Town Council

MARCH 18, 2025

Consent Agenda

Public Comment

Presentations & Reports

STIP Report

TRISTAN WINKLER, DIRECTOR

FRENCH BROAD METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION (FBMPO)

French Broad River MPO Update

MARCH 18, 2025

What is a Metropolitan Planning Organization?

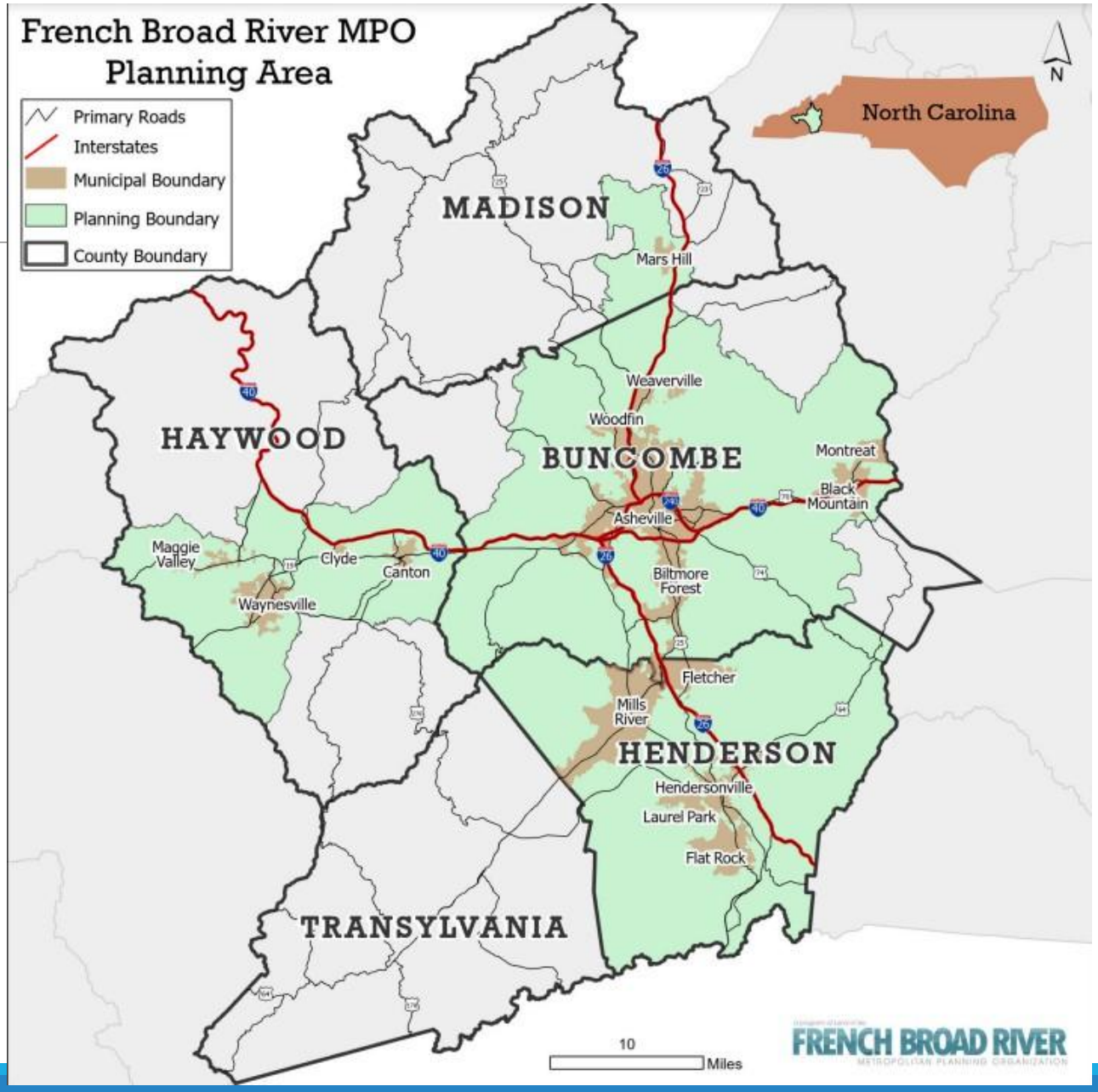
“The forum for cooperative transportation decision making for the metropolitan planning area”

Source: 23 CFR Part 450.104

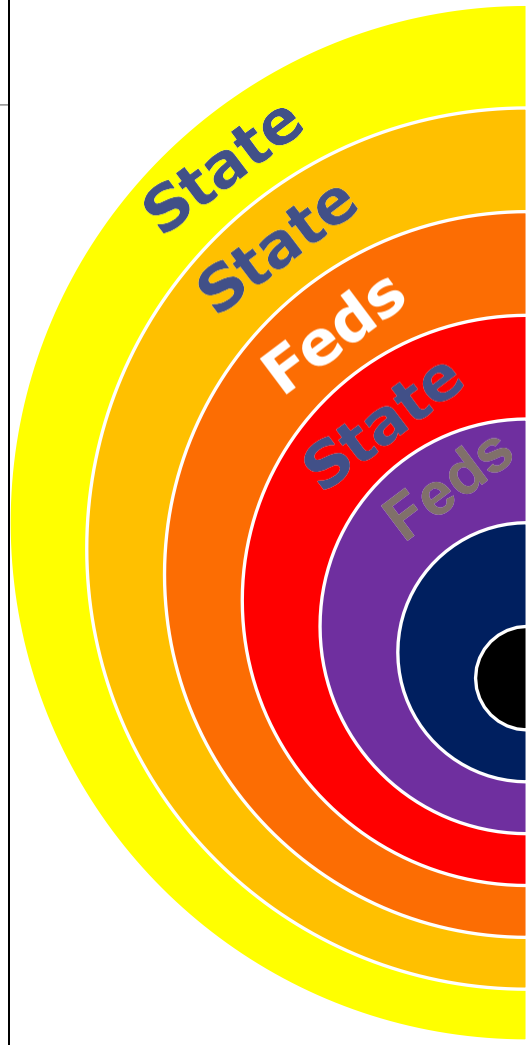


FRENCH BROAD RIVER MPO

- Founded in 1966
- Centered around the Asheville Urban Area
- Grew to include Henderson & Haywood in 2000, Madison and a (tiny bit of) Transylvania in 2010
- Lost Transylvania in 2020

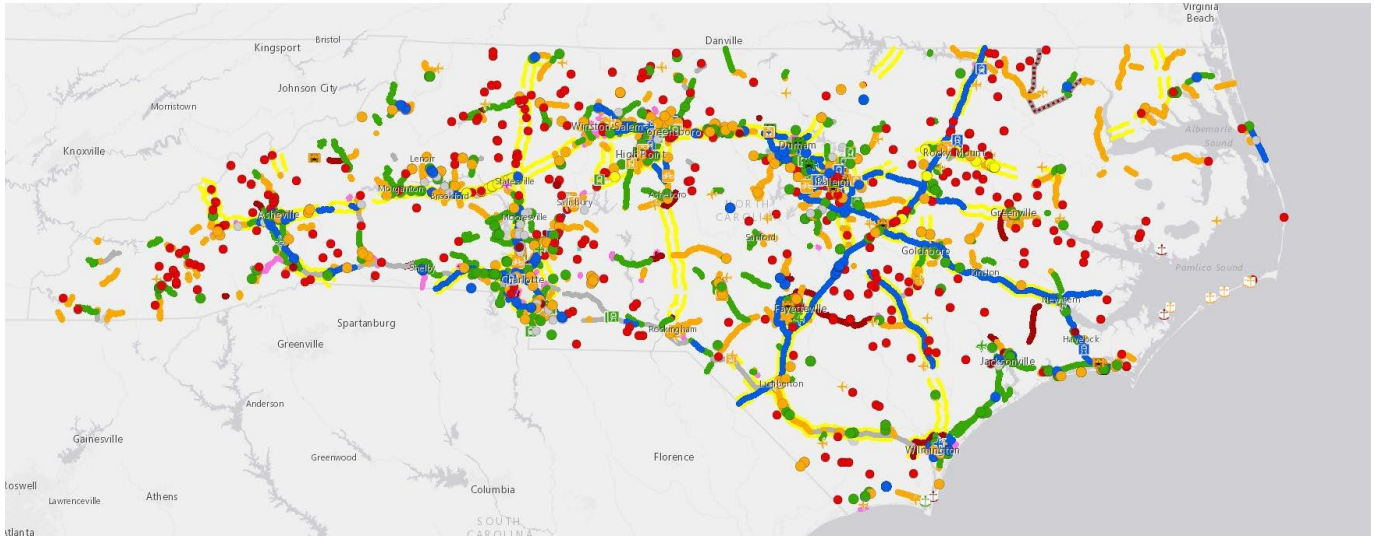


Life of a Transportation Project



2050 Plan	• Statewide Vision • Strategic Corridors
CTP	• 30+ Years • No $ Constraint
MTP	• 25 Years, Used for AQ Determinations • Based on Revenue Forecast
SPOT	• Scores Projects for Effectiveness • Results go into STIP/TIP
STIP/TIP	• 0-5 and 6-10 Years • Specific Funding Sources Identified
NEPA/Design	• Project alternatives are assessed • Final project design and cost
Construction	• Project Let, Built • Facility Opened

CMP-informs the middle 3



Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP)

A 10-year State and Federal-mandated plan that identifies the construction funding for and scheduling of transportation projects throughout the state.

