**Salem Parkway Wins National Awards**

Salem Parkway is earning national recognition from various transportation organizations for its improvements in safety, multimodality, aesthetics, and mobility. In Summer 2021, the Reconstruction of Salem Parkway was one of 16 projects across the nation to be recognized as a “Grand” Award winner by the American Council of Engineering Companies’ Engineering Excellence Awards. More recently, the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO) presented the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) with the Grand Prize in America’s Transportation Awards for the Salem Parkway Reconstruction project.

**PART Riders Enjoy New Comfort and Style**

PART’s newly acquired Flyer Xcelsior 40-foot buses are hitting the roads. Amenities include:

- Comfortable seating for 38, capacity for 52
- Passenger windows can open and close
- Enhanced “talking bus” features announcing stop arrivals
- Driver Safety Partitions
- Improved fare boxes
- Rear route signage
- Boarding camera

*This modified excerpt with photos is from the PARTiculars newsletter, the Piedmont Authority for Regional Transportation’s monthly publication.*
Funding

5307 and 5310 Update

MPO Staff and an external committee have completed the review process for Section 5307 and 5310 funding applications and submitted recommendations to the Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC).

Job Access Reverse Commute (JARC) projects under Section 5307 address transportation challenges faced by low-income persons seeking to obtain and maintain employment in suburban areas inaccessible by transit. Three applicants submitted applications for JARC funding.

Section 5310 funding supports projects to help improve mobility for seniors and individuals with disabilities by removing barriers to transportation services and expanding mobility options. Ten applicants submitted applications for funding under Section 5310.

An external committee reviewed and scored each application and made funding recommendations accordingly. Pending approval by the TAC, the applications will be submitted by staff to the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) for funding.

Surface Transportation Block Grant Program and Transportation Alternatives Program Call for Projects

WSUAMPO issued a biennial call for projects for Surface Transportation Block Grant — Direct Attributable (STBG-DA) and Transportation Alternatives — Direct Attributable (TA-DA) funding on January 4, 2022. Proposals for transit, bicycle and pedestrian, intersection improvement, streetscape, and small roadway projects will be considered, evaluated, ranked, and submitted to the WSUAMPO TAC for final approval. Proposals must be received by the Winston-Salem Department of Transportation (WSDOT) via e-mail, standard mail, or hand delivery by February 4, 2022.

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Planning

Transportation Advisory Committee to Consider Adoption of State Safety Targets for CY 2022

Per the Federal Highway Administration’s (FHWA) Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP), the State of North Carolina is required to set targets for five safety performance measures each year. The North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) announced the following goals for the five measures in its Highway Safety Improvement Plan:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PERFORMANCE MEASURE</th>
<th>PERCENT REDUCTION</th>
<th>2016-2020 AVERAGE</th>
<th>2018-2022 AVERAGE GOAL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Fatalities</td>
<td>12.17%</td>
<td>1,428.8</td>
<td>1,254.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fatality Rate per 100 Million Vehicle Miles Traveled</td>
<td>13.78%</td>
<td>1.226</td>
<td>1.057</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Serious Injuries</td>
<td>19.79%</td>
<td>4,410.2</td>
<td>3,537.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Serious Injury Rate per 100 Million Vehicle Miles Traveled</td>
<td>21.68%</td>
<td>3.782</td>
<td>2.962</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Nonmotorized Fatalities and Serious Injuries</td>
<td>17.93%</td>
<td>592.2</td>
<td>486.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

MPOs are allowed to set their own targets, or agree to plan and program projects that contribute toward the State’s targets for each measure. In past years, the WSUAMPO has opted to adopt and support the State’s targets. The TAC is scheduled to vote on adopting the State’s targets and incorporating them into the 2045 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) in February 2022.

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A Look at PART’s Collaborative Transportation Demand Management Initiative

This modified excerpt is from the PARTiculars newsletter, the Piedmont Authority for Regional Transportation’s monthly publication.

The four Piedmont Triad MPOs and the Piedmont Authority for Regional Transportation (PART) have outlined a framework for developing a regional Transportation Demand Management (TDM) plan. The initiative was endorsed by the PART Board of Trustees on June 9, 2021.

TDM encourages people to use sustainable modes of transportation through education and incentives, thereby reducing the need for single occupancy travel on our roadways. PART has managed a regional vanpool program for more than twenty years and staff a regional call center for several area transit agencies in support of this program.

