



# Stakeholder Committee Meeting #2

March 13, 2025

**RS&H**



**CENTRALINA**  
REGIONAL COUNCIL

# Agenda

- SC Meeting #1 Review and Updates
- Public Engagement Update
- Stakeholder Interviews
- Assessment Intent
- Highway Assessment
- Bike and Ped Assessment
- Public Transportation and Rail Assessment
- Next Steps



# Meeting #1 Review and Updates

# Meeting #1 Review

- CTP Background
- Schedule, Website, Study Area
- Vision, Goals, and Objectives
- Existing Conditions
- Study Road Identification
- Public Engagement

# Meeting #1 Updates

- Continue to Update Community Understanding Report (CUR)
- Updates to Study Roads
- Creation of Title VI maps
- Development of Current CTP, 2050 MTP, and 2024-2033 STIP Maps by Mode
- Development of Interactive Online CTP Map
- Development of Public Engagement Materials
- Other Planning Efforts

# Meeting #1 Updates

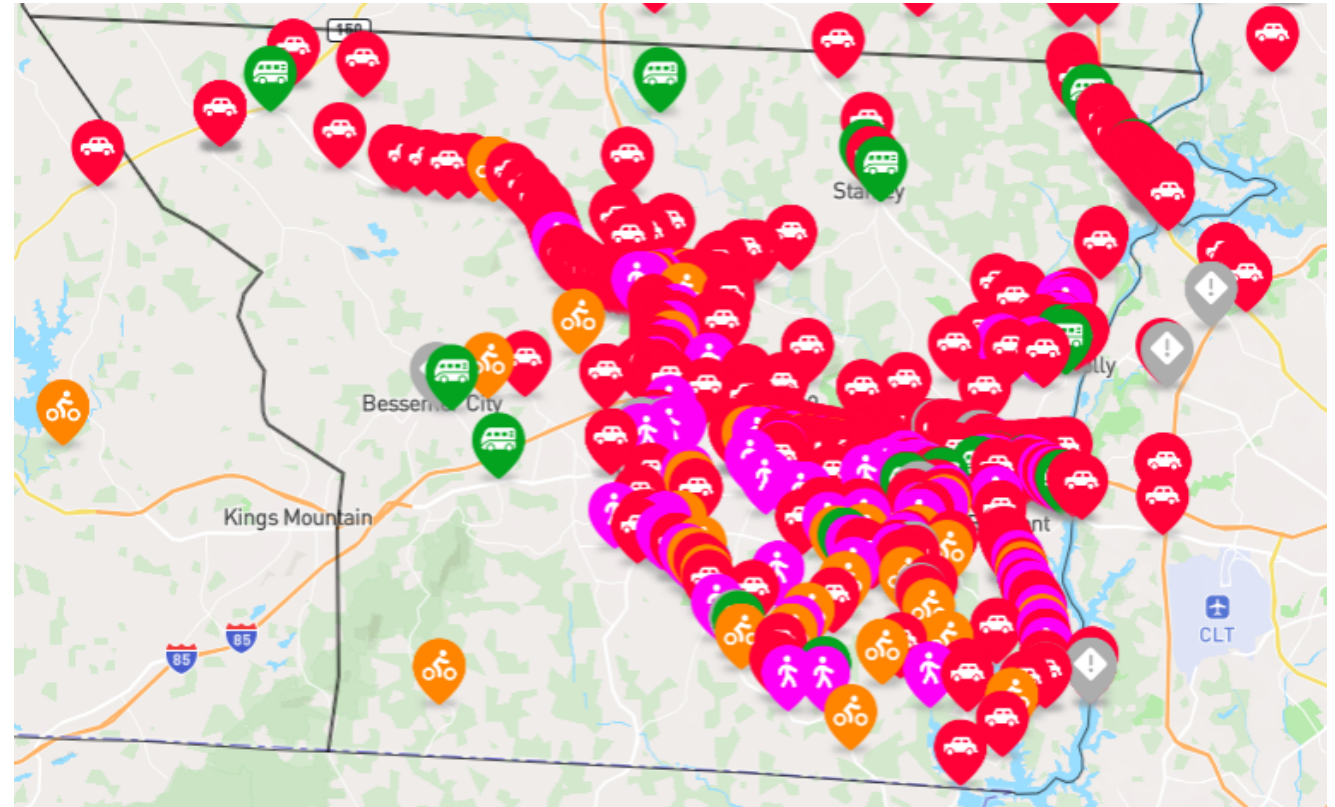
## Revised Vision Statement

“Gaston County envisions a multimodal transportation network that seamlessly moves people and goods, connecting users to economic and social opportunities while ensuring safety, reliability, accessibility, and environmental preservation.”