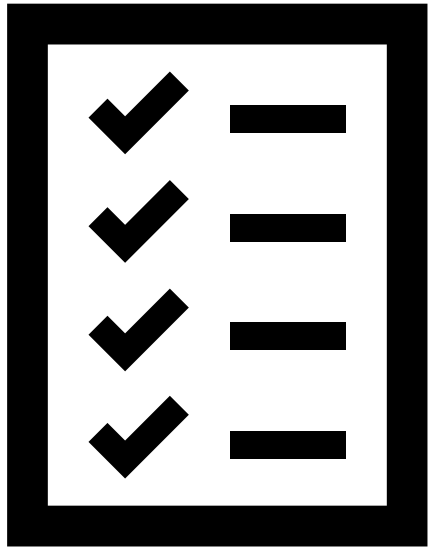
All regionally-significant transportation projects should be reflected in the STIP

All projects with federal funds or needing federal actions should be in the STIP

Required to be fiscally-constrained

TIP & STIP

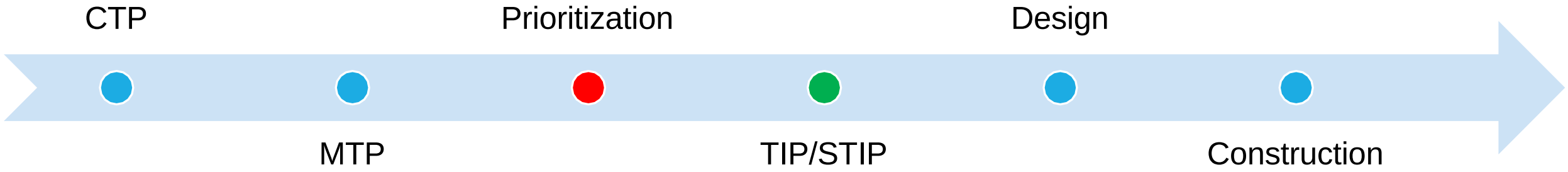
- The MPO oversees the region's Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)
- NCDOT oversees the State's Transportation Improvement Program (STIP)
- Projects must be identified in both documents in order for federal funding, permitting, and authorizations to occur



Committed vs. Decommitted

Committed- a project is considered fully funded and is not expected to compete in future rounds of prioritization

Decommitted- a project was considered fully funded but is not anymore and will have to compete in future rounds of prioritization

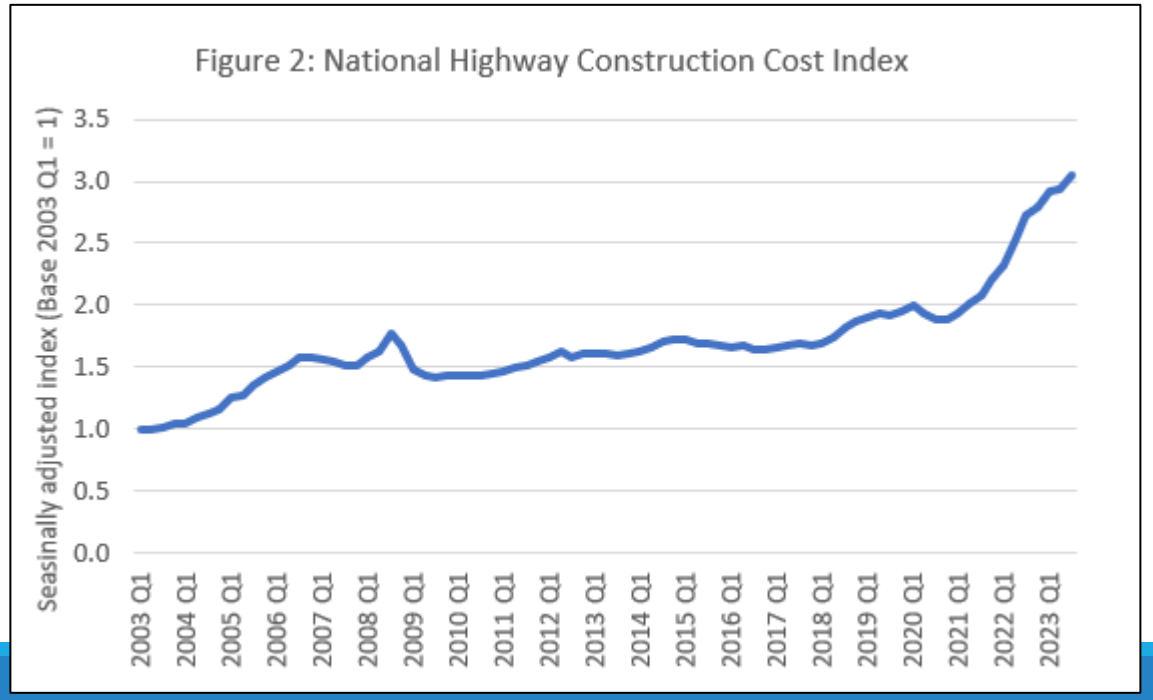


General Schedule

Action	Date
Draft STIP Released	January 31, 2025
Division 13/14 Public Meetings	February 24-28 (Drop-In at Division HQ)
Public Comments Due	April 4, 2025
NC BOT Adoption	June, 2025
FBRMPO Adoption	August, 2025

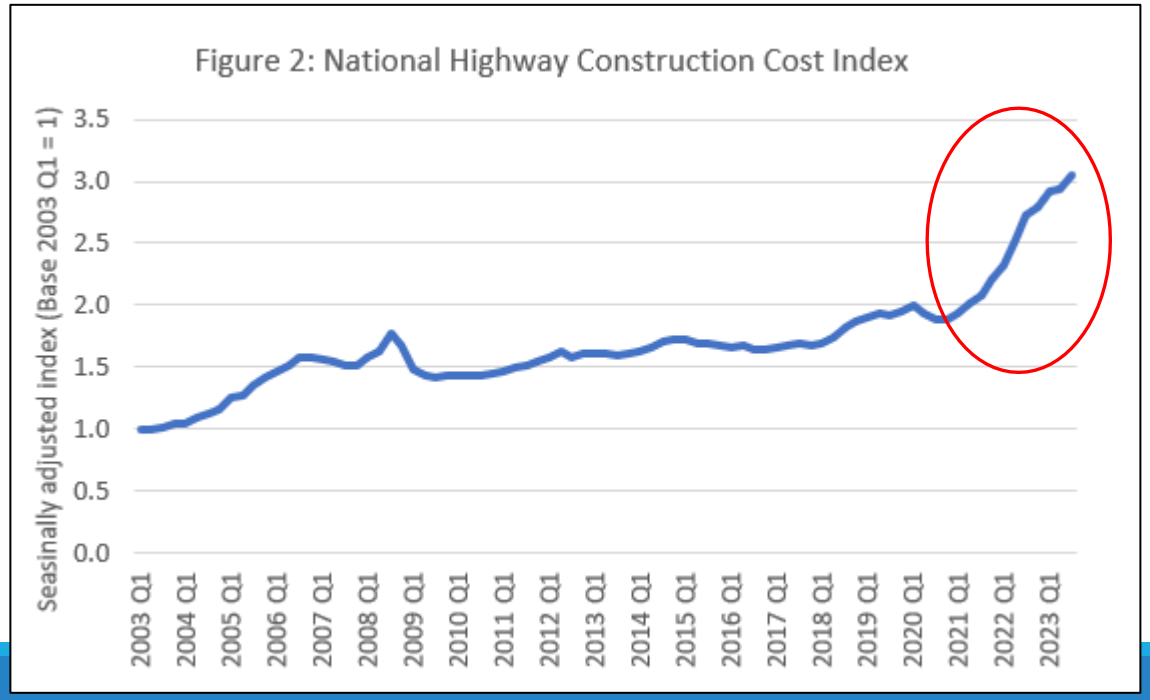
Summary

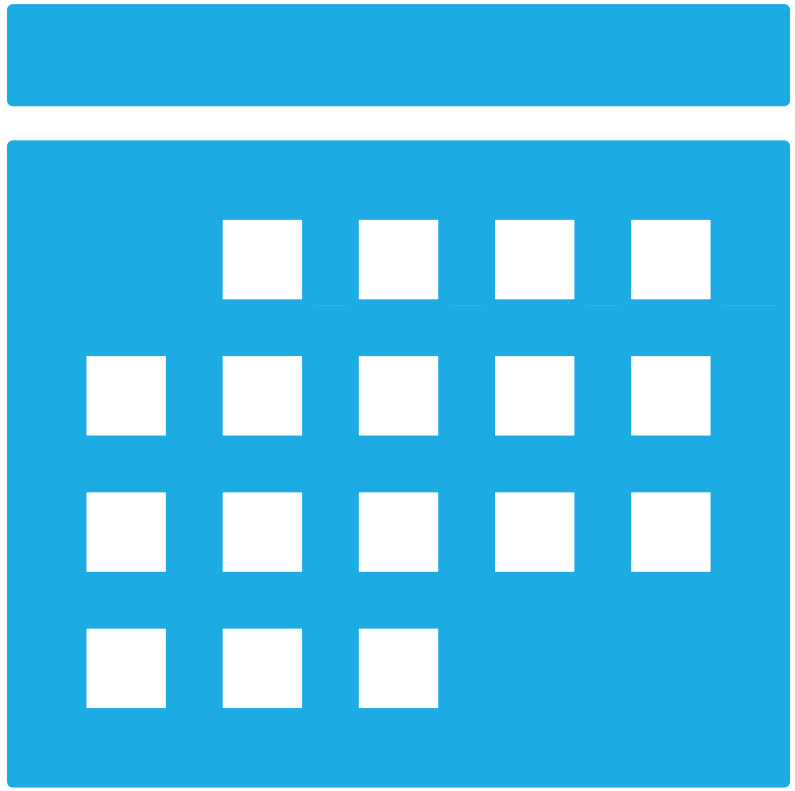
- No New Projects Funded in the STIP
- Many Projects Delayed
- Several Projects “Decommitted” or “Defunded”



Summary

- No New Projects Funded in the STIP
- Many Projects Delayed
- Several Projects “Decommitted” or “Defunded”