PART and MPO staffs have been meeting on a regular basis to do more, currently developing a regional TDM plan which will bring additional funding to the effort to promote and implement strategies. At the same time, PART is highlighting current MPO TDM activities, sharing information, updating transit and travel options on city web pages, and creating a transit rider survey. PART is also promoting Commute Friendly NC, a collaborative statewide recognition program that celebrates businesses and organizational leadership who are supporting their employees’ shifts from single vehicle to the adoption of public transit, biking, walking, etc.
MPO Staff Travel to Raleigh for 2022 North Carolina Transportation Summit

WSUAMPO Staff will travel to Raleigh this month to attend the North Carolina Transportation Summit, a two-day event from January 19-20. This marks the third annual Transportation Summit presented by the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) and NC GO!, with the last event being held in January 2020. The previous summit hosted over 1,100 attendees and 50+ exhibitors, and the 2022 Summit promises to be another exciting event.

The summit has scheduled general sessions on data analytics, various transportation innovations, impacts of COVID-19 on mobility, and policy roundtables. Participants will also have the opportunity to get involved in several breakout sessions with other transportation professionals from around North Carolina. Breakout session topics include funding, the future of rail, safety challenges, diversity and inclusion, climate ready infrastructure and resilience, and strategies to reduce vehicle miles traveled.

Staff look forward to bringing back lessons learned to improve planning in the MPO.

Human Services Transportation Plan and Program Management Plan Updates Under Review by MPO Staff

MPO Staff are actively working with consultants at HDR to review and refine the Coordinated Public Transit Human Services Transportation Plan and Program Management Plan. The Human Services Transportation Plan aims to more effectively coordinate efforts between human service agencies, public transit, and private transportation providers to better serve people with disabilities, limited income, and elderly persons in the MPO. The Program Management Plan provides a framework for the management, administration, and requirements of the 5310 Enhanced Mobility of Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities Program. MPO staff currently anticipate a Spring rollout of each plan for presentation to the Transportation Advisory Committee and City Council.

Responses Needed: MPO Staff Plan Development of New Transportation Services Directory

MPO Staff are developing a repository of information on public and private transportation providers in the region called the Transportation Services Directory (TSD). The public repository will contain information on the organization’s name, website, points of contact, service area, service hours, services provided, and population served. Matt Duchan, WSDOT Transportation Project Planner and creator of the TSD, envisions an eventual portal with search functionality that allows citizens to find a service that best meets their needs in a few clicks. Benefits are anticipated to extend beyond riders. For example, transportation coordinators will have improved access to information from other service providers in the area, allowing them to better coordinate services with one another. The TSD will be hosted on the City of Winston-Salem website and is expected to be published in Spring 2022. If you are affiliated with a transportation service provider in the region, please take a moment to fill out the following survey. Your input will contribute to a complete database for the good of the public:


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All Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC) and Technical Coordinating Committee (TCC) Meetings will be held virtually until otherwise specified.

**January 2022**
- Jan. 18 TCC Meeting: 2:00 PM
- Jan. 18 TAC Meeting: 4:15 PM
- Jan. 19-20 NC Transportation Summit (Raleigh, NC)

**February 2022**
- Feb. 17 TCC Meeting: 2:00 PM
- Feb. 17 TAC Meeting: 4:15 PM

**March 2022**
- Mar. 17 TCC Meeting: 2:00 PM
- Mar. 17 TAC Meeting: 4:15 PM

**April 2022**

**May 2022**
- May 19 TCC Meeting: 2:00 PM
- May 19 TAC Meeting: 4:15 PM

**June 2022**

**July 2022**
- Jul. 21 TCC Meeting: 2:00 PM
- Jul. 21 TAC Meeting: 4:15 PM

**August 2022**

**September 2022**
- Sep. 15 TCC Meeting: 2:00 PM
- Sep. 15 TAC Meeting: 4:15 PM

**October 2022**

**November 2022**
- Nov. 17 TCC Meeting: 2:00 PM
- Nov. 17 TAC Meeting: 4:15 PM

**December 2022**

**New Staff**

**Matt Duchan, Transportation Project Planner**

In September, Matt joined our staff as the newest Transportation Project Planner. He is a graduate of the University of Denver (BA) and the University of Colorado – Denver (MA, Urban and Regional Planning). Prior to joining the Winston-Salem Department of Transportation, he held a Transit Planning internship with the Colorado Department of Transportation and was a Teaching Assistant at the University of Colorado – Denver. Outside of work, Matt has many interests including trivia, baseball, hockey, and college basketball. Matt enjoys taking road trips and is always searching for the best restaurants anywhere he goes.

**Hunter Staszak, Transportation Planner**

In November, Hunter joined our staff as the newest Transportation Planner. He is a graduate of the University of Iowa (BS, Environmental Policy and Planning). Before joining the Winston-Salem Department of Transportation, Hunter worked as a GIS Technician for a railroad contractor on safety related projects and as a Project Lead Intern for UI’s Office of Sustainability. As a new North Carolinian, Hunter is looking forward to adopting the Hornets, Panthers, and Hurricanes as his teams and exploring the Triad with his dog Vidalia (Dale).