GCLMPO proposing no changes to goals and objectives.  
Anticipate Board adoption on March 27.

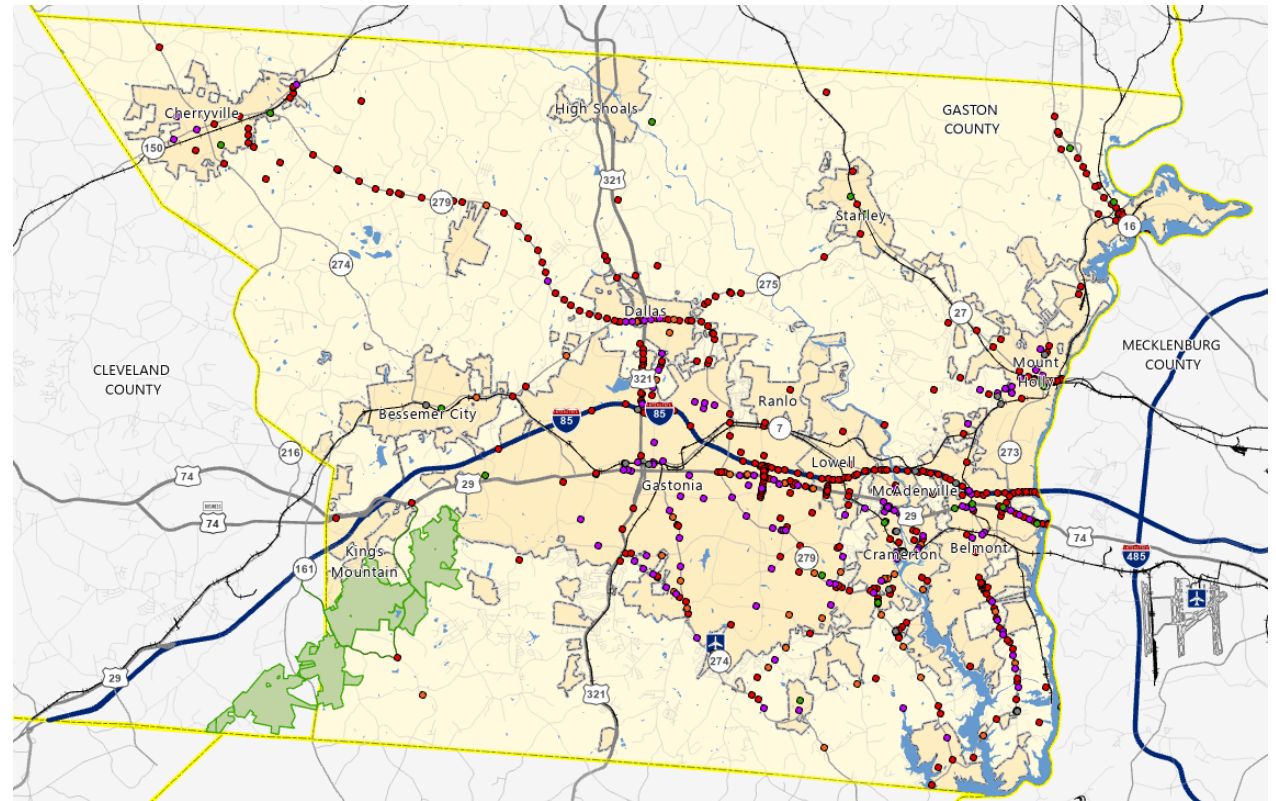
# Survey Update

- <https://engagewithtpd.mysocialpinpoint.com/GCL-survey>
- Survey opened Feb 1
  - Goals and objectives portion closed Mar 2
  - Rest of survey will remain open through Apr 30
- 275 responses and 661 location-specific markers in Gaston County as of March 5