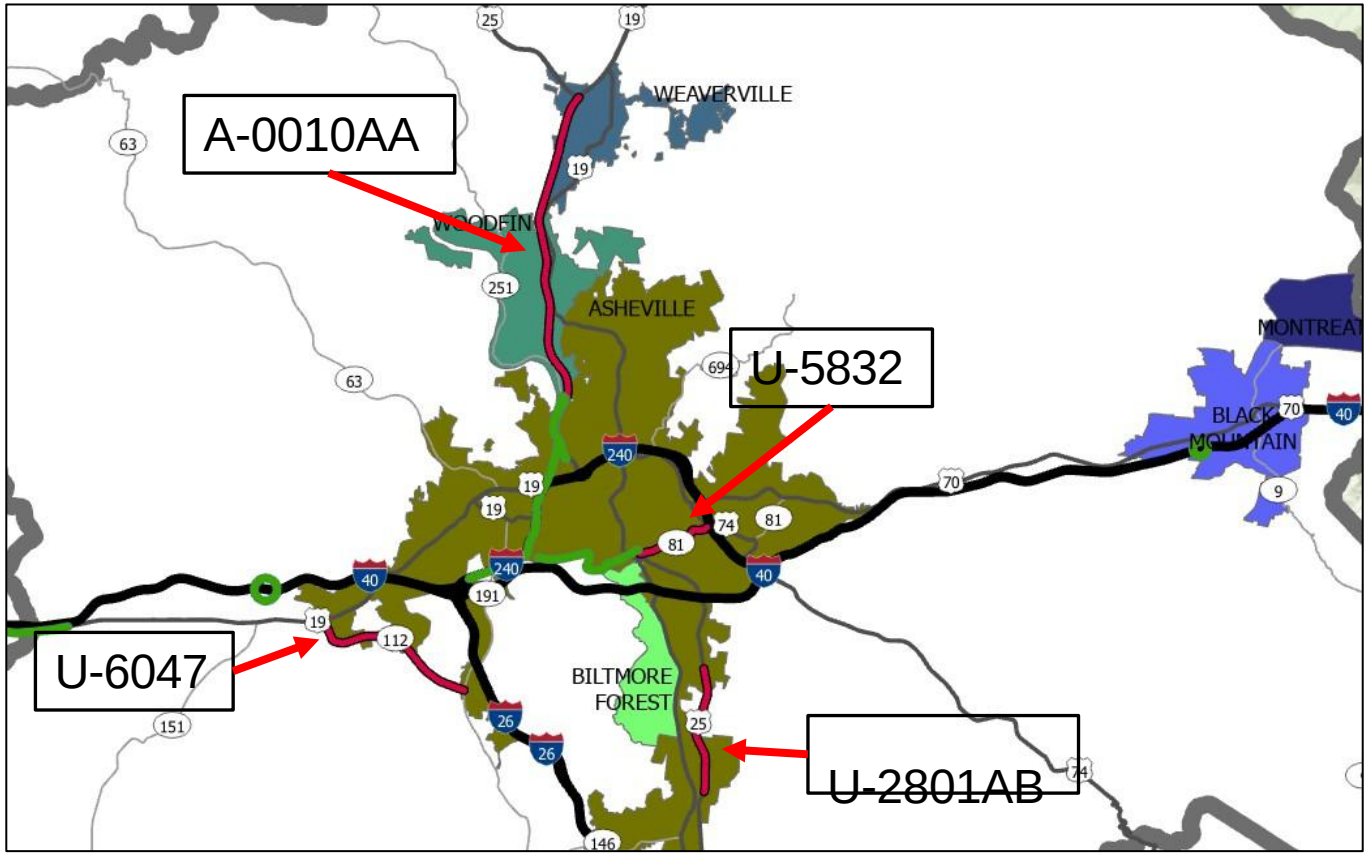




NCDOT Process for Committing/ DeCommitting

- Regional Ranking of Projects
- Whether Right-of-Way Has Been Purchased
- Project Cost
- Project Delivery Schedule
- Funding Availability

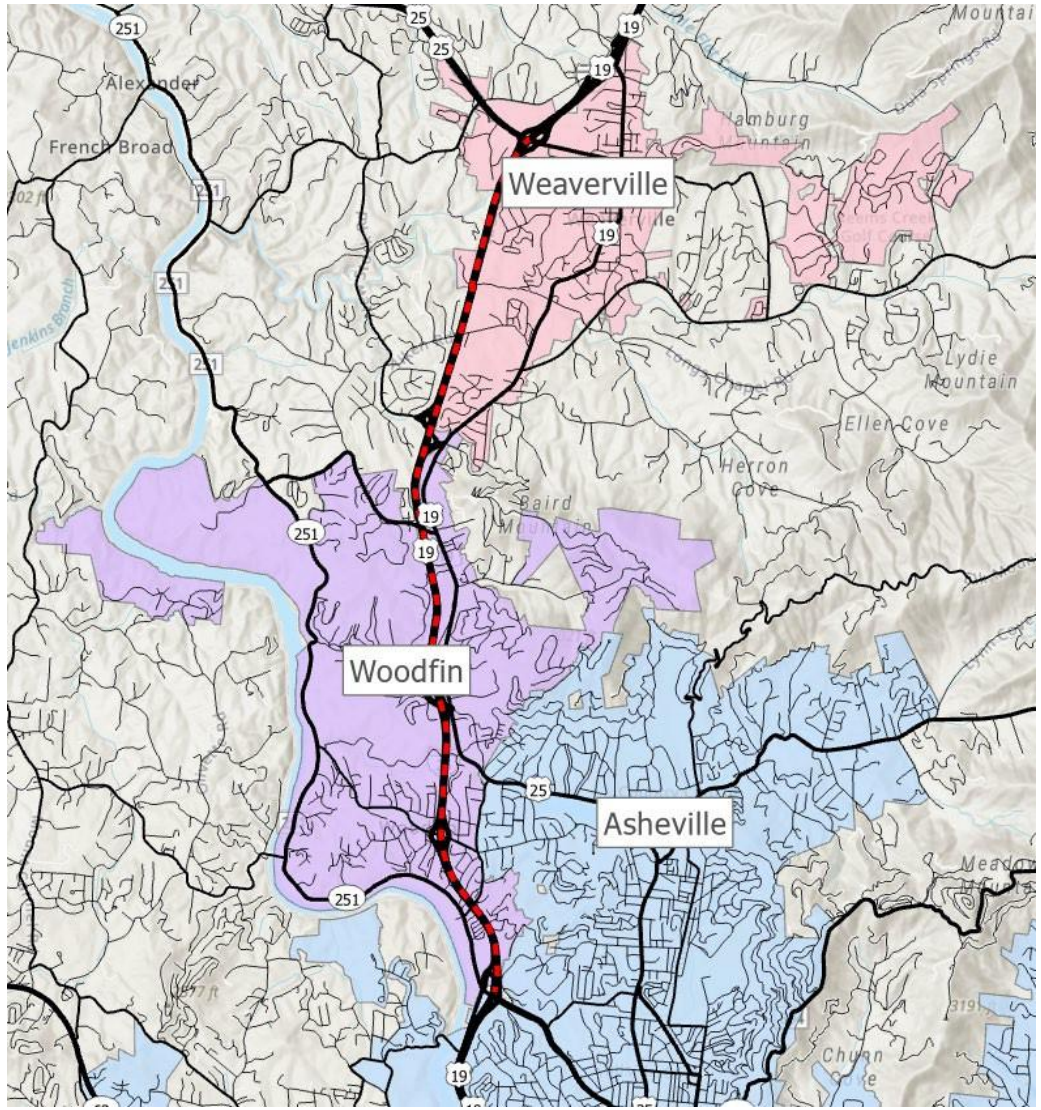
Projects Decommitted



BUNCOMBE COUNTY

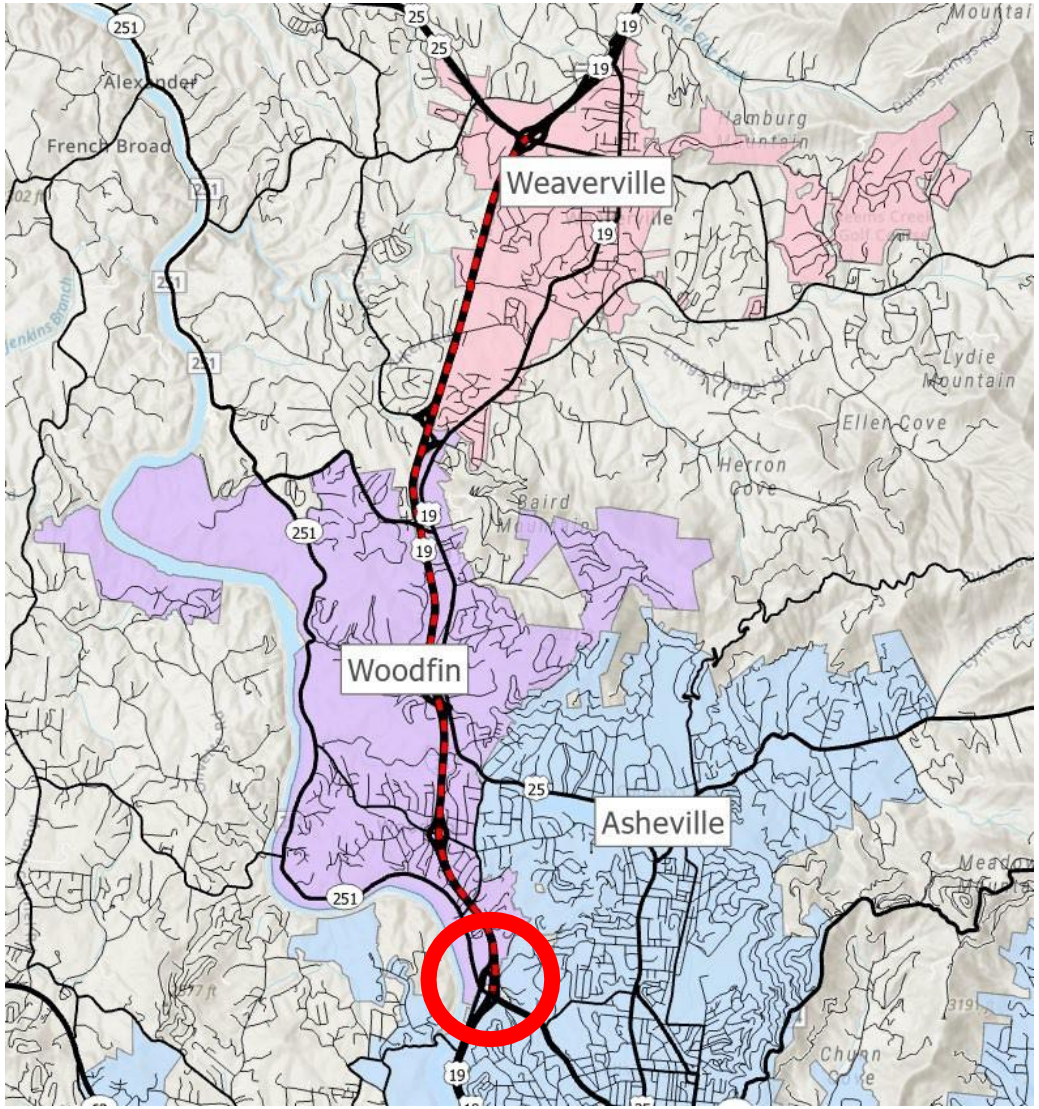
- U-2801AB: US 25A (Sweeten Creek Road) Widening ($215m)
- U-6047: NC 112 (Sand Hill/Sardis Road) Widening ($176m)
- U-5832: NC 81 (Swannanoa River Road) Widening ($145m)
- A-0010AA: Future I-26 Widening ($626m)*

