



September 20, 2022

Leslie Tracey, Engineering Manager
Traffic Operations, City of Durham
101 City Hall Plaza
Durham, NC 27701

Sean Egan, Director
Transportation Department, City of Durham
101 City Hall Plaza
Durham, NC 27701

Ellen Beckmann, Transportation Manager
Durham County Government
201 East Main Street, 5th Floor
Durham, NC 27701

Dear Ms. Tracey, Mr. Egan, and Ms. Beckmann,

The Durham Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Commission (BPAC) is an advisory board appointed by the Durham City Council and the Durham County Commissioners. BPAC works to make Durham a more walk-able, bike-able, and transit-friendly community for all residents.

The Planning, Implementation and Evaluation and Development Review subcommittees have reviewed these resurfacing plans for 2023 along with the relevant street widths and AADT data. These resurfacings provide a great opportunity to improve Durham's transportation infrastructure and make it safer for all road users.

In addition to the recommendations below, we would like to emphasize that the City of Durham should be engaging BPAC and affected communities early in the scoping process. The City should not wait until there have already been draft designs developed by the consultant, as this leaves engagement too late to seriously affect the development process. Seeking community engagement before scoping has been finalized will allow local communities to have proper impact on their local developments and will strengthen final designs.

Below are initial recommendations and questions regarding these resurfacings, organized by resurfacing project. Please provide feedback to each point, as we will use that feedback to inform an official recommendation list for BPAC which will be put to a vote in our October meeting. We invite you and other staff members to join us in any upcoming BPAC meeting to discuss these suggestions.

#1 US-70 Hillsborough Road between Neal Road and Hillandale Road

1. Road diet to add protected bike lanes
2. Add more pedestrian crossings, including at the following intersections:
 1. Bellevue
 2. Eastern leg of 15-501
 3. Cole Mill
 4. Neal
3. Are there concerns regarding AADT? If so, we would request new traffic counts to be done this fall, especially on the section east of LaSalle.

#2 NC-55 between Roxboro Road and Geer Street

1. Road diet from Knox to Foushee
2. Add 4 foot edge lines south of Knox
3. Add pedestrian crossing between I-85 and Markham (likely at Knox, this is a key connection to the Beltline and other future trails)
4. Add protected bike lanes on Alston Ave between Geer Street and Avondale Drive and add a future project to connect these lanes with the Beltline trailhead

#3 NC-54 between Fayetteville Road and Biscayne Road

1. Improvements to the American Tobacco Trail crossing at Rollingwood
 1. Move the westbound stop line back to improve visibility
 2. Make the crosswalk more visible, coloring it green to indicate the trail
 3. Use flexible posts to decrease pedestrian crossing distance and to force eastbound traffic to not enter the right lane until after the Rollingwood intersection
 4. Disallow right turn on red westbound on 54 and northbound on Highgate
2. Create pedestrian crossings with refuge using striping and flexible posts in the following sections to improve bus stop accessibility.
 1. Between McDonald's and the bus stop on the south side of 54
 2. Between Rollingwood and Southpark (access for bus stops on Highgate)
 3. Between Southpark and Highgate (access for bus stops on Highgate)
 4. Between Sam's Bottle Shop / Advance Auto and the bus stop on the south side of 54
3. Improvements to section between Highgate and KFC / Taco Bell
 1. Add asphalt to create shoulders while maintaining existing lane markings wherever possible along this narrow stretch
 2. Add sharrows
 3. Add flexible posts to accentuate eastbound lane drop at shopping center
4. Improvements to section between Rollingwood and Fayetteville
 1. Road diet to reduce lanes and speeds and make turning safer for cars (consider medians or traffic circles)
5. Add flexible posts and striping to westbound right turn lane on Southpark to avoid use for through traffic

#4 NC 54 between New Hope Creek Bridge and Biscayne Road

1. Add sharrows

#5 Fayetteville Street between NC-147 and Main Street

1. Road diet
2. Protected bike lanes, west-side could be parking protected
3. Improved pedestrian crossings at Ramseur and Pettigrew

#6 E Cornwallis Road between Campus Crossings and NC-55

1. Add pedestrian crossings at bus stops
2. Add flexible posts and buffer to bike lanes where there is adequate width

#7 E Cornwallis Road between rail tracks and Northeast Creek

1. Add flexible posts and buffer to bike lanes where there is adequate width

#11 Pope Road between Old Chapel Hill Road and Ephesus Church Road

1. Add bike lanes between the roundabout and Montessori Community School (as a part of Safe Routes to School program).
2. Add pedestrian crossings between the roundabouts and near the schools.

#19 Cheek Road between Geer Street and Hoover Road

1. Road diet from Hardee to Hoover
2. Add pedestrian crossings at following intersections
 1. Geer
 2. Hardee
 3. US-70
 4. Muldee/Midland Terrace
 5. Hoover
3. Add asphalt (or at least gravel) to desire paths between Geer and Hardee
4. This could be part of a future connection between the Ellerbee Creek Trail and Panther Creek / Searboard Rail-Trail

#28 Cheek Road between Creech Road and Hereford Road

1. Add asphalt to create shoulders
2. This is a bicycle route and NC Mountain-to-Sea Trail connector, and is one of several future options for the East Coast Greenway to extend from north Durham to Granville County.

#29 Cheek Road between Hereford Road and Falls Lake

1. Add asphalt to create shoulders.
2. This is a bicycle route and NC Mountain-to-Sea Trail connector, and is one of several future options for the East Coast Greenway to extend from north Durham to Granville County.

#30 Baptist Road between Benny Ross Road and Baptist Route

1. Add asphalt to create shoulders
2. Connects with NC Mountain-to-Sea Trail parking area

#31 Hickory Grove Road between Carpenter Pond Road and Wake County line

1. Narrow lanes to create edge lines

Sincerely,



Susanne Schmal, BPAC Chair

cc: John Sandor, District Engineer, District 2, NCDOT
Brandon Jones, Division Engineer, Division 5, NCDOT
Ryan Brumfield, Director, Integrated Mobility Division, NCDOT
Nicholas Morrison, Transportation Planner, Integrated Mobility Division, NCDOT
Javiera Caballero, Durham City Council
Heidi Carter, Durham Board of County Commissioners
Dale McKeel, Durham City Department of Transportation