# Interactive Map Comment Types

- Roadway (458)
  - Traffic Congestion (257), High Crash Location (73)
  - Congestion on I-85, NC 16, NC 273, and NC 279
- Pedestrian (123)
  - Sidewalk Needed (74), Safety Concern (23)
  - Concerns along US 74 in E Gaston, NC 273 in SE Gaston, NC 279 in Dallas
- Bicycle (37)
  - Bike Lane Needed (25), Safety Concern (8)
- Public Transit (27)
  - Park and Ride Lot Needed (14), Transit Stop Needed (7)
- Other (16)
  - Passenger rail, lighting, congestion, drainage

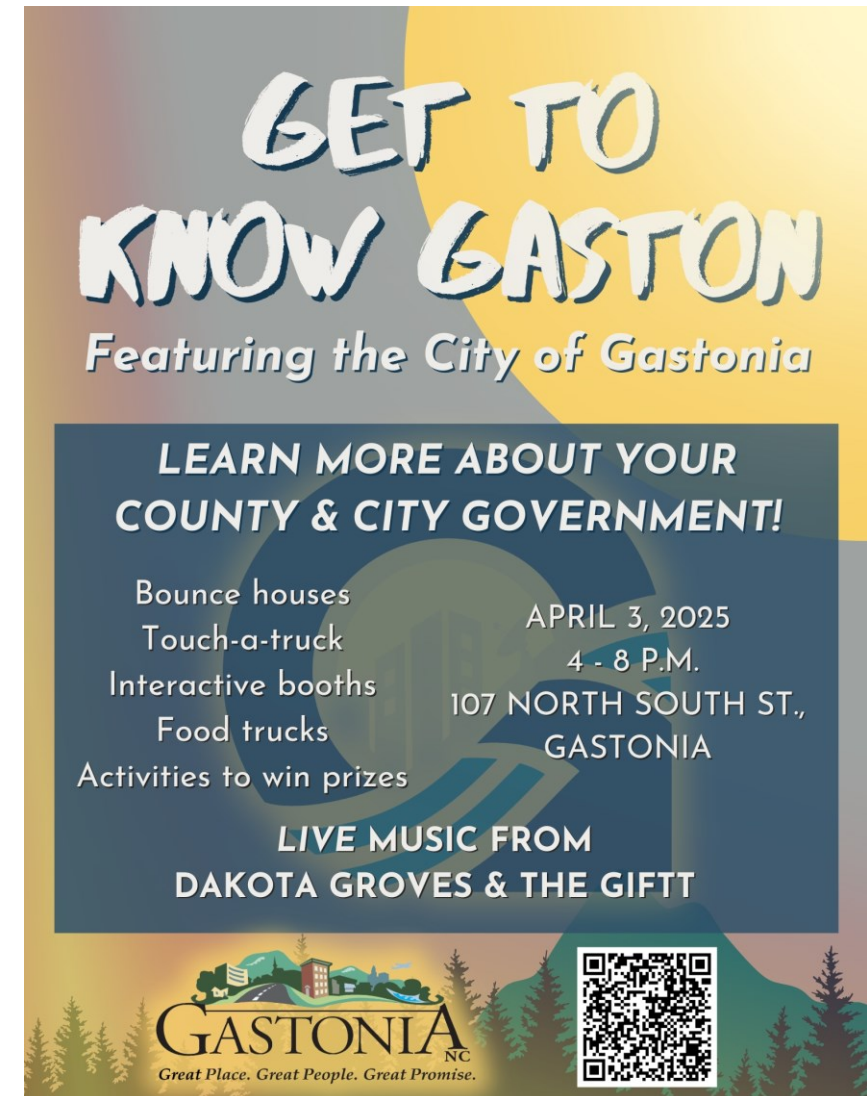


# Stakeholder Interviews

- Complete
  - EMS
  - Staff Representative for Bike and Ped Advisory Committee (BPAC)
  - Public Health Director
- Planned
  - Parks and Recreation Director
  - Questions for Elected Officials being discussed at upcoming Gaston County & Municipal Planners (GCaMP) meeting
  - Gaston Business Community Meeting

# Public Engagement

- In-Person Public Event #1
  - Booth at Get to Know Gaston Event
  - April 3, 4-8 pm
  - 107 North South St, Gastonia



