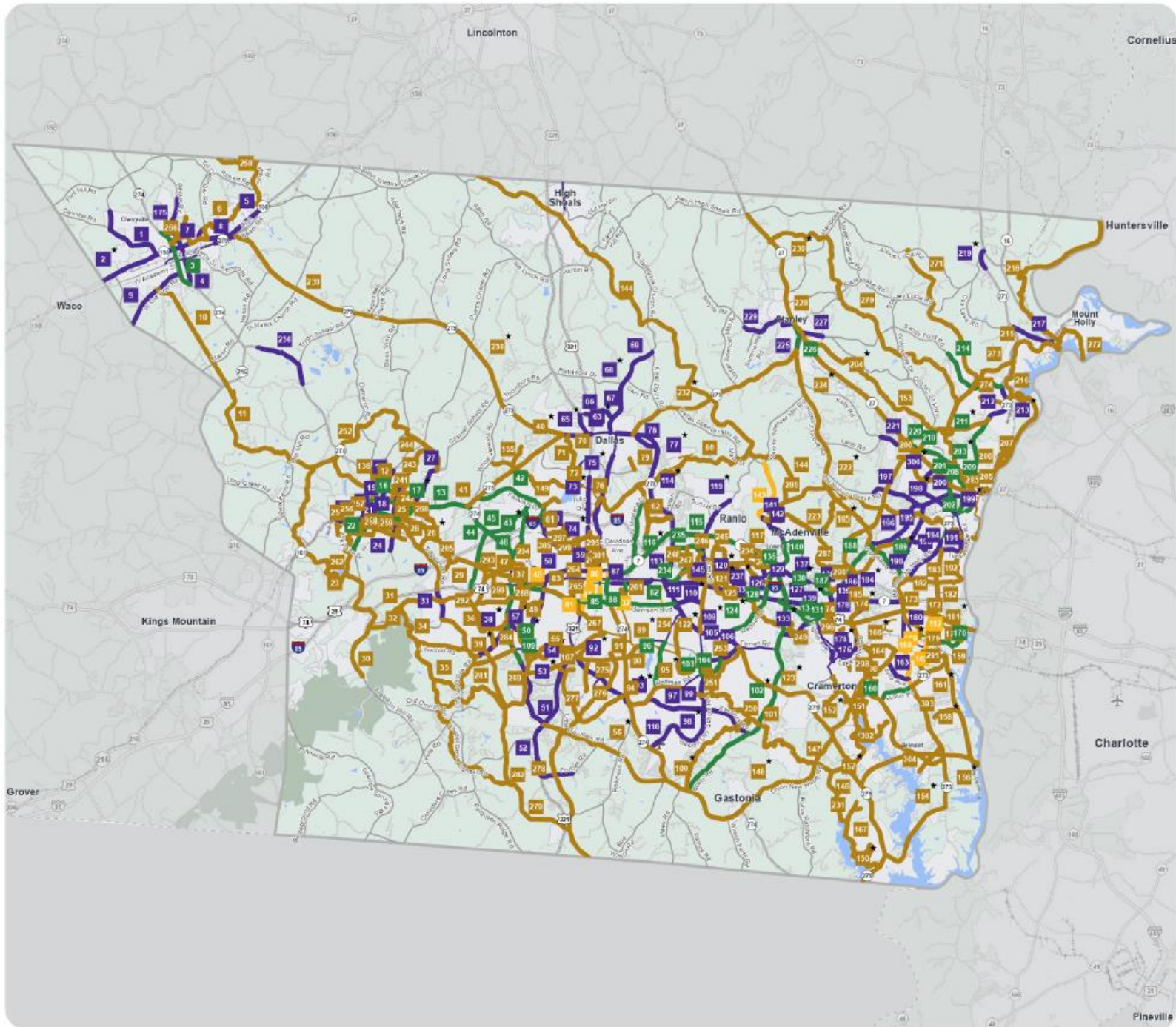


Sheet 2 of 4

Base map date: November 20, 2024

Legal Disclaimer

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BICYCLE / PEDESTRIAN RECOMMENDATIONS