*covered previously; New Stock Road Interchange still funded



A-0010AA

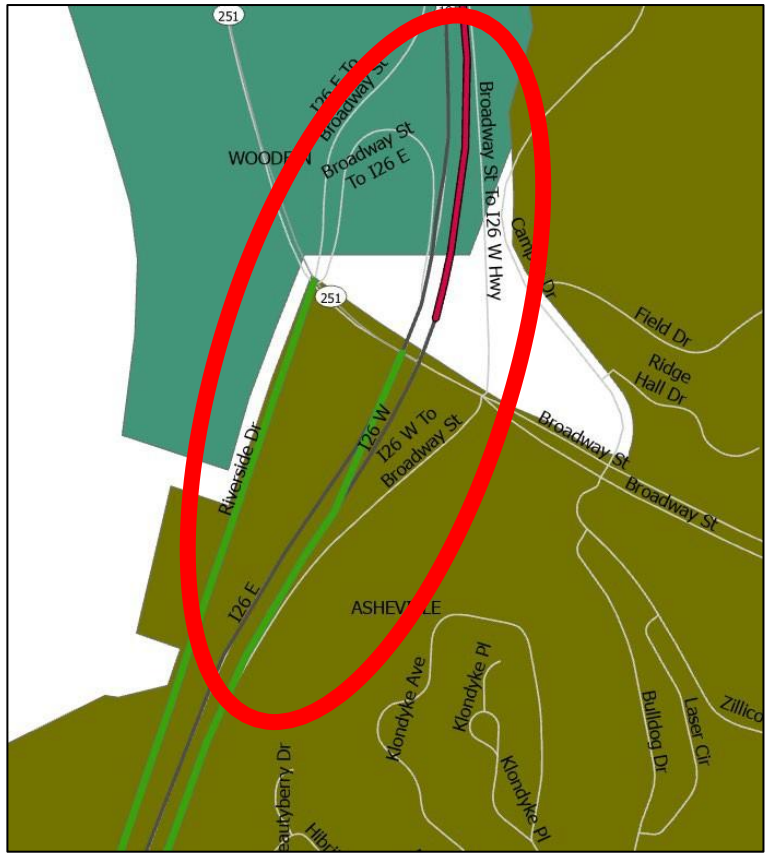
- Planned widening of Future I-26 from Weaver Boulevard to Broadway
- Costs more than doubled since 2021 to more than $600 million
- The project is being segmented



