MOVING TIMES

Inside:
Safe Streets Season
A Salute to FLOWBikes
Celebrating Directors Past and Present
Smith Reynolds Airport’s Economic Impact
Prioritization Primer
MPO Puzzles
…and MORE!

WINSTON-SALEM URBAN AREA METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION
QUARTERLY MAGAZINE

Mural by Jermaine Powell in Winston-Salem
Clemmons Secures Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) Grant

In early February, the United States Department of Transportation (USDOT) announced grant winners for the FY 2022 Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) Program, the inaugural round of funding for a brand new program established by the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA). SS4A is uniquely focused on supporting local governments, agencies, and nonprofits in planning and implementing strategies to make streets across the country safer for all users, toward the goal of preventing and eliminating roadway fatalities and injuries. During this award cycle, 474 Action Plan grants and 37 Implementation grants totaling $800 million were selected across the country. A dozen communities in North Carolina were selected, including the Village of Clemmons, a Winston-Salem Urban Area MPO community!

The Village of Clemmons applied for and received $160,000 toward a total project cost of $200,000 to develop a Comprehensive Safety Action Plan. Per USDOT, the Action Plans will include leadership commitments and goal setting toward the reduction of injuries and fatalities, safety analysis, policy and process development, and the development of roadway safety strategies and project selection at critical locations. Recommendations could include, but are not limited to, installation of pedestrian signal improvements, rectangular rapid flashing beacons, high visibility pavement markings, and speed management strategies. The Comprehensive Safety Action Plan is an important precursor for eligibility to apply for implementation grants under the same program; upon completion, Clemmons will have an inside track when it comes to competing for SS4A implementation funding.

The award comes amid an already exciting time for transportation planning in Clemmons, which is undertaking a Pedestrian Plan, and was recently authorized by the MPO’s Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) to work with a consultant to develop a Village Transportation Plan using surface transportation funding.

Are Safe Streets Part of Your Summer Plans? FY 2023 SS4A Grant Open Through July 30

Interested in joining Clemmons as the next Winston-Salem Urban Area community to apply for Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) funding?

Funding is available for planning, infrastructural, behavioral, and operational initiatives to address roadway safety in FY 2023. Whether you’re looking to develop a safety action plan, conduct supplemental planning in support of a specific safety need, or are ready to get to work on implementing projects identified in an existing safety plan, your community can submit applications for SS4A funding through July 30, 2023.

Read the Notice of Funding Opportunity: https://www.transportation.gov/grants/ss4a/fy23-nofo

Review eligibility and key requirements: https://www.transportation.gov/grants/ss4a/applicant-eligibility
Public Advises on Proposed WSTA Route Study Changes for 2023

The Winston-Salem Transit Authority (WSTA) is wrapping up work with consultants at HDR on a Route Study, which contains short and long-term recommendations for improving the system. On Tuesday, April 25, 2023, a public meeting with dozens of attendees was held to address the short-term changes the agency seeks to implement in 2023. Those proposed changes, which are subject to adjustment after public comment, include:

- **Boosting high ridership routes.** WSTA will double the frequency of service on Routes 83, 93, and 103, which are among the busiest in the system. WSTA is seeking public input on how to achieve this increased service, and is offering two options: (A) 30 minute frequency during weekdays from 8 am – 6 pm, or (B) 30 minute service during Weekday peak demand times (6 – 9 am and 3 – 7 pm) in addition to high demand hours on Saturdays.
- **Elimination of low ridership routes.** WSTA proposes to eliminate Routes 99, 100, 108, and 110 due to low ridership and in most cases, proximity to other routes.
- **Improve efficiency of Route 95.** Route 95 service will no longer pick up along Knollwood Street and instead focus on improved service from 1st Street Downtown onto Country Club Road.
- **A new ticket machine** in the Clark Campbell Transportation Center in Downtown Winston-Salem will accept cash and credit payments and provide a convenient payment and ticketing option for riders.
- **Riders will soon be able to access an UNLIMITED-RIDE DAY PASS** on all buses for the price of $2.00, which is currently the cost of two fares. This will create a faster boarding experience for riders and offer riders the opportunity to take multiple alternative trips throughout the day.

