

Meeting Summary

Subject: ACEC/NC - NCDOT Multimodal Subcommittee Meeting

Date: Monday, April 27, 2026

Location: NCDOT Highway Building Rail Conference Room # 509 / Microsoft Teams Virtual

Attendees	Julie White	Allison Anolik*
	Greg Keel	Betty White*
	Grady McCollum*	Robert Kirk
	Cat Peele*	Steve Karnis
	Nick Short*	Suzanne Young*
		Bob Deaton*
		Katharine Mather
		Erin Musiol*

* Virtual Attendance

Meeting Goals: Discuss Division updates, challenges and opportunities for ACEC assistance.

Discussion Topics:

- Division Updates (upcoming advertisements, project updates, etc.)
 - Rail Division

Rail development and environmental

- Need to contract with an LSA for an embed
- Will be working P-5706 East Durham Re-evaluation soon.
- P-5740 Wilmington due to additional requests from DWR (Division of Water Resources)
- S-Line Archeology GPR (Ground Penetrating Radar) survey (firm may have already been selected)
- If S-Line gets obligated, we will need a FRA Re-evaluation(s) for the bottom 1-2 segments (Raleigh to WF section)
- NEPA Assignment analysis. Will be determined after May meetings.

Rail crossing closures

Crossing Closure Program:

- RX-2609AB - Williston Road – Walkertown – Crossing #470210K
- RX-2604AA – Club Drive – Nashville – Crossing #626 229N
- RX-2604AB – Nash Street – Elm City – Crossing #629 837T
- RX-2606AA – Mann Street – Fayetteville – Crossing #847 220M
- RX-2609AA – Jones Street – Denton – Crossing #849 939T
- RX-26012AA - Poplar Street – Gastonia – Crossing #716 217T

Track design

- S-Line/R2R preliminary signal design task. That will be tasked under our 2024 Rail Program Delivery LSC.
- All else is under contract for S-Line work

Rail signals

- RX-2008B for roadway/signal work. Firm has been selected.
- Various RX (Section 130 projects – both design and construction inspection) - Rail and embedded staff
- Various DOH projects involving devices at crossings (both design and construction inspection) - embedded staff
- Various developer projects involving devices at crossings (both design and construction inspection) – Rail and embedded staff
- Raleigh Quiet Zone Diagnostics – Rail and embedded staff
- P-5740C – Wilmington design is complete. It will Let in June 2026. Construction inspection by Rail and embedded staff.
- Helene Recovery - Construction inspection by Rail and embedded staff.

Corridor ID and Other Tasks

- Corridor ID Step 2 – Core SDP Tasks for Asheville to Salisbury
 - Starting 2026 for 1+ year
 - Using existing Rail Planning LSCs and potentially some tasks via Rail Program Delivery LSCs
 - Scope under review by FRA
- Corridor ID Step 2 – SDP Tasks for Charlotte to Washington, DC
 - Starting 2026 for 3+ years
 - Using existing Rail Planning LSCs and Rail Program Delivery LSCs
 - Scope under review by NCDOT, VPRA, DRPT, and FRA
- Triangle Mobility Hub Rail Feasibility Study (Led by Craig Newton)
 - ~1 year task
 - Firm may already be selected
- Rail Safety Action Plan for Statewide Active Transportation
 - Managed in partnership with IMD
 - ~1 year task
 - Probably using IMD LSC, firm selection underway
- Economic Impact Studies for Raleigh to Richmond and Wilmington to Raleigh
 - Tentative SP&R funded project starting 7/1/26
 - Likely a task to ITRE in conjunction with the economic impact of rail research project being completed with Research funding.
- On Board Rider Survey
 - Tentative SP&R funded project starting 7/1/26

- Triangle Passenger Rail Initial Feasibility Study
 - Potentially funded by CAMPO
- Potential for CID Step 3 – PE/NEPA Tasks for Near Term SDP projects Raleigh to Charlotte
 - Late in 2026
 - Using existing Rail Program Delivery LSCs
 - Pending 20% match availability, FRA approval of Near-term SDP, and approval of advancing to Step 3
- Continuation of embedded staff.
- Outlook for 2027 (with small chance of late 2026)
 - Corridor ID Step 2 – Core SDP Tasks for Wilmington to Raleigh
 - Corridor ID Step 2 – Core SDP Tasks for Winston-Salem to Raleigh
 - Corridor ID Step 2 – Core SDP Tasks for Kings Mountain to Charlotte
 - Corridor ID Step 2 – SDP Tasks for Fayetteville to Raleigh
 - All pending completion of review and approval by FRA and non-federal match availability.
 - Same approach as Asheville to Salisbury and Charlotte to Washington (above)
- Ferry Division
 - May have some marine and facility engineering design projects coming up
 - Electrical design for new generators and their installations
 - Water and wastewater projects such as designing for improvements or new systems
 - Ramp rehabilitation projects to bring assets into good condition
 - As budgets are finalized, possible further information to come
- Aviation Division
 - System Plan – building scope and plan to request information from LSCs for firm selections
 - AAM Planning Grants (round 2) – likely use 3 firms from Innovations LSC
 - Beyond Program – Firm selected
 - eIPP – Firm selected. May consider others.
 - Airport Electrification Study – Firm selected
 - PCI Data Collection and Support – Firm selected
 - Advance Mobility Tasks (Aviation Phase 2) – Firm selected
 - GA Airport AAM Studies – building scope and plan to request information from LSCs for firm selections
 - ENCOR Alpha Lite SOW – Firm selected
 - Exhibit A's – building scope and plan to request information from LSCs for firm selections