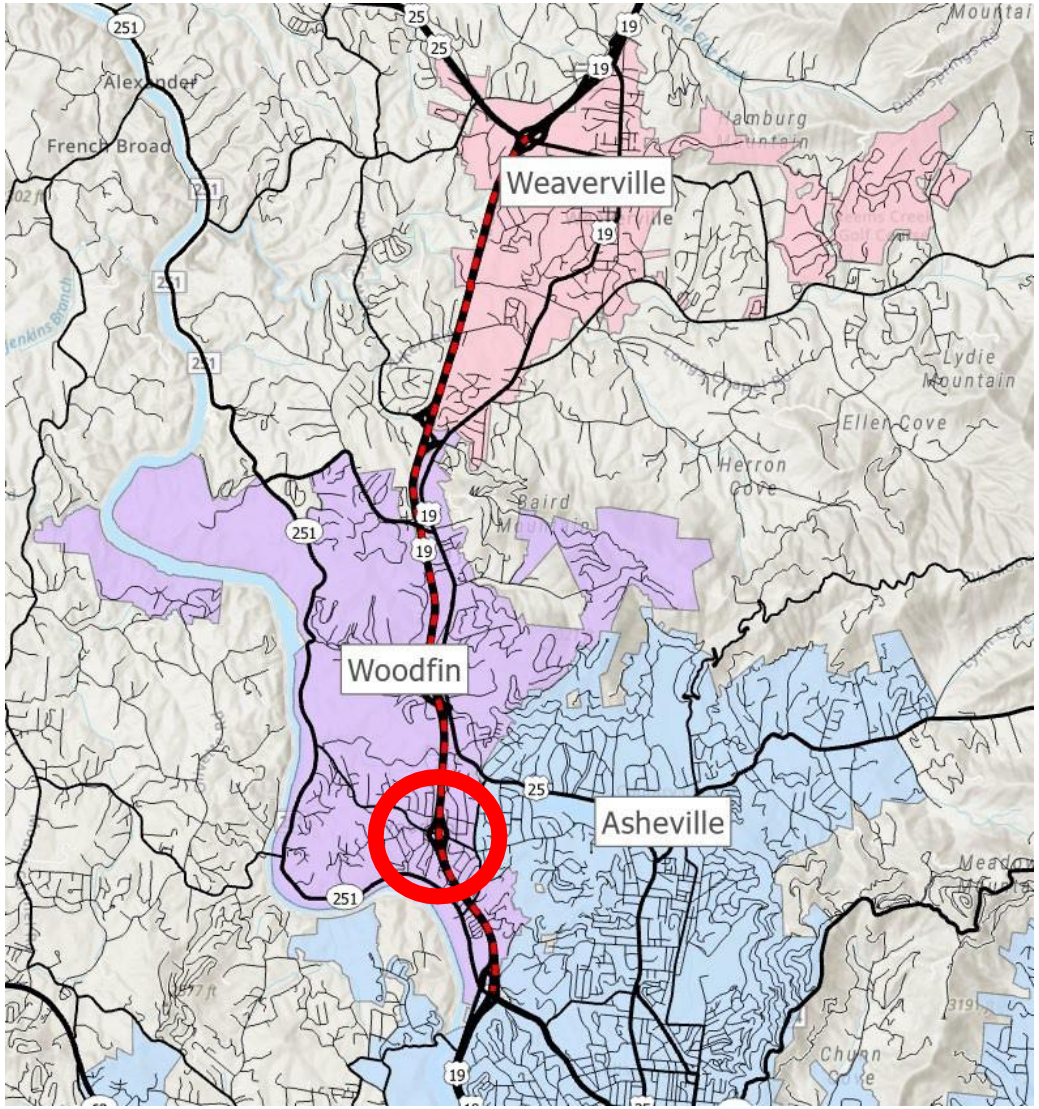
A-0010AA Segmentation

- A-0010AB – Broadway Road Interchange
  - Not Funded
  - $63 million

I-2513B & A-0010AA

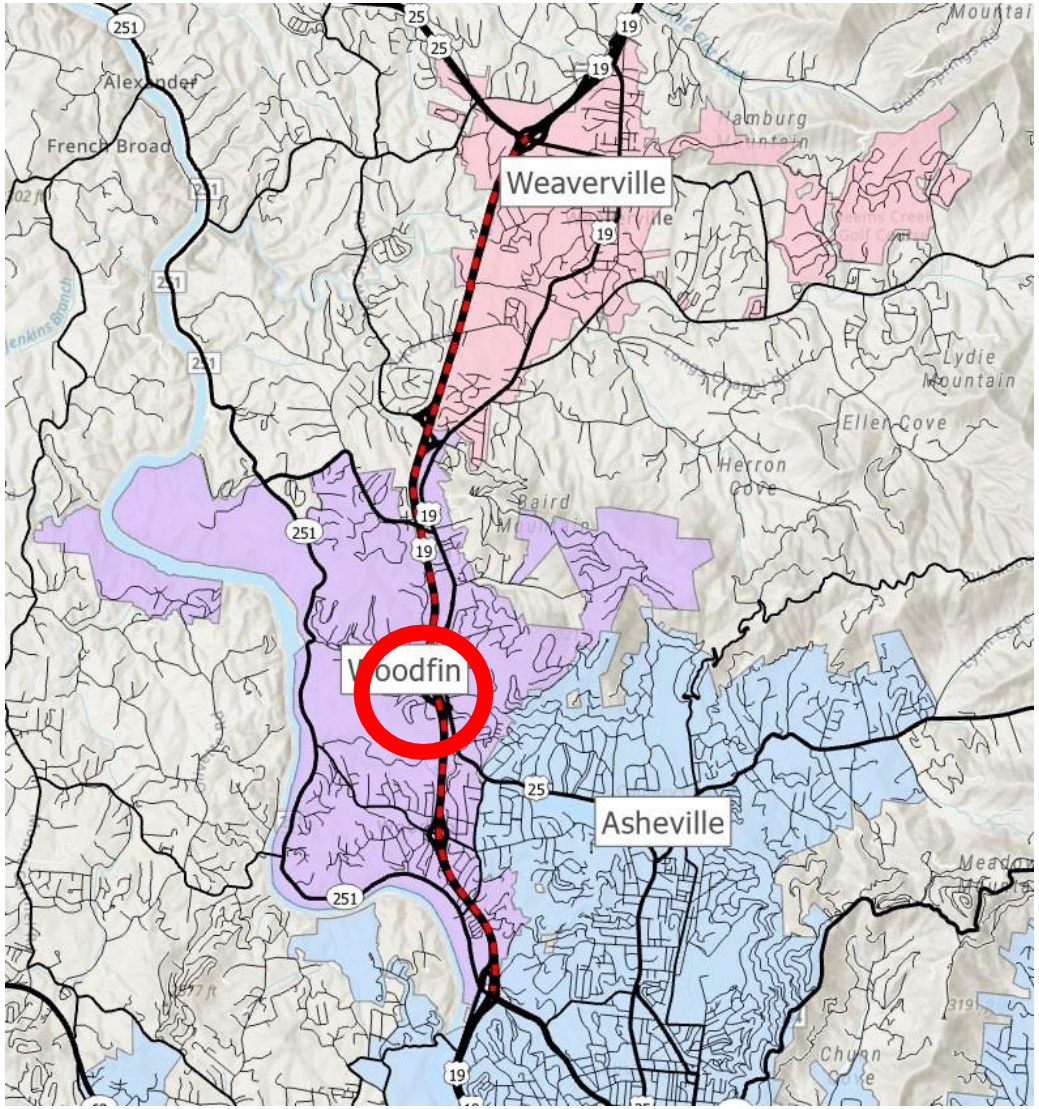


- To reduce costs for I-2513B, the project limits are moving south of the Broadway interchange
- The Broadway Interchange is now A-0010AB (unfunded), estimated at roughly $63 million