Didn’t get a chance to comment on April 25?
https://www.movewinstonsalem.com/get-involved-wsta-route-study

WSTA Questions? Contact Transit Planner Matt Duchan at matthewfd@cityofws.org
MOBILITY MINUTE
Winston-Salem’s evolving shared mobility story

Celebrating FLOWBikes and the National Cycling Center’s Contributions to Shared Mobility in Winston-Salem

In May 2017, Zagster, in partnership with the National Cycling Center, City of Winston-Salem, and various sponsors, brought bikeshare to Winston-Salem, with 50 bicycles and 10 stations across the city. After three years of service, Zagster went out of business during the COVID-19 pandemic, and the National Cycling Center stepped in to keep bikeshare going under a new name: FLOWBikes.

According to NCC Director of Community Engagement and Youth Outreach Michael Hosey, “The NCC purchased all the assets from our existing bikeshare program and doubled down by purchasing an additional 50 bikes and 10 stations. The NCC then contracted with Movatic as the software platform and partnered with a variety of businesses and organizations, including Title Sponsor FLOW Automotive to restart bikeshare.”

The docked bikeshare program was very well received by the Winston-Salem community, with 10,272 total rentals across the two year FLOW program. Popular recreation spots like Salem Lake, Jamison Park, and Reynolds Park were among the most popular destinations in the bikeshare network, but FLOWBikes also served as an affordable last-mile option at destinations like the Clark Campbell Transportation Center.

SPIN Introduces New E-Bike Option to Downtown Winston-Salem

Shared micromobility provider SPIN has been a part of Downtown Winston-Salem’s transportation landscape since 2018, when electric scooters were first introduced to the city. Entering its sixth calendar year of operations downtown, SPIN began offering dockless e-bikes as a transportation option in early 2023.

Dockless e-bikes, like the scooters, are placed strategically across the City to attract a wide range of potential users. According to a survey conducted by SPIN in partnership with Winston-Salem DOT in 2022, more than two-thirds of riders decide to take their scooter trip “spur of the moment,” or when they see the vehicle. Likewise, riders enjoy the convenience of being able to end their trip and park their vehicle at their destination.

SPIN currently has around a dozen e-bikes deployed across the city, and plans to operate up to 50 during this permit year while maintaining scooter presence, which currently sits at more than 200 vehicles.

Staff are hopeful that the e-bikes will introduce shared mobility to a new audience that may not be as comfortable with scooters but still desire to travel across the city without a car.

To date, over 88,000+ scooter rides have been taken in Winston-Salem. For more information on number of rides, popular routes, and more, check out Winston-Salem’s interactive map, powered by Populus:

https://terminal.populus.ai/winston_salem/public/routes

Questions about micromobility? Contact
Matthew Burczyk,
Principal Planner
mattbk@cityofws.org
Jeff Fansler Becomes Winston-Salem Director of Transportation

On April 3, 2023, Jeff Fansler began his first day as Director of Transportation for the City of Winston-Salem. A familiar face within the City & MPO, Jeff was previously the Deputy Director of Transportation from 2018 and has worked for the City for twelve years and almost nine with DOT.

Across four positions and nearly nine years of service, Jeff has most enjoyed the projects he’s worked on and the people he works with. Of the many projects Jeff has worked on, the Old Salem Infrastructure Improvement Project stood out as his favorite.

As Director of Transportation, Jeff Fansler is eager to tackle the many challenges of tomorrow, including staffing and project delivery. When not taking on transportation-related challenges, Jeff enjoys the physical challenge of running and can be found along local trails and races.

Please join us in congratulating Jeff Fansler on his promotion and wishing him well in his new position leading the Winston-Salem Department of Transportation & Winston-Salem Urban Area MPO.

WSDOT & WSUAMPO Celebrate Director Toneq’ McCullough’s Career and Contributions

After 25 years of service to the City of Winston-Salem, Winston-Salem DOT, and Winston-Salem Urban Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (WSUAMPO), Former Director of Transportation Toneq’ McCullough retired on March 31, 2023.

Staff, colleagues, elected officials, friends, and family gathered at Union Station to celebrate Toneq’s outstanding career and contributions to the City. Winston-Salem Mayor Joines, Mayor Pro Tempore Adams, and Council Member McIntosh were among the elected officials in attendance to congratulate Toneq’. Toneq’ was presented a plaque from incoming Director Jeff Fansler and a signed and framed resolution from Lewisville Mayor and Chairman of the Transportation Advisory Committee Mike Horn in recognition of her public service to the City and MPO.

Toneq’ McCullough served as Director of Transportation since 2012, overseeing WSDOT through many exciting changes and transitions. During her time at DOT, Toneq’ enjoyed most seeing the growth and development of staff and their confidence as they worked through the design, construction, and completion of projects.