**GET TO  
KNOW GASTON**  
*Featuring the City of Gastonia*

**LEARN MORE ABOUT YOUR  
COUNTY & CITY GOVERNMENT!**

Bounce houses  
Touch-a-truck  
Interactive booths  
Food trucks  
Activities to win prizes

APRIL 3, 2025  
4 - 8 P.M.  
107 NORTH SOUTH ST.,  
GASTONIA

**LIVE MUSIC FROM  
DAKOTA GROVES & THE GIFT**

  
**GASTONIA** NC  
Great Place. Great People. Great Promise.



# Public Engagement

- Continue to help us advertise!

## WE WANT YOUR INPUT!

## ¡QUEREMOS TU OPINIÓN!

Fill out a quick Survey to share your opinions about the future of transportation in Gaston, Cleveland, and Lincoln Counties!  
 ¡Complete una encuesta rápida para compartir sus opiniones sobre el futuro del transporte en los condados de Gaston, Cleveland, y Lincoln!

Visit <https://tinyurl.com/GCL-Survey>  
 or scan here  
 Visitar <https://tinyurl.com/GCL-Survey>  
 o escanear aquí

Survey closes on April 30, 2025.  
 However, questions on goals & objectives close March 2, 2025.  
 La Encuesta se cerrará el 30 de Abril de 2025. Sin embargo, las preguntas sobre metas y objetivos cierran el 2 de marzo de 2025.

Questions? Contact Tori Dellinger at [Tori.Dellinger@gastonianc.gov](mailto:Tori.Dellinger@gastonianc.gov) or 704-854-6631.  
 Si tiene preguntas, comuníquese con Tori Dellinger a [Tori.Dellinger@gastonianc.gov](mailto:Tori.Dellinger@gastonianc.gov) o 704-854-6631.



In collaboration with:









Gaston County and NCDOT are currently in the process of updating the County's Comprehensive Transportation Plan (CTP). The CTP is a long-range, multimodal plan that represents the County's vision for the transportation network over the next 25+ years. The CTP provides many benefits, including:

- Establishing a long-range vision
- Identifying current and future transportation needs
- Positioning the County to submit projects for prioritization and funding

### Gaston County Comprehensive Transportation Plan

### SCHEDULE

| TASK                          | 2024 |   |   |   | 2025 |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   | 2026 |  |  |
|-------------------------------|------|---|---|---|------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|------|--|--|
|                               | N    | D | J | F | M    | A | M | J | J | A | S | O | N | D | J | F | M    |  |  |
| Phase 1: CTP Set-Up           | ●    |   |   |   |      |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |      |  |  |
| Phase 2: Develop Vision       |      |   | ● | ● | ●    |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |      |  |  |
| Phase 3: System Assessment    |      |   |   |   | ●    | ● | ● | ● |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |      |  |  |
| Phase 4: Analyze Alternatives |      |   |   |   |      |   |   |   | ● |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |      |  |  |
| Phase 5: Develop Draft Plan   |      |   |   |   |      |   |   |   |   |   | ● | ● |   |   |   |   |      |  |  |
| Phase 6: Adopt Plan           |      |   |   |   |      |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   | ● |      |  |  |
| Phase 7: CTP Close-Out        |      |   |   |   |      |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |      |  |  |

● Internal Kickoff Meeting ● Work Group Meeting ● Public Meeting ● Stakeholder Coordination Meetings ● BOC Meeting

Public engagement will take place throughout the development of the Study.  
 Opportunities will include:



Project Website



Public Meetings



Stakeholder Interviews



Community Surveys



Social Media Engagement

Visit [gastonctp.com](https://gastonctp.com) to learn more.

