



News Release

For Immediate Release

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Public Comment Meeting Scheduled for Division 5 Projects *NCDOT seeks input on Regional Impact and Division Needs priorities*

DURHAM – Area residents are invited to a public meeting on Tuesday, June 19, to express their opinions about which N.C. Department of Transportation regional and local transportation projects in the 7-county Division 5 area should be top priorities in the [State Transportation Improvement Program \(STIP\)](#) – a 10-year plan that identifies funding for projects and schedules them for construction.

The department combines data and local input to determine which projects will get built, using a formula established in the [Strategic Transportation Investments \(STI\)](#) law to focus funding on projects that will reduce congestion, improve safety and promote economic growth.

NCDOT Division 5 (Durham, Franklin, Granville, Person, Vance, Wake, Warren counties) will hold an informal public meeting on Tuesday at the Division 5 office, 2612 North Duke Street in Durham from 4 to 6 p.m.

Citizens are invited to stop in anytime during the meeting as there will not be a formal presentation and provide input on how the division plans to rank its project priorities. Please note that these meetings are not for maintenance projects, such as patching potholes, resurfacing roads or improving ditches.

NCDOT will provide auxiliary aids and services under the [Americans with Disabilities Act](#) for anyone with disabilities who wants to participate in the public meeting. Anyone requiring special services should contact Lauren Putnam, Public Involvement Officer, at 919-707-6072 or by email at lputnam1@ncdot.gov as early as possible, so that these arrangements can be made.

Other Ways to Participate

For area residents who can't attend the meeting, NCDOT is also collecting feedback online, by phone or in writing through July 9. They can provide input through the STI website (ncdot.gov/sti), where they complete a short, interactive survey to identify priority projects, or send a message to their local division planning engineer.

The online survey features an interactive state map with the proposed projects up for funding. Citizens can review project information and provide feedback on which projects they think are important.

The STI website provides the phone numbers and postal addresses of local division planning engineers, for citizens who want to comment on transportation projects by telephone or mail.

In Division 5, contact Planning Engineer David Keilson, PE, at (919)-220-4600 or NCDOT Division 5, 2612 North Duke Street, Durham, N.C., 27704

In April, NCDOT [released data scores](#) for more than 2,100 transportation improvement projects across the state, in the first round of an evaluation process to determine which projects will be scheduled for construction. Also in April, NCDOT identified [77 high-scoring Statewide Mobility projects](#) that will be programmed for funding over the next decade.

Next Steps

After the comment period ends on July 9, NCDOT will combine the data scores and local input to produce the total project scores. A draft list of the top-scoring Regional Impact projects is scheduled for release in August. A similar process for local input will take place in the fall for local Division Needs projects.

Once all project scores are finalized, the top-scoring projects will be programmed for construction based on available funding. Other factors may determine whether a project ultimately moves to construction, including the completion of environmental and engineering plans, corridor spending limits prescribed by law, and other federal and state funding restrictions.

This information will be used to create the next STIP for the years 2020-2029. NCDOT will release a draft STIP for public comment in January 2019. The final 2020-2029 STIP is expected to be adopted by the N.C. Board of Transportation in June 2019.

The STI law, enacted in 2013, established a data-driven process that allows NCDOT to invest transportation dollars more efficiently and effectively. NCDOT updates the STIP approximately every two years to ensure that it accurately reflects the state's current financial situation.

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