In retirement, Toneq’ plans to build her business in Real Estate, travel more, spend time with friends and family, and attend more Clemson and Dallas Cowboys football games. Please join us in congratulating Toneq’ on her outstanding years of service and in wishing her a relaxing and joyous retirement.
STAFF UPDATE
Two hellos and one goodbye

Nateja Hale | Engineering Technician

On April 17, 2023, Winston-Salem DOT and Winston-Salem Urban Area MPO welcomed Nateja Hale to the team as our new Engineering Technician. A graduate of North Carolina Central University and former teacher, Nateja’s interest in geographic information systems (GIS) drew her to this position. Nateja is excited about the many facets of Winston-Salem DOT and “learning about the intricate work that comes before the results.” Among many other MPO activities, Nateja will create informative maps and record minutes for the Technical Coordinating Committee and Transportation Advisory Committee meetings. Outside of work, Nateja has found that she likes to paint to pass the time. Welcome aboard, Nateja!

Will Cave | Civil Engineer

On April 3, 2023, Will Cave started as Civil Engineer for the Winston-Salem DOT. Familiar with the region, Will grew up in Ararat, NC. A recent graduate of North Carolina State University with a BS in Civil Engineering, Will has held a wide range of jobs from working on his grandfather’s farm, renovating houses, to driving for Grubhub. In this new position, Will is looking forward most to working on projects that have been requested by the community. In his free time, you’ll find Will playing basketball, working on cars, and going hiking with his wife. Welcome aboard, Will!

WSUAMPO & WSDOT
Congratulate David Avalos on 7.5 Years of Contributions

On April 7, 2023, David Avalos departed the City of Winston-Salem after 7.5 years of service to the community. During his time with the Winston-Salem DOT, David held three positions, starting as a Civil Engineer, followed by Transportation Engineer, and Transportation Operations Manager. During his time with the Department, David managed several sidewalk projects, sidewalk repair contracts, resurfacing contracts, traffic safety improvement projects, and two-way conversion projects. Of all the projects he worked on, David found the bus shelter installations to be most rewarding: “I enjoy driving by them and seeing them used especially on bad weather days when they are providing citizens with shelter from the weather. Feels good to see that a project you worked on is benefitting people in a real and clear way.” Please join us in thanking David Avalos for his years of service to our community and wishing him well on his new career.

HAVE A FEW MINUTES?
A chance to win $100 helping transportation researchers

The Transportation Institute’s research team at NC A&T State University is conducting a wide-reaching survey to document the U.S. public’s opinions about rail safety, rail environments, and pedestrian activity in the railroad right-of-way.

The NC A&T Team would be deeply grateful if you would complete this survey using the links below. You will be entered into a drawing for a $100 gift card as a thank you for your time. Your information will only be used if you are selected as a winner. All other survey information collected is completely anonymous. Your voice is greatly appreciated and will certainly contribute to a safer built environment as the U.S. continues on its mission of eliminating pedestrian deaths across the nation.

Survey Shortlink: bit.ly/11-rail-survey
Research Shortlink: bit.ly/ncat-rail-research
PRIORITIZATION PRIMER

The path to developing the 2026-2035 State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP)

**JUN**
- Board of Transportation adopts P7 Criteria, which will be used to evaluate projects submitted for consideration for the STIP

**JULY 20**
- MPO submits project list for Prioritization 7.0, TAC approves
- Approved projects submitted to NCDOT’s Strategic Prioritization Office (SPOT) Portal for scoring

**JUL-SEP**
- Quantitative scores released, statewide mobility funded projects released

**APR**
- Local input points are assigned to Regional Impact projects

**2024**
- TAC approves MPO’s Local Input Point Methodology
- Regional Impact project scores released and projects programmed

**2025**
- **2026-2035 STIP Released**
- Local input points for Division Needs projects
Corporate Hangars Near Completion

The landscape is changing along North Liberty Street as the Forsyth County Commissioners invest in the future of the Airport by adding new infrastructure. For years, the existing hangars at Smith Reynolds Airport have been 100% full and the demand for hangars with taller and wider doors has been high.

Over a year ago, local firm Shelco was selected to design and build two new 20,000 square foot hangars north of the main terminal building. The new hangars will be able to accommodate a number of different types aircraft including some of the largest corporate jets. In preparation for the new hangars, a number of old buildings were demolished which will make the landscape more usable and aesthetically pleasing for the Northeast Ward. Despite long lead times for steel and building supplies, the project is on schedule and Shelco management expects construction to be completed by June 2023.