Proposals that address identified needs through 2055



GASTON COUNTY

Comprehensive Transportation Plan

Bicycle and Pedestrian Features

	Proposal ID #	Existing	Recommended New Location
Bicycle	5		
Pedestrian	6		
Bicycle and Pedestrian	7		
Multiuse Path	8		
Bicycle and Pedestrian Bridge	9		
Denotes Highway Incidental	★		

Other Features

Studied Roads



<https://tinyurl.com/GCL-CTP>



0 0.75 1.5 3 4.5 6 Miles

Sheet 4 of 4

Base map date: November 20, 2024

Legal Disclaimer

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WORKING COPY
Plan Date: April 02, 2026

PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION AND RAIL RECOMMENDATIONS

Proposals that address identified needs through 2055



GASTON COUNTY

Comprehensive Transportation Plan

Public Transportation and Rail Features

	Proposal ID #	Existing	Recommended New Location
Urban Fixed Bus Corridors	#		
Regional Bus Corridors	#		
Rural Fixed Bus Corridors	#		
Fixed Guideway	#		
Amtrak / Freight Route	#		
Current Railroad	#		
Transit Facility	#		
Park and Ride Lot	#		
Amtrak Station	#		
Intermodal Terminal	#		

Studied Roads
Denotes Highway Incidental ★

Note: Microtransit operates within the City of Gastonia



<https://tinyurl.com/GCL-CTP>



0 0.75 1.5 3 4.5 6 Miles

Sheet 3 of 4

Base map date: November 20, 2024

Legal Disclaimer

These concepts will need additional analysis to meet state and federal environmental regulations, to determine final locations and designs, and to be funded for implementation. Local zoning or subdivision ordinances may require the dedication of right of way based on the concepts shown on the Comprehensive Transportation Plan and local collector street plans, based on N.C.G.S. § 136-66.2 and § 136-66.10.

WORKING COPY
Plan Date: April 02, 2026

GASTON COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE TRANSPORTATION PLAN

April 2026

 **Gastón County**

Highway Recommendations

1

I-85, I-5719A:
From US 321 to NC 7 | 6.19 miles
Widen to eight lanes.

2

I-85, I-5719B:
From NC 7 to NC 273 | 3.63 miles
Widen to eight lanes.

3

US 29/74, U-6043: 
From Cox Rd (SR 2200) to 400 ft E of Lineberger Rd | 1.22 miles
Widen the eastbound travel lanes on US 29/74 from east of Cox Rd (SR 2200)/Armstrong Park Rd to 400 feet east of Lineberger Rd from two to three lanes and add a sidewalk on the south side.

Highway Class:

Congestion

Access Management

Modernization

Other (Safety, etc.)

Bridge/Intersection

HIGHWAY RECOMMENDATIONS



GASTON COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE TRANSPORTATION PLAN

April 2026

 **Gastón County**

Bicycle and Pedestrian Recommendations

1

Delview Rd (SR 1651): 
From NC 150 to Black Rock School Rd (SR 1638) | 1.5 miles
Add sidewalk to connect residential areas to commercial uses on NC 150.
Black Rock School Rd (SR 1638): 
From Delview Rd (SR 1651) to Cherryville city limit | 0.49 miles
Add sidewalk to improve sidewalk connections between residential areas and Downtown Cherryville.

2

★ NC 150: 
From Cleveland County line to NC 274 | 2.03 miles
Add a center turn lane, widen to 12-foot lanes, and add sidewalks.

3

NC 274:  
From S Pink St (SR 1428) to Ridge Ave | 1.6 miles
Add bicycle lanes and fill sidewalk gaps on both sides, improving north-south connectivity in Cherryville.

Bike/Ped Class:

Bicycle

Pedestrian

Bike and Ped

Multilane Path

Bike/Ped Bridge

★ Denotes Highway Incidental

BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN
PROJECT RECOMMENDATIONS

PAGE 38



GASTON COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE TRANSPORTATION PLAN

April 2026

 **Gastón County**

Public Transportation and Rail Recommendations

1

US 74 West High Capacity Transit Corridor: 
From Belmont to Kings Mountain | 18.49 miles
This is a proposed High-Capacity Transit Corridor in CONNECT Beyond. The corridor is shown as Proposed Commuter Bus, but could be light rail, bus rapid transit, express bus, or commuter rail. Future studies are needed.

