Active Mobility Commission Minutes
November 18, 2025

I. Call to Order

Julie White called the meeting to order at 4:30 pm.

II. Quorum

Members Present: Jeremy Claeys, Julie White, Kristie Bergna, Kyle Cole, Karen Neal
Staff Present: Jennifer Tipton, Russell Cate, Michelle Kennedy
NCDOT Present: Anna Henderson, Randy Tritt

III. Public Comment

a. No public comment

IV. Agenda - review and modify

No agenda, NCDOT to answer Commission member questions regarding crosswalks and road access for non vehicular traffic.

V. Old Business

No old business to review.

VI. NCDOT Question Reviews

a. NCDOT Rules & Process

All crosswalks must connect sidewalks with a destination, i.e. sidewalks can't stop shortly after crosswalk without terminating at a place people will use. NCDOT installs sidewalks only on new roads, towns place and maintain sidewalks on existing roads, and NCDOT will add crosswalks as necessary.

Funding requests for new projects are submitted on a quarterly basis and compete against projects throughout the state. Funding is usually not a problem, and usually is secured in either the first or second round of submission. A letter of support from the town is useful to reiterate the importance of the project locally. Once projects are funded, NCDOT sources materials and hires contractors for installation, sourcing materials is the longest part of the process.

Non traffic signal crosswalks must meet certain criteria before NCDOT can submit for funding.The crosswalk must be 300 feet from non signal crosswalks or 400 feet from signaled crosswalks. If that criteria isn't met, the town administration can ask for a NCDOT analysis to determine pedestrian usage of the route. The analysis consists of counting the average number of people crossing at that location and must show 25 people crossing/hour for four hours of the day (can be non-contiguous). This analysis can be conducted during the busiest time of year.

b. **Highway 9 Crosswalks at Interstate 40**
   NCDOT confirmed that if requested, they can begin the funding proposal process for crosswalks on Highway 9 at the westbound 40 on ramp and the eastbound 40 on/off ramp. These crosswalks will connect Ingles to downtown Black Mountain. Julie White will write a letter to the town council for the December meeting to formally request that the town endorses NCDOT beginning the process to add these sidewalks.
c. **Current NCDOT Black Mountain Projects**
   NCDOT is looking to enhance the current crosswalks at the schools on Flat Creek Road and Old 70. They are preparing to submit these items for funding and asked for a letter of support from the town and schools to increase the chances of funding being granted.
d. **Temporary Bridge on Blue Ridge Road**
   NCDOT will look to see what other signage can be posted that will make the rules more clear for vehicles. A temporary signal isn't feasible at this location due to the possibility of back traffic up onto the railroad tracks or to the light at 70 and Blue Ridge Road. Currently the replacement bridge is slated for 2026 installation, which has plans for pedestrian and cyclist lanes.

VII. Discussion

VIII. Adjournment

Julie White adjourned the meeting at 5:45 pm.