Report: Smith Reynolds Airport Contributes $894 Million and 3,000+ Jobs to the Region

The report, “North Carolina: The State of Aviation,” highlights the economic impacts of the state’s public airports and related aviation and aerospace assets that support North Carolina’s aviation economy. NCDOT creates the report every two years to help guide future investment in aviation infrastructure and provide a tool for recruiting aviation and aerospace industry companies and investment.

North Carolina’s public airport system boasts 10 commercial service airports, which offer regularly scheduled passenger service, and 62 general aviation airports. All of the state’s airports connect local businesses and communities to global markets, house and refuel private aircraft, support military and agricultural aviation and statewide emergency response, and provide aviation services such as aerial photography and pilot training.

North Carolina’s 72 publicly owned airports contribute more than 72 billion to the state’s economy each year – 11% of the state’s gross domestic product, or total economic output – and support nearly 333,000 jobs, according to the report released by the N.C. Department of Transportation’s Division of Aviation. Smith Reynolds Airport leads all 62 general aviation airports in economic growth in both total economic impact ($894 Million) and jobs for the region (3,160). According to the Study, Smith Reynolds Airport also contributes $22.3 Million in Tax Revenue and $213 Million in Personal Income. “North Carolina’s aviation system continues driving the economy by connecting people, companies and communities to markets and destinations worldwide,” said Bobby Walston, director of NCDOT’s Division of Aviation.
PLANNING UPDATE

Selecting emissions reduction projects going forward

WSUAMPO Considers New Criteria for Selecting CMAQ & CRP Projects

As local agencies consider ways to reduce carbon emissions, electrify fleets, and enhance the walkability of their communities, many are turning to the Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program (CMAQ) and the recently-established Carbon Reduction Program (CRP) for funding to implement their emissions-reducing transportation projects. Anticipating increased interest in these programs, staff set out to clarify and strengthen the existing criteria used in previous calls for projects. In the event where applicant requests exceed the amount of funding allocated to the MPO, the proposed selection criteria will be used to identify the best projects to be considered by the Transportation Advisory Committee, the governing body of elected officials from communities across the MPO.

Previously, WSUAMPO would allocate funding to projects based exclusively on forecasted emissions reductions from models created by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), based on expert input from the Forsyth County Office of Environmental Assistance and Protection (OEAP), with limited exceptions. While the proposed project selection criteria retains the importance of forecasted emissions reduction values in project selection - it also proposes to consider what projects would provide in terms of congestion relief, equity, community health and safety, project readiness, and connectivity and innovation. These priority areas are intended to track closely with the goals laid out in the Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP). Performance in each area will be assessed under a combination of qualitative and quantitative factors.

The qualitative assessment, judged by a Project Selection Committee, will be based on each project’s responsiveness to a prompt related to each priority area. The quantitative assessment will function similarly to a checklist and scorecard, where projects earn points in each priority area based on an established set of corresponding criteria. As an example, a project may earn points for community health and safety if it incorporates a proven safety countermeasure (based on a FHWA approved list), or if it provides an improvement along an area with a recorded history of bicycle and pedestrian crashes in the last five years, according to data from NCDOT.

The proposed process, developed and approved by a committee of nine (9) MPO staff and stakeholders from WSDOT, Forsyth County OEAP, NCDOT, Town of Kernersville, and Village of Clemmons, will be considered for adoption by the TAC in July.

Questions about the CRP and CMAQ programs? Contact Hunter Staszak at hunters@cityofws.org.
PLANNING UPDATE
WSUAMPO Staff attend NCAMPO Conference

MPO Staff Travel to Greenville

From April 26, 2023 through April 28, 2023, several staff members from the Winston-Salem Urban Area Metropolitan Planning Organization headed east to the 2023 North Carolina Association of Metropolitan Planning Organizations (NCAMPO) Conference in Greenville. The annual conference gathers staff from all 19 MPOs, many RPOs, NCDOT, federal agencies, and various representatives from different consulting firms across the transportation industry to share knowledge and skills.

The sessions at “Shifting Gears: Transforming Transportation” were informative and wide-ranging. On the first day, MPO staff spread out across all sessions, attending presentations about Vision Zero, A Holistic View of Transportation, Multimodal Planning Efforts, and Microtransit. On day two of the conference, staff attended sessions about improving the public transit experience, public engagement, and bicycle and pedestrian safety. Going into the conference, Civil Engineer Will Cave said the session he was most looking forward to was about “The Success of Complete Streets” because he “spent a lot of time on Hillsborough Street in Raleigh while at NC State,” and the street’s transformation was one of the presentation’s main subjects in that session. Interested readers should expect presentation materials to be available on https://www.ncampo.org/.