**Questions or Comments?**  
 Contact County Project Manager Juan Garcia  
 704.866.3770 | [Juan.Garcia@gastongov.com](mailto:Juan.Garcia@gastongov.com) | Or email us from the project website



# Assessment Intent

# Assessment Intent

- CTP is a **needs-based** plan
- Should be mutually agreed upon needs
  - Is there a need?
  - Will the project meet the need?
  - Is accomplishing the project realistic?
- Identified needs not becoming projects are documented in the plan as unaddressed deficiencies
  - County does not want project
  - Environmental impacts are too great
  - Local interest but no need identified

# Assessment Intent

- CTP will include all STIP and MTP Projects
- Consider adding projects when...
  - Roadway is over capacity or near capacity
  - Project is justified for safety or resilience reasons
  - Project has inadequate or poor design
  - Project is recommended in a local adopted plan
  - There are gaps in connectivity
  - Public has expressed concern

Note: Consider context and feasibility of improvements

- Remove projects that lack justification

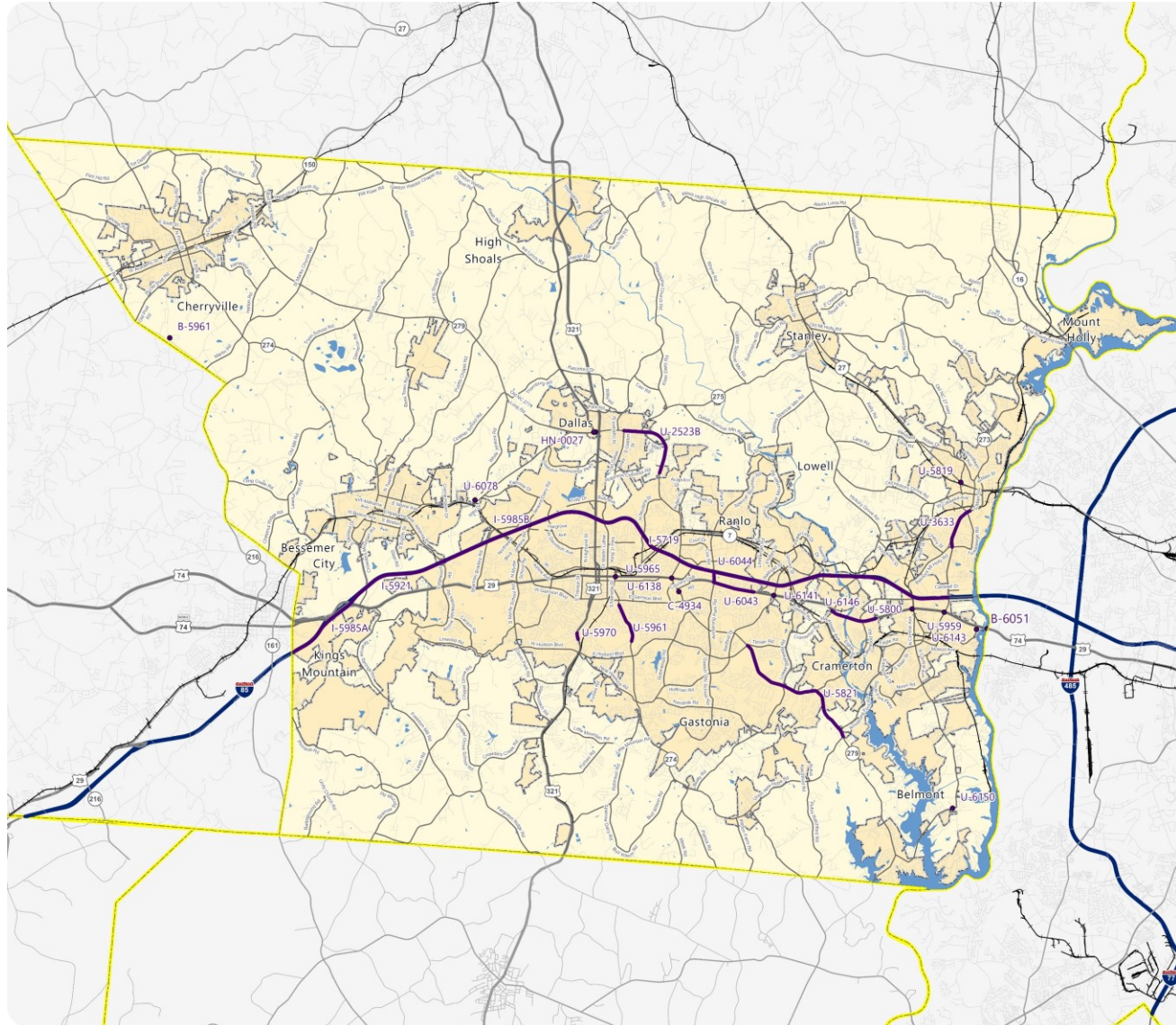


# Highway Assessment

# Identification of Initial Needs

- All STIP and MTP Projects Included
  - Preferred alternative in CTP will align with STIP and MTP
  - NCDOT and MPO reviewed projects for consistency
- All roads currently over capacity or anticipated to be over capacity
- Other considerations
  - Roads near capacity
  - Roads with safety issues
  - Roads that have flooded or are in flood hazard areas
  - Roads identified as high priority in NCDOT Resilience Improvement Plan (RIP)
  - Public concerns

# STIP Highway Projects



## 2024-2033 STIP HIGHWAY PROJECTS



## GASTON COUNTY

Comprehensive Transportation Plan

### STIP Project Features

- STIP Highway Points
- STIP Highway Lines
- Study Roads
- Interstate
- US Route
- NC Route
- Secondary Route or Local Road
- Railroad
- Waterbody
- Municipal Limits
- Planning Boundary
- County Boundary



