2040 STATEWIDE TRANSPORTATION PLAN

The 2040 Statewide Transportation Plan is a policy-based plan that is used by NCDOT to set long-term spending priorities.

How the Plan Shapes North Carolina’s Future
If you own a house, you know what it takes to maintain it and to make improvements so that it retains its value or adds quality to your life. You plan your living arrangements primarily based on the room needed to accommodate your family, and on how much money you have.

The 2040 Plan is much like this. By way of this plan, North Carolina defines what is needed to meet the future demands of all forms of transportation, estimates how much those needs will cost and compares that to how much money the state will have in future years to pay for those needs.

Projecting the Future
What we did:
> Identified our needs for statewide systems, such as our Interstate highway system;
> Asked local governments to share with us their projected needs, both in the short and long terms;
> Estimated what is needed to ensure the users of all of our transportation systems remain safe, our systems are maintained, our roads are less congested and we keep freight moving to enhance our economy;
> Asked residents of North Carolina to help us identify their future transportation needs; and
> Researched what funding will be available and potential funding sources.

Looking Ahead to 2040
> North Carolina’s population will grow by 42 percent to 13.5 million.
> Nearly 75 percent of the population will live in urban areas.
> Almost 20 percent of the population will be older than 65 years of age.

NC’s 30-Year Needs & Funding Gap

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Expected State and Federal Revenues = $54 Billion

All numbers in current dollars

Expected revenues reflect the 30-year net of approximately $4 billion per year available after transfers for programs such as construction, maintenance, and operations. Due to inflation, buying power is lost over time.
Setting Priorities in the Lean Years

Transportation project costs will continue to rise and our current funding will NOT keep up. Knowing this reality, it is more important than ever to establish what we value most and fund accordingly.

As you set priorities in your own life, it is highly likely that keeping your family safe and healthy comes first. To use our house comparison, this means the highest priorities might be on having a roof that doesn’t leak, or working locks on all of the windows. If you discovered that you were going to have triplets, your priorities would adjust to ensure your home could handle the added people.

At some point, the decision must be made to sacrifice something or find new ways to pay for the things you must have. North Carolina must do the same.

Knowing this, the 2040 Plan makes the following recommendations:

> Set your priorities in order:
  – Improve safety and preserve what is already built;
  – Focus on services and facilities with statewide significance;
  – Invest to promote economic opportunities; and
  – Allow flexibility at the local level.

> Continue to work smarter.

> Focus on policy, process and program changes that will:
  – Encourage a strong link between land use and transportation;
  – Explore new funding sources and expand existing ones;
  – Increase opportunities to connect all forms of transportation; and
  – Use technology to make us more efficient.

To review the complete draft 2040 Plan, go to www.ncdot.org/performance/reform/2040Plan.

To comment on the draft, please complete a brief survey, located at www.surveymonkey.com/s/2040_3, or call 1-919-707-0963. If you have questions, you may also send an e-mail to tbray@ncdot.gov.

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In accordance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and related authorities, the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) assures that no person(s) shall be excluded from participation in the 2040 Plan based on race, color, sex, national origin, disability, age, income or gender. For more information please contact the NCDOT Title VI Section at (919) 508-1808 or toll free at 1-800-522-0453, or by email at slipscomb@ncdot.gov.