Staff enjoyed the Greenville conference and look forward to applying some of the lessons learned from the event in the day-to-day work done for the Winston-Salem Urban Area MPO. Staff are eager to return to the next MPO conference, which will be held in mid-April 2024 in New Bern.

TRANSPORTATION TRIVIA

Testing your local transportation knowledge

A Road You “Otter Know”

This mural featuring a river otter on a local water tank was painted by artist Daas and is visible from one of the busiest corridors in the MPO. Can you name the arterial from which you are able to see the W'Otter Tank?

Know the answer?
E-mail Hunter Staszak at hunters@cityofws.org to be recognized in the next issue.

Congratulations to Mayor Mike Horn of Lewisville and Council Member Mike Brannon of Bermuda Run for submitting the correct responses to the “What Do You Snow About Our Winter Weather Infrastructure?” trivia question about NCDOT’s brine storage volumes. Due to varying reports from different years, 1.8 million gallons and 2.2 million gallons were both considered valid. Around 2 million gallons in storage capacity is available to help NCDOT keep roads safe in wintry weather.
A look into rail trespassing in the Winston-Salem Urban Area

12 reported trespasser casualties from 2010-2022

What can be done?

Awareness. Not all trespassers may be aware that they are even trespassing in the first place. Many might also not be fully aware of the safety risks on railroads. Groups like NCDOT BeRailSafe provide vital public information.

Enforcement is identified as a top deterrent to railroad trespass activity. Learn how the Greensboro Police Department’s education based enforcement (eduforccement) campaign helped address trespassing in one of the state’s top trespassing corridors.

Look to the goat paths. Identify worn patches of ground around railroad tracks to see where people are potentially cutting their own path to get to their destination. This could provide guidance for pedestrian environment improvements and for locations for safety interventions.

Treatments such as fencing, vegetation, lighting, signage, anti-trespass panels, and grade separation can deter and prevent unauthorized pedestrian activity on private rail.
CALENDAR

May

2:00 pm: Technical Coordinating Committee (TCC) Meeting
3rd Floor Conference Room, Bryce A. Stuart Municipal Building,
100 East First Street, Winston-Salem, NC 27101

4:15 pm: Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC) Meeting
Virtual Meeting

July

2:00 pm: Technical Coordinating Committee (TCC) Meeting*
3rd Floor Conference Room, Bryce A. Stuart Municipal Building,
100 East First Street, Winston-Salem, NC 27101

4:15 pm: Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC) Meeting*
Virtual Meeting

* - location and time may be subject to change

September

2:00 pm: Technical Coordinating Committee (TCC) Meeting
TBD

4:15 pm: Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC) Meeting
Virtual Meeting
MPO PUZZLES
WSUAMPO Word Search

FIND:
BETHABARA BETHANIA CMAQ
FHWA FLOWBIKE KERNERSVILLE
NCDOT SALEMLAKE SHALLOWFORD
SIDEWALK SILASCREEK STAGECOACH
UPWP
Voting Members

Mike Horn, TAC Chair
Mayor, Town of Lewisville
Denise D. Adams, TAC Vice Chair
Mayor Pro Tempore, City of Winston-Salem
Allen Joines
Mayor, City of Winston-Salem
Robert Clark
Council Member, City of Winston-Salem
John E. Byrum
Mayor, Town of Midway
Rick Morris
Commissioner, Stokes County
Wesley Hutchins
Council Member, Town of Walkertown
Dan Besse
Commissioner, Forsyth County
Benita Finney
Commissioner, Davie County
Matt Mizell
Commissioner, Davidson County
Mike Brannon
Council Member, Town of Bermuda Run
Brent Rockett
Mayor, Town of Bethania
Mike Combest
Council Member, Village of Clemmons
Bill Apple
Mayor Pro Tempore, Town of Kernersville
Willie L. Clark, Jr.
Board Member, WSTA
Allen Todd
Mayor, Town of Wallburg
Myron Marion
Mayor, Village of Tobaccoville
Eddie Horn
Council Member, Town of Rural Hall
Michael Lane
Council Member, Town of King
Andrew Perkins, Jr.
Member, NCDOT Board of Transportation

Non-Voting Members

Kelly Garvin, TAC Secretary
Planning Development Coordinator, WSDOT
Chris Leak
Chairman, City-County Planning Board
John F. Sullivan, III
Division Administrator, NC Division, FHWA, USDOT

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