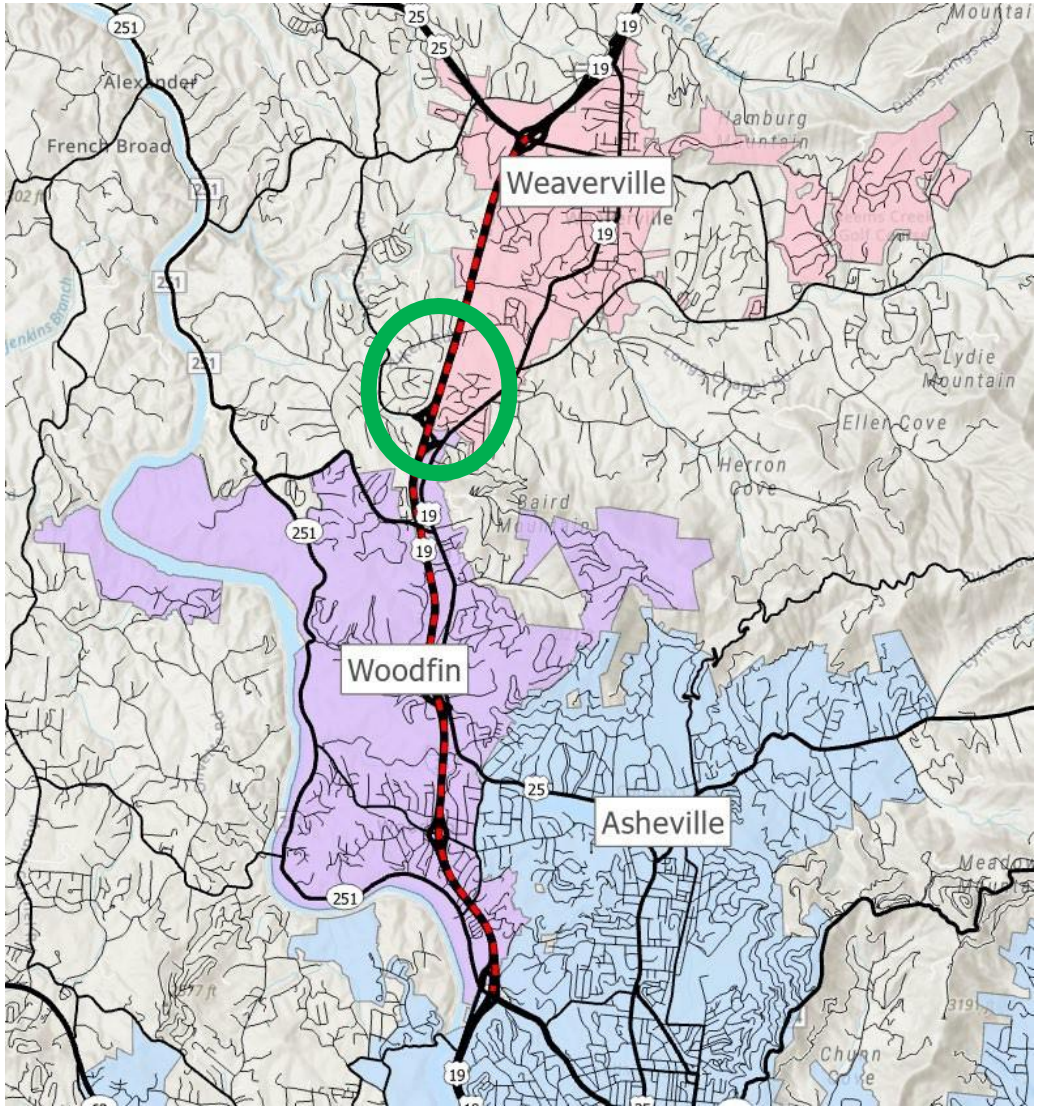
A-0010AA Segmentation

- A-0010AC – Elk Mountain Road Interchange
  - Not Funded
  - $67 million



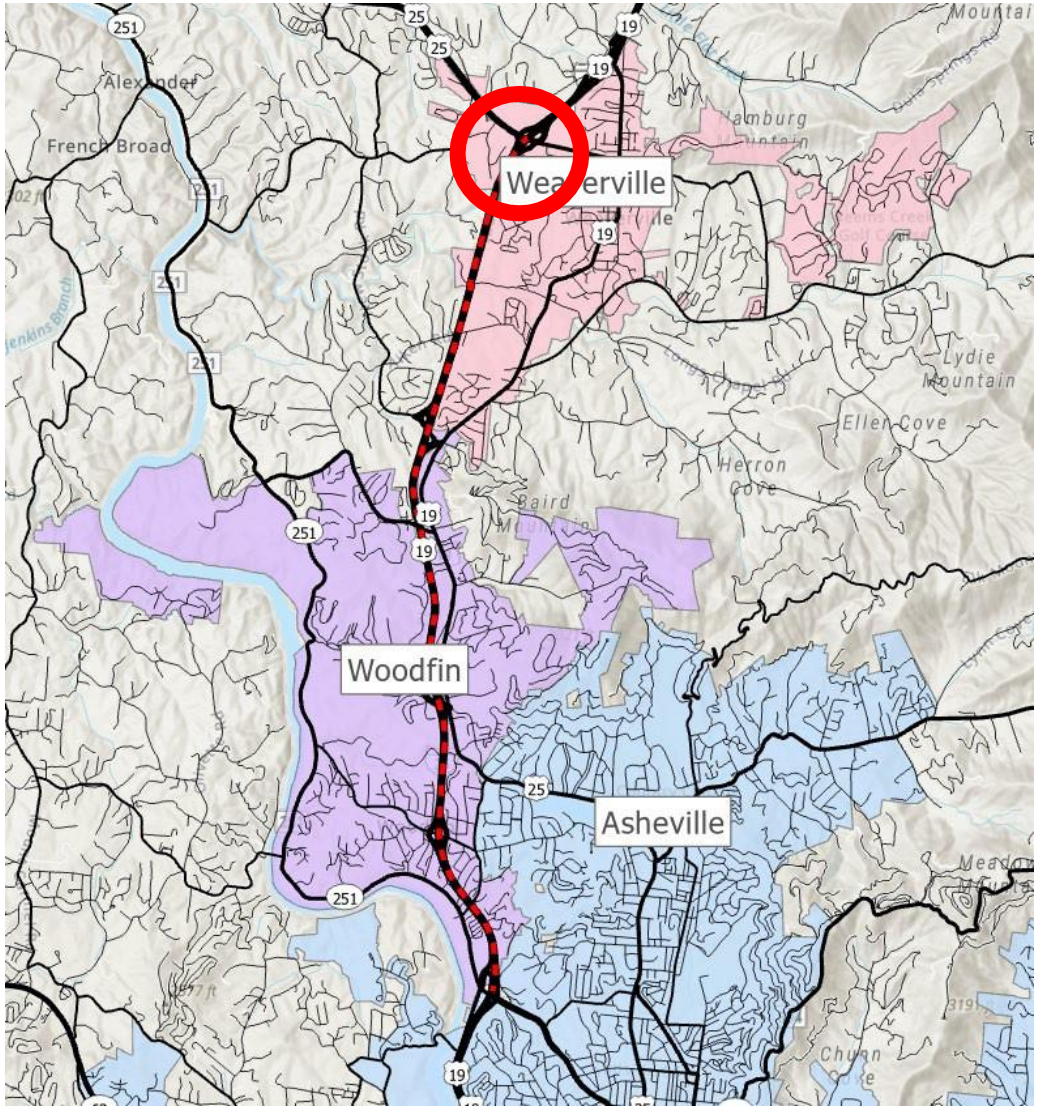
A-0010AA Segmentation

- A-0010AD – Merrimon Avenue Interchange
  - Not Funded
  - $122 million



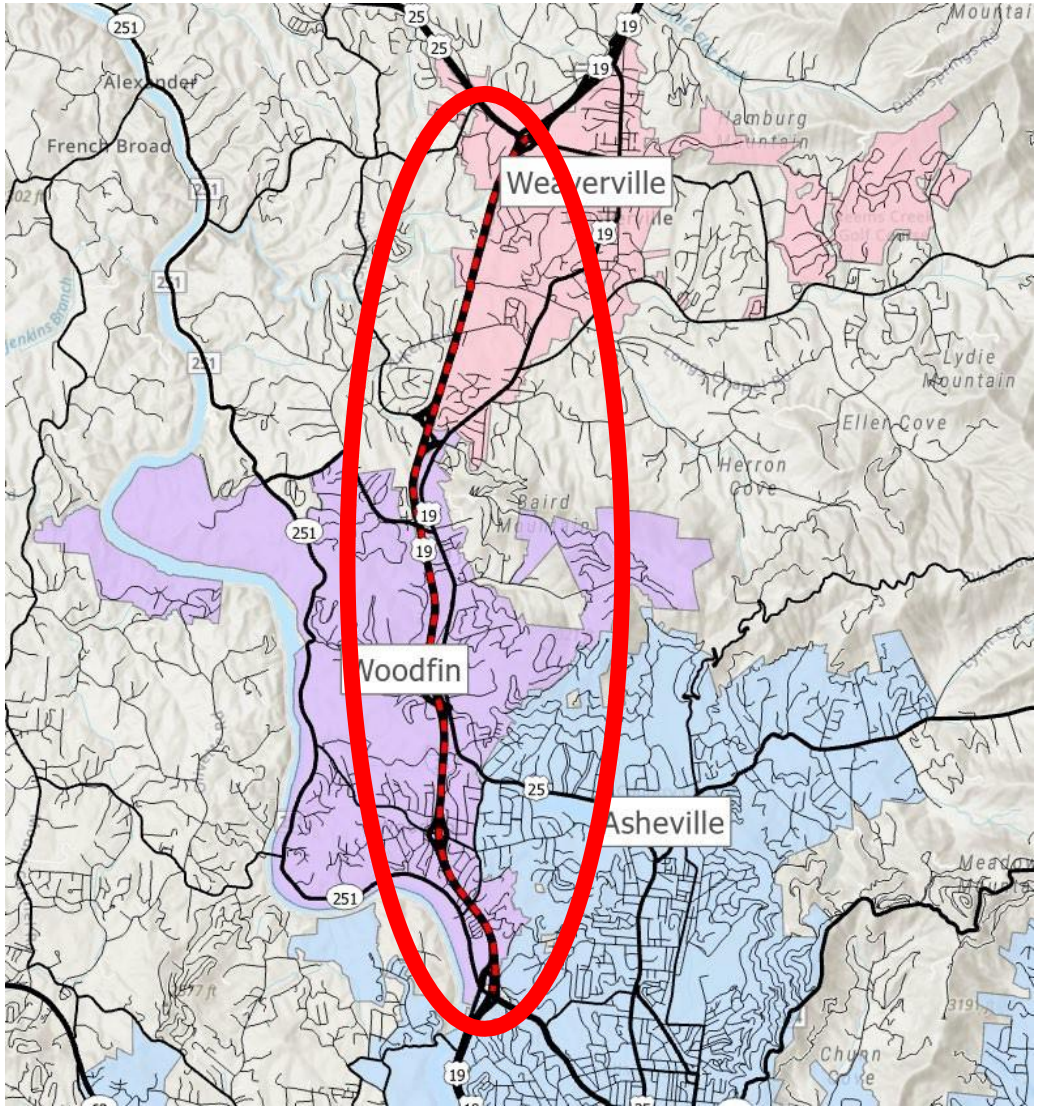
A-0010AA Segmentation

- A-0010AE – New Stock Road Interchange and Widening to North of Aiken Road
  - **Funded**
  - $120 million



A-0010AA Segmentation

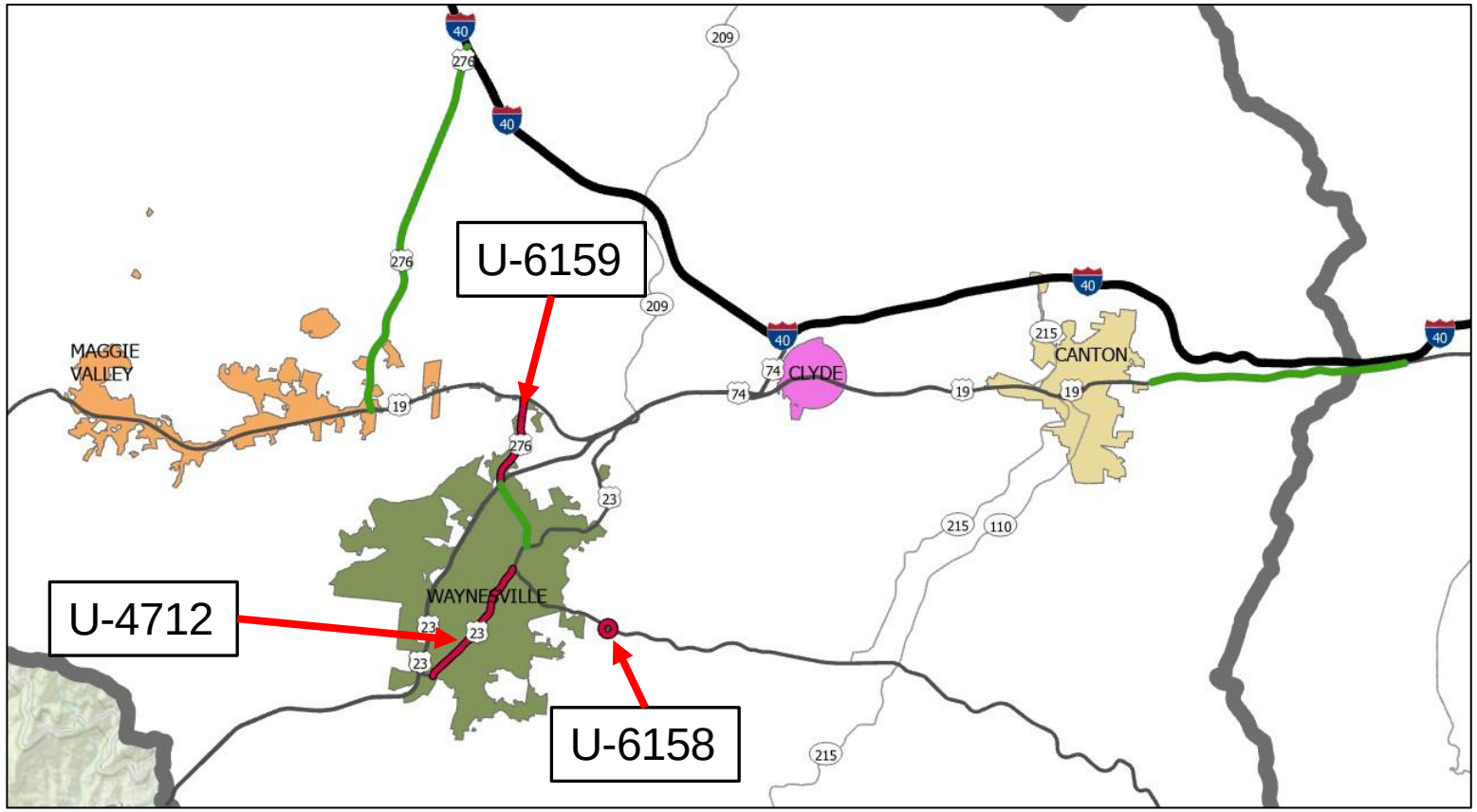
- A-0010AF – Weaver Boulevard Interchange
  - Not Funded
  - $42 million