WebAddress



0 0.75 1.5 3 4.5 6 Miles

Base map date: November 20, 2024

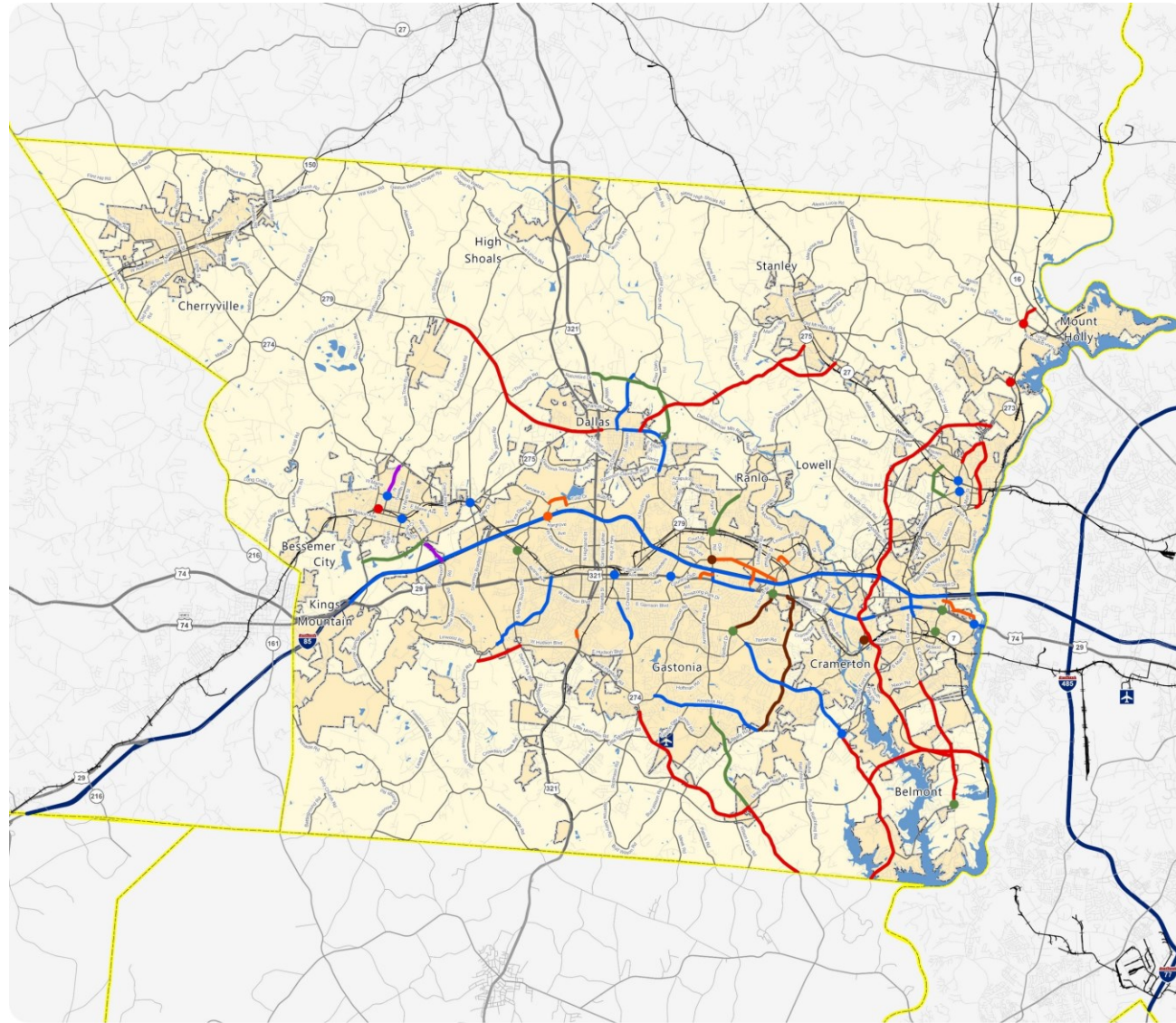
### Legal Disclaimer

These concepts will need additional analysis to meet state and federal environmental regulations, to determine final locations and designs, and to be funded for implementation. Local zoning or subdivision ordinances may require the dedication of right of way based on the concepts shown on the Comprehensive Transportation Plan and local collector street plans, based on N.C.G.S. § 136-66.2 and § 136-66.10.

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Plan Date: March 12, 2025



# MTP Highway Projects



## 2050 MTP HIGHWAY PROJECTS



## GASTON COUNTY Comprehensive Transportation Plan

### MTP Highway Project Features

|                                         |                |  |
|-----------------------------------------|----------------|--|
| <b>Widening / New Location Roadways</b> | Interstate     |  |
| 2025                                    | US Route       |  |
| 2035                                    | NC Route       |  |
| 2045                                    | Secondary      |  |
| 2050                                    | Route or Local |  |
| Unmet Need                              | Road           |  |
| Complete or                             | Railroad       |  |
| Removed                                 | Airport        |  |
| <b>Intersection / Interchange</b>       | Waterbody      |  |
| <b>Improvements</b>                     | Municipal      |  |
| 2025                                    | Limits         |  |
| 2035                                    | Planning       |  |
| 2045                                    | Boundary       |  |