2

NC 16 Northwest High Capacity Transit Corridor: 
From Uptown Charlotte to Lowesville | 4.18 miles
This is a proposed High-Capacity Transit Corridor in CONNECT Beyond. The corridor is shown as Proposed Commuter Bus, but could be light rail, bus rapid transit, express bus, or commuter rail. Future studies are needed.

3

Belmont Park and Ride: 
Walmart, 701 Hawley Ave | 0.0 miles
This Park and Ride lot replaces the existing Park and Ride at Abbey Plaza.

Public Trans/Rail Class:

Urban Bus Corridor

Regional Bus Corridor

Rural Bus Corridor

Fixed Guideway

Amtrak/Freight Route

Park and Ride or Multimodal

Amtrak/Light Rail Station or Intermodal Terminal

★ Denotes Highway Incidental

PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION AND RAIL
RECOMMENDATIONS

54



The map shows the Kings Mountain area with a red line indicating the proposed Kings Mountain Expressway (SR 109). The route starts near Kings Mountain and runs southeast towards Gastonia. Key roads shown include US 74, SR 85, and SR 29. Local streets labeled include Woodbury Dr, Maple Leaf Ln, Rona Court Rd, Turn Dr, Canterbury Rd, Kings Mountain Pkwy, and Woodbury Pkwy. The map also shows the locations of Kings Mountain and Gastonia.

	Local ID	Improve	New Location		Local ID	Improve	New Location
Congestion / Mobility				Interchange			
Access Management / Operations				Bridge / Overpass			
Modernization				Intersection			
Other							

Highway Class	Congestion & Mobility
Facility Type	Freeway
Typical Section	08 B
Section Options	-
Length (miles)	2.00
Existing ROW (feet)	130
Safety Risk Score	100

Proposal Data:		2023 Base Year	2055 Future Year	
Improved Route	Existing	Without Proposal	With Proposal	
Facility Type	Freeway	Freeway	Freeway	
Travel Lanes	6	6	8	
Volume (vpd)	49500-79000	66000-103100	65400	
Capacity (vpd)	48000-76900	48000-76900	124900	

Capacity Data:	Year
Facility will be Approaching Capacity (>80%)	2023
Facility will be Over Capacity (>=100%)	2023



POSTED SPEED 55-70 MPH

- 3 Flood Hazard Area Feature(s)
- 1 Impaired Waters Line Feature(s)
- 1 Landscape Habitat Indicator Guild Feature(s)
- 3 Wetland Feature(s)

- Between 15% and 20% identify as Households with No Car

STUDY GOALS AND OBJECTIVES



PROVIDE A TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM THAT ACCOMMODATES ALL MODES OF TRANSPORTATION.
Improve bicycle and pedestrian accommodations on facilities that connect key destinations and provide opportunities for more transit options to medical centers.



PROVIDE A TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM ACCESSIBLE TO ALL USERS.
Improve signage throughout Anson County for residents and visitors and provide safe access to transit facilities.



PROVIDE A TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM THAT SUPPORTS ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT.
Improve mobility along the US 74 corridor to allow access for future businesses while supporting tourism and economic development opportunities.

The Measures of Effectiveness are detailed in [Public Involvement Appendix](#).



PROVIDE A SAFE TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM.
Reduce crashes along major intersections and promote safe driving behaviors by providing speed controlling tools. Improve roadways to provide safe truck accommodations and routes.