A-0010AA Segmentation

- A-0010AG – Full Corridor Widening
  - Not Funded
  - $212 million

Projects Decommitted

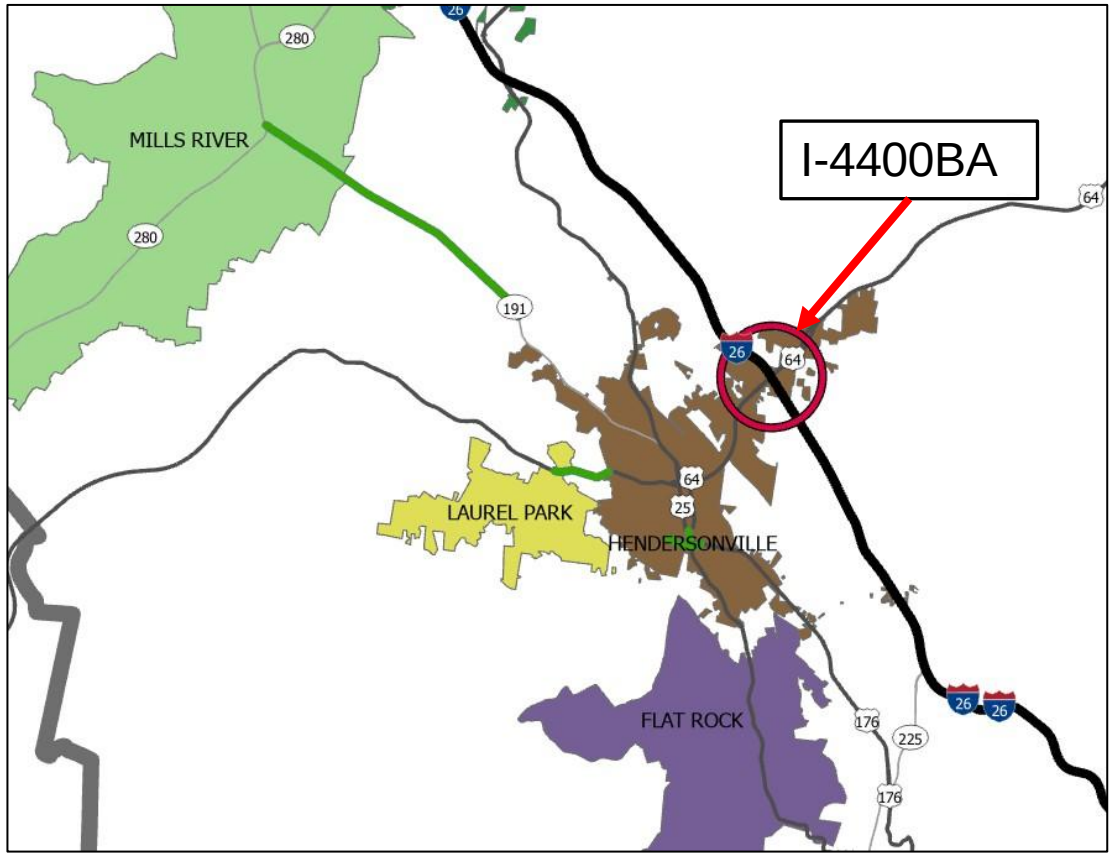


Haywood County

- **U-4712**: US 23B (South Main Street) Widening ($57m)
- **U-6159**: US 276 (Russ Avenue) Access Management ($39m)
- **U-6158**: US 276 @ Crymes Cove Road Intersection Improvement ($7m)

*The Russ Avenue project under construction is still funded and moving forward

Projects Decommitted



HENDERSON COUNTY

- I-4400BA: I-26 @ US 64 Interchange Improvements ($144m)

Projects Decommitted

Project	Route	County	Funding Tier	Previous Cost	Revised Cost
U-4712	US 23B (South Main Street)	Haywood	Division 14	$57,400,000	$57,400,000
U-6159	US 276 (Russ Avenue)	Haywood	Division 14	$30,201,000	$39,000,000
U-6158	US 276 @ Crymes Cove	Haywood	Division 14	$3,801,000	$6,700,000
U-2801AB	US 25A (Sweeten Creek Road)	Buncombe	Region G	$117,198,000	$215,000,000
U-5832	NC 81 (Swannanoa River Road)	Buncombe	Division 13	$48,000,000	$145,000,000
U-6047	NC 112 (Sand Hill/Sardis Road)	Buncombe	Division 13	$137,000,000	$175,800,000
I-4400BA	I-26 @ US 64	Henderson	Division 14	$30,000,000	$143,600,000

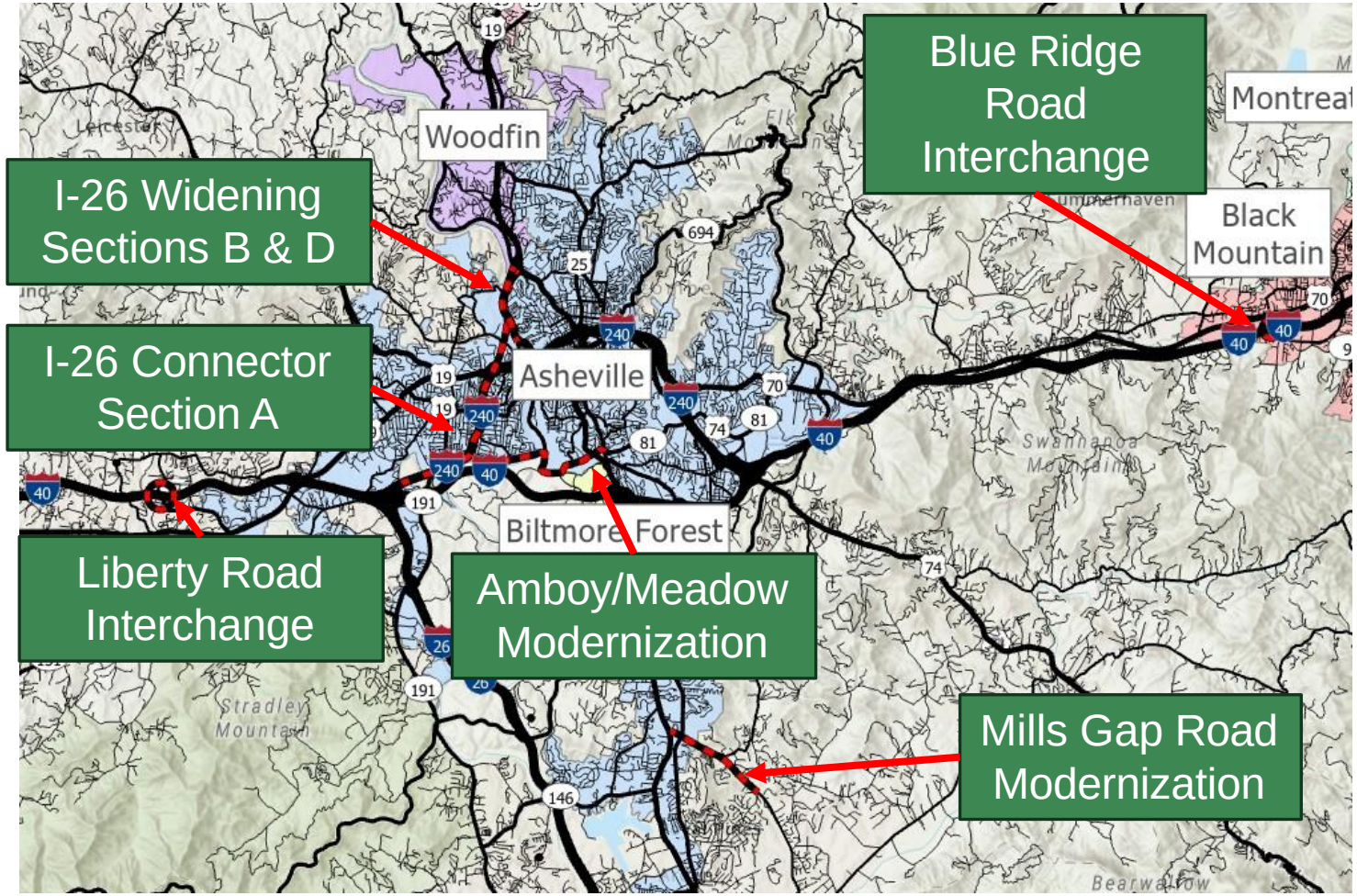
Projects Decommitted

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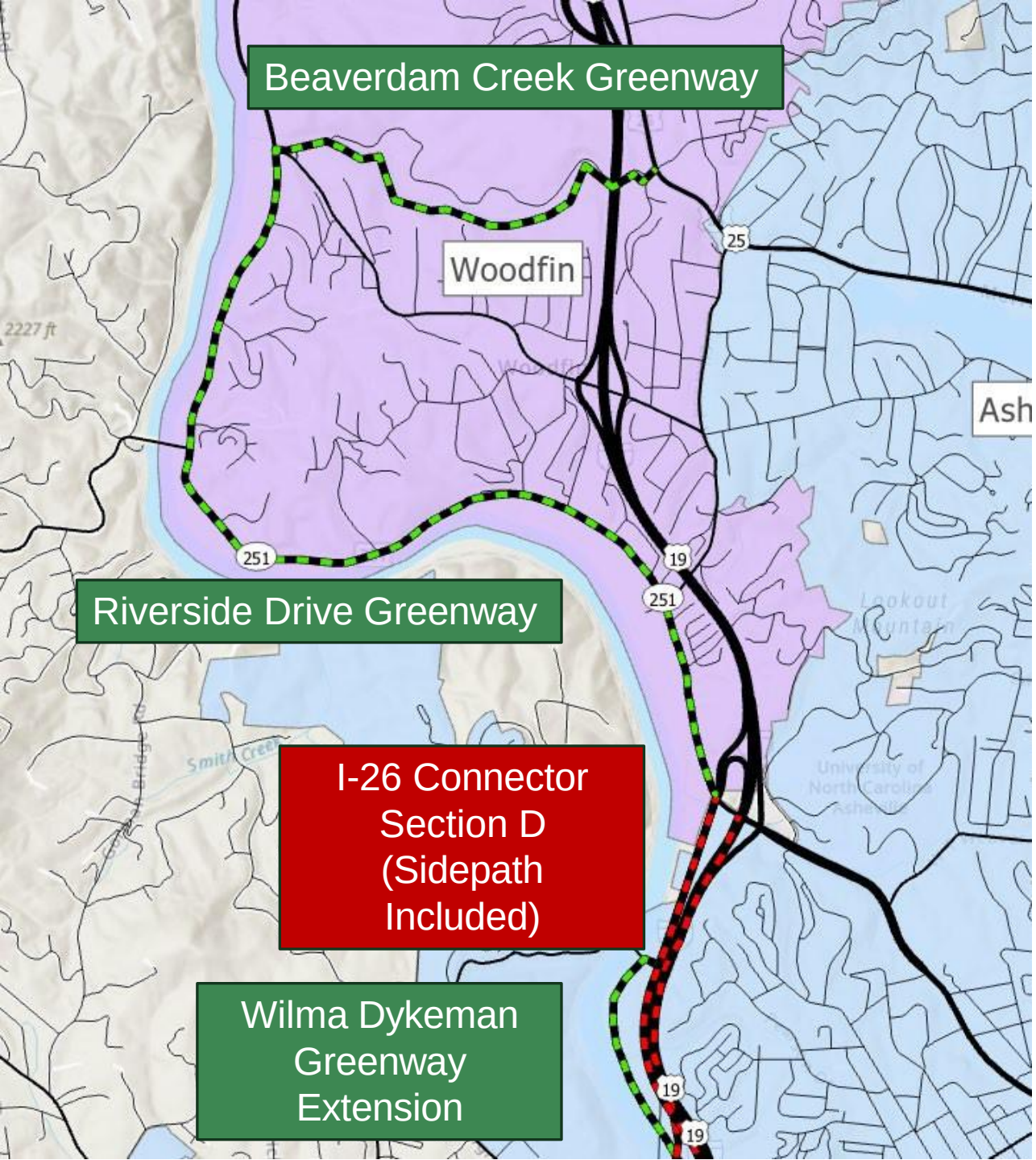
$782,500,000 in decommitted projects, not including A-0010AA