| Unmet Need                              | County         |  |
| Complete or                             | Boundary       |  |
| Removed                                 |                |  |



WebAddress



0 0.75 1.5 3 4.5 6 Miles

Base map date: November 20, 2024

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Plan Date: March 12, 2025



## The logo for the Gaston County Comprehensive Transportation Plan. It features a circular emblem with a yellow upper half and a green lower half. The upper half contains a stylized landscape with a sun, a bird in flight, and a mountain range. The lower half contains a stylized road with a white dashed line, a car, a bicycle, and a pedestrian. The text "COMPREHENSIVE TRANSPORTATION PLAN" is written in a semi-circle above the emblem, and "GASTON COUNTY" is written in a semi-circle below the emblem.



### CTP Analysis and Information

Volume and Capacity Ratio Features  
(Base Year 2023)

|                         |                              |
|-------------------------|------------------------------|
| 2023 Volume<br>Capacity | Under Capacity<br>(0-0.79)   |
| 2023 Volume<br>Capacity | Near Capacity<br>(0.80-0.99) |
| 2023 Volume<br>Capacity | Over Capacity<br>(1.00+)     |



WebAddress



Sheet 1 of 2

Base map date: November 20, 2024

This product contains mapping data for informational and planning purposes only, and is subject to change. Users should review or consult the primary data sources to ascertain the usability of the information.

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Plan Date: March 12, 2025

- 9% over capacity
- 8% near capacity
- Belmont
  - NC-7
  - NC-273
- Cherryville
  - NC-150
- Dallas
  - NC-279
- Gastonia
  - US-321
  - NC-274
- Mt. Holly
  - NC-16
  - NC-27