CTP PROCESS SUMMARY

The development of this plan was open and participatory, with area residents providing input through public input meetings, committee meetings, and an online survey with a public input map. The overall process and timeline are summarized in the graphic below:

SPRING 2022

Establishing the community Vision, Goals & Objectives; Reviewing existing transportation network

SUMMER 2022

Launch Goals and Objectives Survey; Review Bicycle and Pedestrian destinations; Discuss Socio-Economic Data

FALL 2022

Endorsement of Socio-Economic Data; Review Survey Results; Discuss Housing, Employment, and population distribution

WINTER 2022

Review traffic volume and capacity maps for the base year and future year; Identify transportation network deficiencies

SPRING 2023- WINTER 2024

Develop and discuss Draft CTP Recommendations; Public Involvement

2024 - 2025

Local CTP Adoptions, RPO Endorsement, Board of Transportation Adoption

STATE AND FEDERAL POLICIES AND PLANS

This section outlines some of the important state and federal policies and plans that were considered while developing the Anson County CTP. See the [Appendices](#) for an outline of the CTP requirements, and how they are accounted for and followed. Please click on any item in the following list for more information:

[Complete Streets](#)

[Multimodal Statewide Freight Plan](#)

[N.C. Planning Facility Types](#)

[N.C. General Statute 136-66.2](#)

[N.C. Moves 2050 Plan](#)

[Statewide Logistics Plan](#)

[Strategic Transportation Corridors](#)

[Strategic Transportation Investments](#)

[Title VI in Public Involvement](#)

LOCAL POLICIES AND PLANS

This section outlines some of the important local policies and plans that were considered while developing the Anson County CTP. Please click on any item in the following list for more information:

[Anson County Vision 2040 Plan \(2021\)](#)

[NC Statewide Multimodal Freight Plan \(2022\)](#)

[NC Strategic Transportation Corridors: Vision Plan \(2020\)](#)

[Central Park Bicycle Plan \(2016\)](#)

[Anson County Technical Assistance Health Risk and Equity Community Assessment \(2023\)](#)

[Great Trails State Report \(2022\)](#)

THIS PLAN FEATURES:



A thorough analysis of current and future projected conditions and public feedback regarding various modes of transportation.



