



2045 MTP, CTP & BIPED PLAN AMENDMENT: EAST GREENSBORO GREENWAY

Executive Summary

The East Greensboro Greenway is proposed to better connect East Greensboro residents with the downtown core and improve multimodal access to East Greensboro’s recreational, cultural, and educational destinations. This shared use path facility will include both on-road sidepath sections and off-road greenway sections and is envisioned as a linear park as well as transportation facility. A feasibility study was recently conducted by NCDOT Integrated Mobility Division in partnership with the City’s Parks and Recreation Department and the Greensboro MPO.

This proposed amendment to the 2045 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP), Comprehensive Transportation Plan, and Greensboro Urban Area Bicycle, Pedestrian, Trails and Greenways Plan (BiPed Plan) (hereafter referred to as “Transportation Plans”) would add the preferred greenway alignment identified in the East Greensboro Greenway Feasibility Study. Amending the Transportation Plans to include the preferred alignment will allow the project to be eligible for federal or state funding and to be factored into community plans.

The amendment of the Transportation Plans is available for public to review at the same time period as the East Greensboro Greenway Feasibility Study, from October 24 to November 22, 2024. To access the full Feasibility Study document, please use the following [link](#). **The Transportation Advisory Committee will consider the amendment for approval at the December 11, 2024 MPO meeting.**

Background

NCDOT’s Integrated Mobility Division Feasibility Study Grant program is intended to support the development of shovel ready bicycle and pedestrian projects to compete for future funding opportunities. The MPO partnered with City of Greensboro’s Parks and Recreation Department to apply for the East Greensboro Greenway, which was selected for a grant in Spring 2023. The purpose of the feasibility study, led by an NCDOT-selected consultant, was to develop a vision for future bicycle and pedestrian connectivity in east Greensboro and identify opportunities, constraints, and recommendations for future implementation. The study developed and analyzed conceptual routes and identified a preferred route as well as provides cost estimates and an implementation plan for future trail construction.

Project Situation

Between August 28 and November 2, 2023, a community survey gathered 344 responses from 54 participants, with 135 comments. The survey showed strong support (92%) for a greenway connecting existing trails in Greensboro. However, 74% of respondents highlighted the lack of safe biking and walking connections as a barrier to using the greenways. Barber Park emerged as a popular greenway destination. Feedback on areas in East Greensboro needing bike and pedestrian improvements was scattered, showing the need for widespread infrastructure upgrades. A second survey, conducted from March 23 to May 2, 2024, asked for input on four route alternatives. Route Alternative #1 was the most favored, while Route Alternative #2 was the least preferred, with connectivity, safety, and accessibility being key factors in route

Lead Planning Agency: City of Greensboro Department of Transportation



PO BOX 3136
GREENSBORO NC 27402-3136



P 336 373-4368
F 336 412-6171



WWW.GUAMPO.ORG

selection. Route Alternative #1 has been selected as the preferred alignment by the Feasibility study. Adoption of the Feasibility Study is recommended because:

- The project will be a catalyst for transformative change in the community by addressing historical issues of underinvestment and detrimental land use and transportation policies.
- The project will support the Guilford County Comprehensive Plan goals to support “non-motorized forms of transportation by pursuing funding to expand greenways throughout Guilford County”.
- The project will align with the 2018 Downtown Greensboro Streetscape Master Plan as it identifies the J. Douglas Galyon Intermodal Depot as a primary gateway to downtown and will encourage walking and biking in close proximity to the depot.
- The project supports the 2020 GSO2040 Comprehensive Plan as it works to make Greensboro a car optional city as it increases alternative transportation options for residents in the East Greensboro area.



Amendment of Transportation Plans (2045 Metropolitan Transportation Plan, Comprehensive Transportation Plan, and Bicycle, Pedestrian, Trails and Greenways Plan) to incorporate the Feasibility Study is also recommended because doing so will:

- enable the project to compete for federal, state, and local funding opportunities;
- enable sections of the project that traverse the project limits of other NCDOT and/or City projects to be constructed under said projects in advance of construction of the full East Greensboro Greenway alignment;
- formalize the greenway's integration into the long-term transportation network;
- help align future transportation investments with the community’s strategic goals, fostering a healthier and more connected Greensboro; and
- once constructed, the project will enhance multimodal access, improve connectivity for underserved communities, and support equitable mobility by providing safe and accessible transportation options.

**RESOLUTION AMENDING THE GREENSBORO URBAN AREA
2045 METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION PLAN, COMPREHENSIVE
TRANSPORTATION PLAN, AND GREENSBORO URBAN AREA
BICYCLE, PEDESTRIAN, TRAILS AND GREENWAYS PLAN**

A motion was made by TAC Member _____ and seconded by TAC Member _____ for adoption of the following resolution, which upon being put to a vote was duly adopted.

WHEREAS, § 23 U.S.C. Section 450 requires Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs) to develop and maintain a metropolitan transportation plan; AND

WHEREAS, the 2045 Metropolitan Transportation Plan adopted on December 9, 2020 is currently in effect; AND

WHEREAS, Greensboro Urban Area and the Transportation Planning Branch, North Carolina Department of Transportation actively worked to develop a Comprehensive Transportation Plan for the Greensboro Urban Area; AND

WHEREAS, The Greensboro Urban Area Bicycle, Pedestrian, Trails and Greenways Plan (BiPed Plan) outlining the prioritization and development of bike lanes, sidewalks, and greenways to improve connectivity and promote non-motorized transportation was adopted in November 2015 and subsequently amended on three previous occasions; AND

WHEREAS, the Transportation Advisory Committee has found that an amendment to the 2045 Metropolitan Transportation Plan, Comprehensive Transportation Plan, and Greensboro Urban Area Bicycle, Pedestrian, Trails and Greenways Plan is needed at this time; AND

WHEREAS, the amendment will add the East Greensboro Greenway project to the 2045 Metropolitan Transportation Plan, Comprehensive Transportation Plan, Greensboro Urban Area Bicycle, Pedestrian, Trails and Greenways Plan; AND

WHEREAS, the Transportation Advisory Committee has provided for a thirty day public comment period and has solicited public and private transportation provider comments per the Public Participation Plan adopted September 10, 2023; AND

NOW THEREFORE, be it resolved by the Greensboro Urban Area Transportation Advisory Committee, that the 2045 Metropolitan Transportation Plan , Comprehensive Transportation Plan, and Greensboro Urban Area Bicycle, Pedestrian, Trails and Greenways Plan, dated December 11, 2024, be adopted for the Greensboro Urban Area Metropolitan Planning Organization on this day, December 11, 2024.

I, Marikay Abuzuaiter, TAC Chair,
(Name of Certifying Official) *(Title of Certifying Official)*

do hereby certify that the above is a true and correct copy of an excerpt from the minutes of a meeting of the Greensboro Urban Area TAC duly held on this day December 11, 2024.

Chair, Transportation Advisory Committee

Subscribed and sworn to me on this day December 11, 2024.

Notary Public

My commission expires _____.