- IMD
 - Multimodal Planning Grants (Summer)
 - Strategic Plan update (Late Summer/early Fall)
 - Fleet Feasibility Studies (Fall-Winter)
 - Financial-based Compliance Reviews (Late Summer)
 - Paved Trail Feasibility Study (project call in May, consultant need fall/early winter)
 - Microtransit Feasibility Studies (SP&R dependent, consultant need summer)

 - Toll credit pilot project update
 - IMD is facilitating, 38 LAP projects total
 - IMD created roadmaps, convened stakeholders and is driving schedule clarity
 - SPOT 8.0
 - Prioritization is complete
 - Responses returned to submitting agencies for comment
 - BRT updates
 - Supporting Chapel Hill BRT project
 - Planned trip to Baltimore for BRT tour
- Misc.
 - LAP Support Approach update
 - IMD has been assisting in several LAP projects that have moved from stalled to progressing, Divisions are reporting positive feedback

 - AI used in design
 - Main objective: exploring AI to speed and standardize Complete Streets review, then potentially assign concept design
 - AI could accelerate reviews, reduce perceived “black box” concerns by making processes transparent, and generate options for engineers
 - Industry feedback:
 - AI adoption is growing but mostly in support roles, data analysis, document review, visualization, and limited design generation
 - Firms are cautious; emphasize engineering judgment, quality control, and human oversight
 - Emerging uses include predictive safety analysis, survey processing, compliance checking, and quantity validation
 - Next Steps:
 - Pilot AI on Complete Streets review comparison against historical reviews
 - NCDOT to reach out to Accenture (as used by CALDOT) to learn their safety AI implementation
 - Evaluate phased approach
 - Phase 1 = review automation

- Phase 2 = AI-generated concept options for engineers to refine
- Surface Transportation Bill Reauthorization
 - Concerns about current budget with respect to transit and rail projects
- Multimodal subcommittee members update
 - Three members (Steve Karnis, Emily Poole, Suzanne Young) are rolling off this summer
 - Three new members will join this summer
 - Betty White will be new chair beginning in July
 - Asked Aviation Division for assistance on finding candidates for subcommittee to provide Aviation representative

NCDOT Contractual Business Unit	CONTRACT NAME	EARLIEST ADVERTISEMENT DATE	ANTICIPATED Advertisement Date	PROCUREMENT PROCESS START DATE	CURRENT CONTRACT END DATE	Contract FullTerm End Date	CFTEd	Contract TIME Extension(s) Available
Aviation	Aviation Professional Services LSC	9/1/2027		8/20/2027	2/20/2028	2/20/2030	YES	
Ferry Division	Ferry Division Professional Services	9/1/2026		8/27/2026	2/27/2027	2/27/2027	NO	
Ferry Division	Environmental and Coastal Engineering Services LSC	3/1/2026		2/19/2026	8/19/2026	8/19/2027	YES	
Ferry Division	Ferry Division General Engineering Services (GESG) - Facility and Marine Asset Management LSC	Fall 2026	Fall 2026		12/4/2026	12/4/2026	NO	
Ferry Division	Naval Architecture and Marine Engineering LSC	8/15/2026		8/3/2026	2/3/2027	2/3/2030	YES	
Ferry Division	Vessel Construction Oversight LSC	8/15/2026		8/5/2026	2/5/2027	2/5/2030	YES	
Integrated Mobility Division	Integrated Mobility Division LSC	12/1/2027		11/28/2027	5/28/2028	5/28/2030	YES	
Integrated Mobility Division	IMD_Project Management LSC - SPSF-Only	3/15/2028		3/2/2028	9/2/2028	9/2/2030	YES	
Rail Division	Rail Planning General Services and Rail Strategic Initiatives LSC	10/1/2027		9/15/2027	3/15/2028	3/15/2030	YES	
Rail Division	Rail Fixed Guideway Safety Oversight	2/1/2027		1/4/2027	11/30/2026	11/30/2025	NO	
Rail Division	Rail Consulting & Facilitation Svcs	12/15/2027		12/10/2027	6/10/2027	6/10/2028	YES	
Rail Division	Rail Crossing Safety LSC	10/1/2027		9/20/2027	3/20/2028	3/20/2030	YES	
Rail Division	Rail Program Delivery On-Call LSC	6/1/2027		5/26/2027	11/26/2027	11/26/2028	YES	
Aviation Division	ARN_Innovation and Advanced Mobility in Aviation LSC	5/1/2027		4/27/2027	10/27/2027	10/27/2028	YES	