A list of recommendations



Supporting documentation of the plan, study process, and recommendations

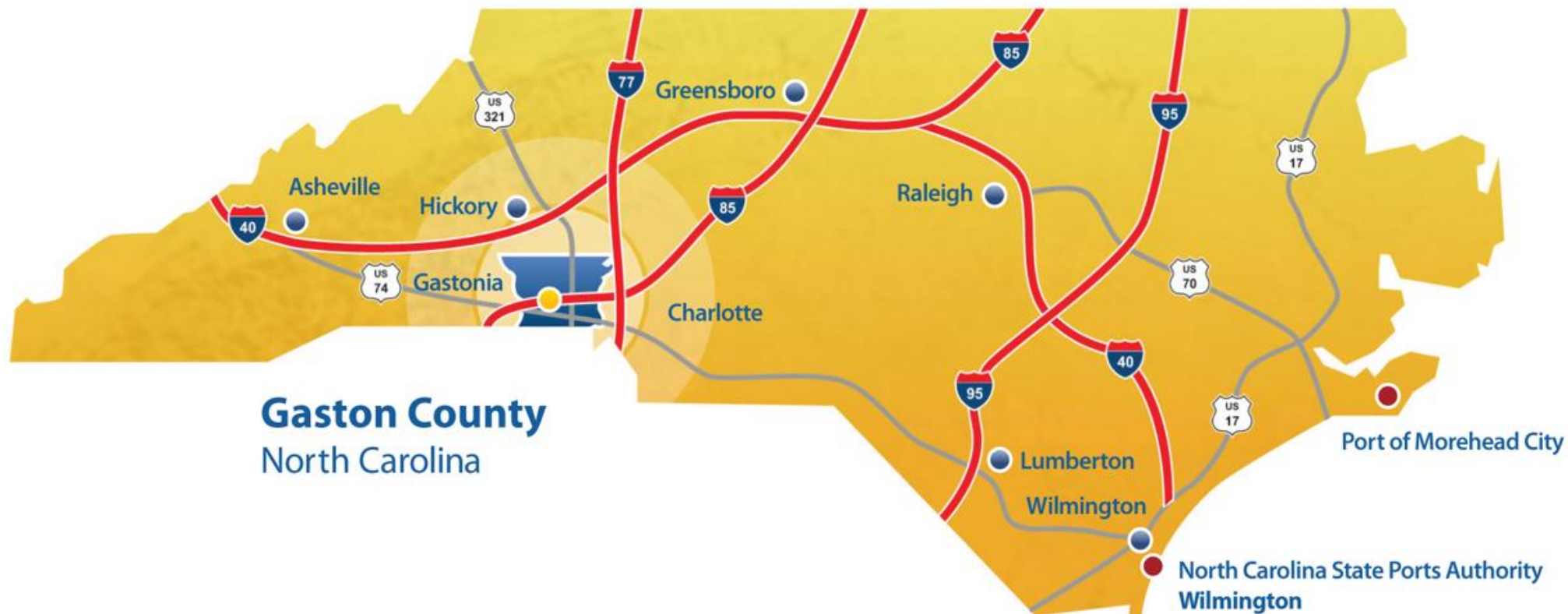


A recommended comprehensive transportation network for Anson County

GASTON COUNTY CTP



Understanding CTPs and Gaston County's Unique Approach



Background

Unique Approach

- Gaston County CTP – consultant led
- Remaining counties in MPO – NCDOT led
- County updating CTP concurrently with NCDOT CTP updates for neighboring counties, MPO MTP updates, and County land use plan updates

Roles and Responsibilities

Gaston County

- Identify stakeholders to serve on Stakeholder Committee
- Handle meeting logistics
- Develop website
- Public engagement
- Meet with municipalities
- Review interim and final deliverables

NCDOT TPD

- Provide GDB
- Provide data, templates, and guidance documents
- Answer CTP related questions
- Run GDB tools/provide output info
- Public engagement support (Round 1)
- Serve on Stakeholder Committee

GCLMPO

- Goals and objectives
- Provide data
- Provide MTP project lists
- Develop online Stakeholder Committee engagement tools
- Serve on Stakeholder Committee

Consultant

- Branding/public engagement materials
- QC data
- Conduct needs assessment
- Analyze alternatives/ develop recommendations
- Populate GDB
- Lead Stakeholder Committee meetings
- Present at Board/ Committee meetings

Big Changes Since Last CTP

PROPOSED FUTURE 6-LANE BRIDGE

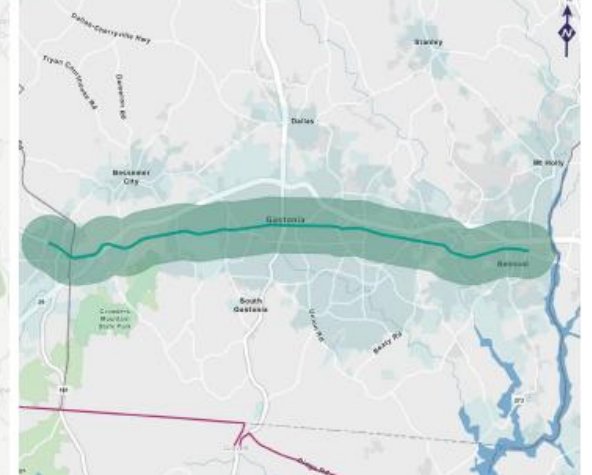
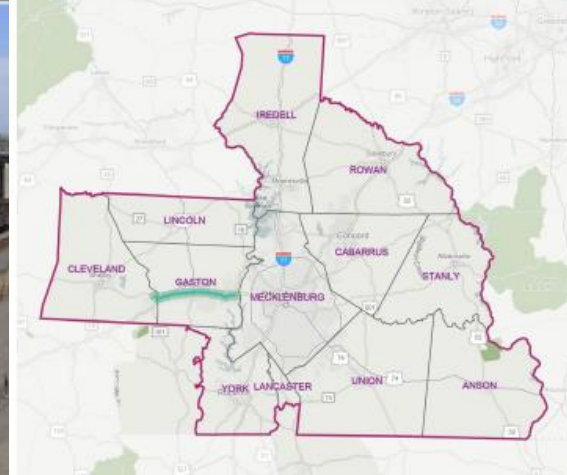


RECOMMENDED HCT CORRIDOR D

Highway 74 West

(Previously Candidate Corridor 5)