Project Schedules

Project	Route	County	Previous Construction Start Year	Updated Construction Start Year
A-0010AE	Future I-26 (near New Stock Road)	Buncombe	2031	2031
I-2513AC	I-26/I-240	Buncombe	2025	2027
I-2513B & I-2513D	I-26/I-240	Buncombe	2024	2024
I-4409	I-40 @ Blue Ridge Road	Buncombe	2025	2026
I-4759	I-40 @ Liberty Road	Buncombe	2027	2029
U-4739	Amboy/Meadow Road	Buncombe	2030	2030
U-5834	Mills Gap Road	Buncombe	2025	2026
U-6163	Mills Gap Road @ Cane Creek Road	Buncombe	2025	2025



Projects Moving Forward



Projects Moving Forward



Questions?

Town Manager Report

SHANNON TUCH, TOWN MANAGER

Tropical Storm Helene - Recovery

FEMA Public Assistance

- Engineering consultant for stormwater & street repair selected
- Emergency bank repair approximately 90% complete
- Coffer dam liner to be installed and dewatered (ahead of schedule to begin work in the river)
- Silver-Line Park clean-up completed; FBR waterway clean-up to begin this month
- Discussing next steps for permitting and drafting a new IFB

Tropical Storm Helene - Recovery

Debris Removal

- Second debris site permitted; chipping continues at soccer fields with plan to close that site March/April
- Free mulch sites identified for the community
- ROW debris removal continues
- PPDR debris removal continues (application intake has closed)
- Waterway debris removal continues

Tropical Storm Helene - Recovery

Bridge Loan

- Storm-related now approaching $10M
- Woodfin was approved to receive $664K from the State of NC
- 0% interest, to be repaid with FEMA reimbursement over the course of 5 years

Tropical Storm Helene - Recovery

Long-Term Recovery Planning

- LTRP = A comprehensive strategy focused on restoring and rebuilding after a disaster, encompassing the built, economic, social, cultural, and natural environments, with the goal of preventing or mitigating future impacts
- Buncombe County leading a county-wide planning process w/ FEMA support
- Municipalities will be included in the process
- Plan will include a Woodfin specific chapter identifying town priority projects and related considerations
- County-wide public engagement + town specific engagement opportunities

Administration

- Contracts: February - March

MHO
$25,000

(Emergency Home Repair)

EQUINOX
Hourly Contract

(TS Helene Recovery Permitting & Design)

- Council Strategic Plan – final edits
- CSCI & BRIC grant work
- Completed 1 of 4 planned budget work sessions

Planning & Stormwater

- Selected Code Write for the comprehensive code update, recruiting for the steering committee
- Flood Ordinance + 2 new CZ applications to PBOA in April
- MHC property owner letter follow-up

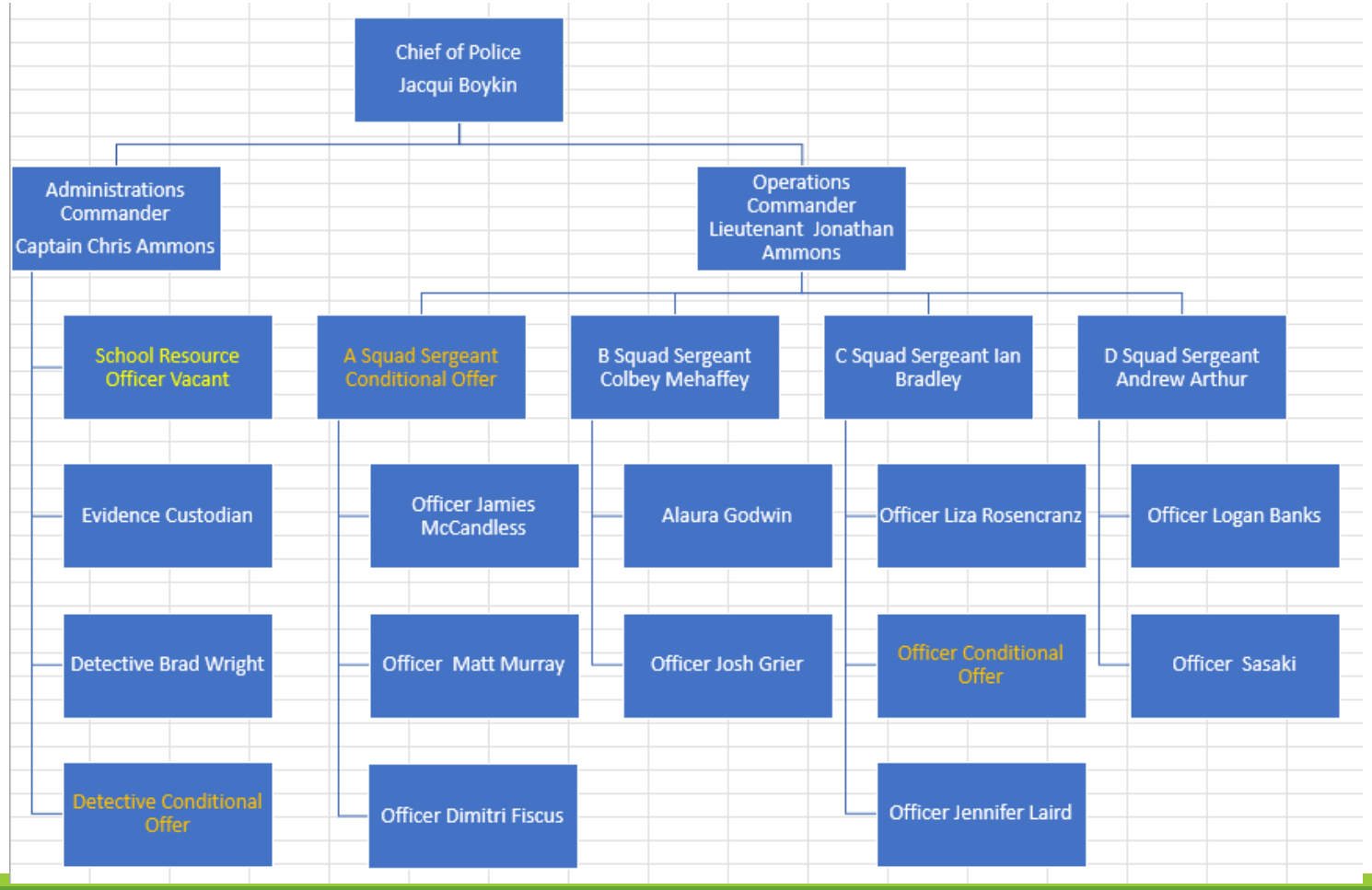
- Obtaining quotes to clean out all drop-inlets within town rights-of-way
- Waiting for NCDEQ to approve the town's SWMP
- Impervious surface study complete and fee re-structure under review

Public Works, Facilities & Parks

- BRIC & CSCI grant applications to be submitted by Friday
- Selecting Steering Committee for the Woodfin to WVL study
- Drop-in public meeting for Walk Bike Woodfin – 3/26, 4:30-7:00 at New Bridge Baptist Church

- Eco-Art Workshops scheduled for April and will be held at YMCA
- Obtaining quotes for minor repairs to Roy Pope Park
- Tap installed at Geneva Maney; additional site work to be completed soon

Police – 3 conditional offers made



New Business

Review & Approval of the Town of Woodfin Town Council Strategic Plan for 2025/2026

WOODFIN TOWN COUNCIL

Council Strategic Plan

STRATEGIC GOAL	OBJECTIVES	ACTION STEPS
I. **Provide Excellent Town Services** 	**Update existing and identify new key policies.** Score: 18	1. Develop a priority schedule for key policies. 2. Develop Resiliency Policy. 3. Update Floodplain/CRS. 4. Move forward with comprehensive development code update. 5. Develop a mechanism for scanning device/chip readers at Town Hall. (App or scanner)
	Develop a town communication strategy. Score: 18	1. Develop a mission statement and identify communication objectives and target audience. 2. ~~Research reporting best practices.~~ (move to PD) 3. Expand website functionality.
II. **Promote Affordable Living, Equity & Inclusion** 	**Increase supply of new affordable units and protect existing affordable units.** Score: 15	1. Use zoning and other land use tools to increase affordable housing opportunities. 2. Research best practices by local government to encourage housing development. 3. Research and apply for CDBG-DR (and other grants). 4. Explore options for emergency home repair, including leveraging town funds.
	Prioritize engagement of Woodfin's economically disadvantaged households in the Town's housing strategy. Score: 10	1. Explore new community partnerships (e.g., ABCLT, ABCCM, Manna, etc.). 2. Provide multi-lingual communications. 3. Provide focused, strategic engagement opportunities (i.e. take meetings to the community). 4. Continue funding efforts to assist economically disadvantaged households.
	Address long-term affordable housing strategies through *Woodfin Together*, the Town's comprehensive plan. Score: 3	1. Study public and privately-owned land for affordable housing opportunities. 2. Identify areas for zoning studies. 3. Participate in regional task force(s). 4. Explore Emma Poder Model.

Adjournment