Linkage Locations:
Belmont to Kings Mountain



Key Takeaways

1. Timing is everything.

Benefits of developing at same time as MTP:

- Avoids duplication of many efforts
- Ensures MTP is based on most current needs
- Offers smooth transition from vision to prioritization to implementation

Challenges to developing at same time as MTP:

- Increases workload
- Different sets of requirements
- Messaging and communication



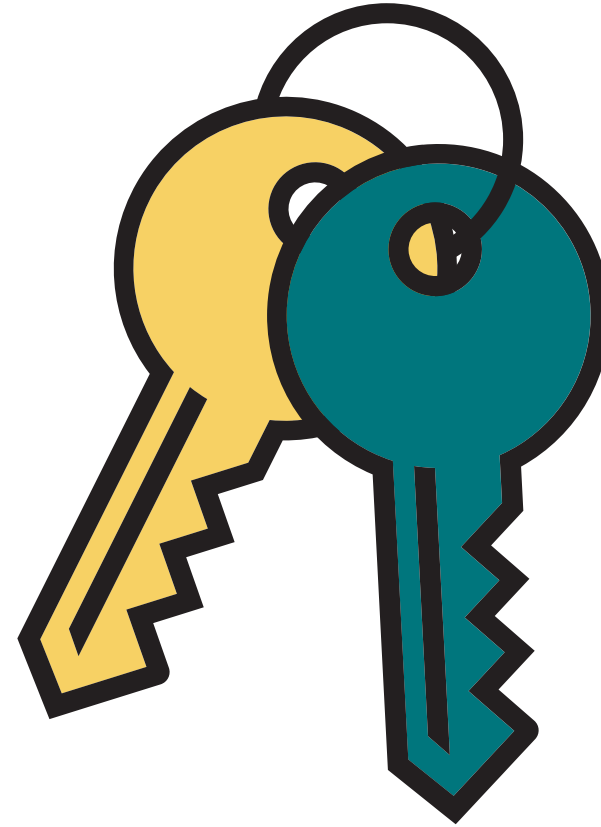
2. Pre-plan for the plan.



- Document project history
- Review plan recommendations
- Gather, verify, and update GIS shapefiles
- Build relationships with partners

3. Coordination is key.

- Between neighboring counties
- Between municipalities
- Between municipalities and county
- Between county, MPO, and DOT
- With stakeholders and the public



4. Build in scope and schedule flexibility.



- Data clean up
- Alternative analyses
- Extra meetings
- Vetting model outputs vs final recommendations

5. Be open to constructive feedback.

- Improves processes
- Enhances deliverables
- Builds trust and buy-in



Resources

- NCDOT TPD Website:

<https://connect.ncdot.gov/projects/planning/Pages/Comprehensive-Transportation-Plans.aspx>

- NCDOT TPD – CTP Dashboard:

<https://experience.arcgis.com/experience/2adfc82fc4664d828e93a52ff70d5c0e/page/Page?draft=true&view=s=Legend>

- Relevant Examples

- Anson County

[connect.ncdot.gov/projects/planning/Pages/CTP-Details.aspx?study_id=Anson County](https://connect.ncdot.gov/projects/planning/Pages/CTP-Details.aspx?study_id=Anson%20County)

- Brunswick County

[connect.ncdot.gov/projects/planning/Pages/CTP-Details.aspx?study_id=Brunswick County](https://connect.ncdot.gov/projects/planning/Pages/CTP-Details.aspx?study_id=Brunswick%20County)

- Cumberland County and Fayetteville Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (FAMPO)

[connect.ncdot.gov/projects/planning/Pages/CTP-Details.aspx?study_id=Cumberland County and FAMPO CTP](https://connect.ncdot.gov/projects/planning/Pages/CTP-Details.aspx?study_id=Cumberland%20County%20and%20FAMPO%20CTP)





Contact Us

NCDOT TPD

Andy Bailey, CPM

jabailey@ncdot.gov

(919) 707-0991

RS&H

Erin Musiol, AICP

Erin.Musiol@rsandh.com

(704) 940-4704

Thank you!