# 2055 Volume and Capacity Deficiencies

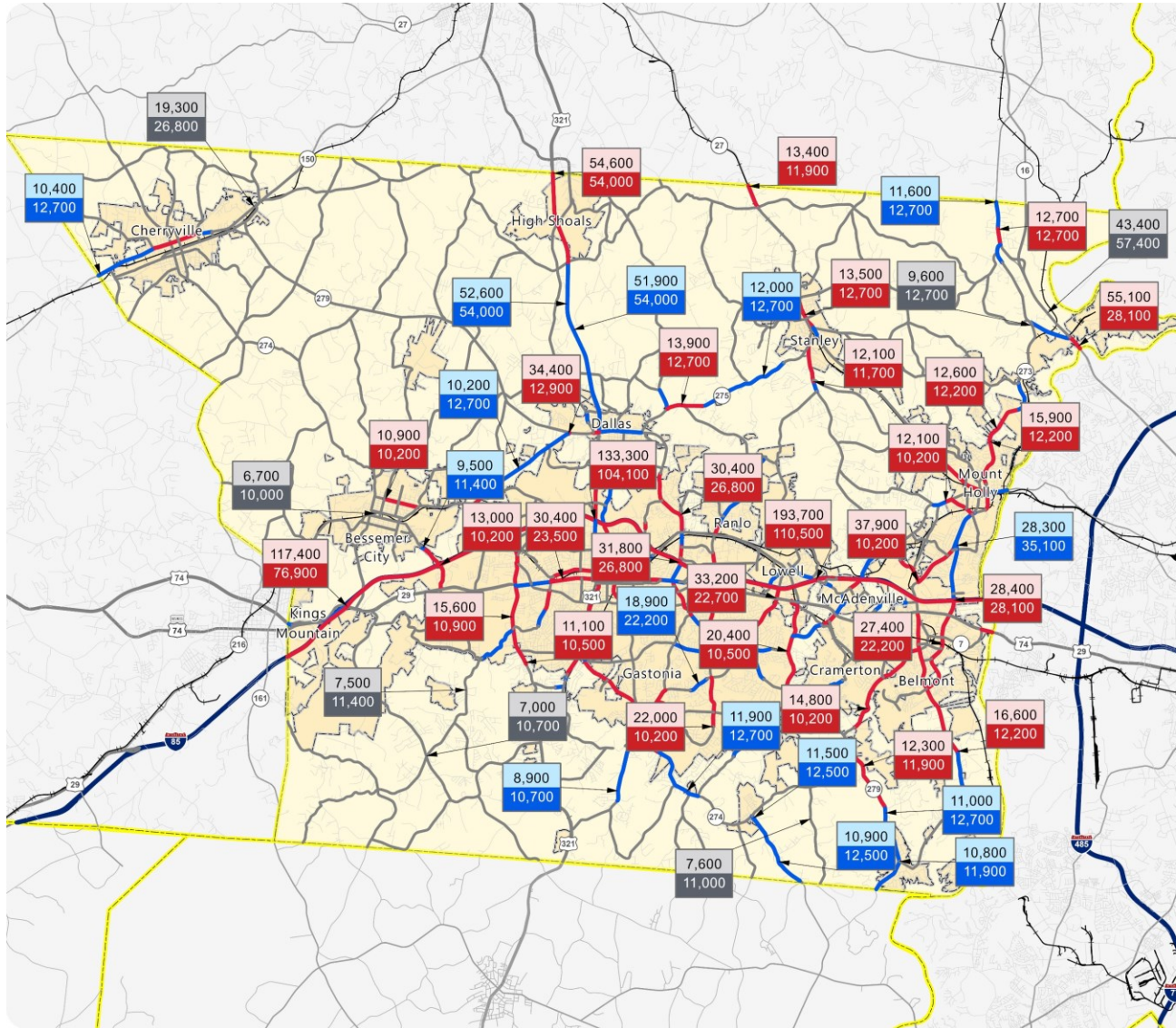


Figure 2  
2055 VOLUME AND CAPACITY DEFICIENCIES



## GASTON COUNTY CTP Analysis and Information

Volume and Capacity Ratio Features  
(Future Year 2055)

|                         |                              |
|-------------------------|------------------------------|
| 2055 Volume<br>Capacity | Under Capacity<br>(0-0.79)   |
| 2055 Volume<br>Capacity | Near Capacity<br>(0.80-0.99) |
| 2055 Volume<br>Capacity | Over Capacity<br>(1.00+)     |



WebAddress



0 0.75 1.5 3 4.5 6  
Miles

Sheet 2 of 2

Base map date: November 20, 2024

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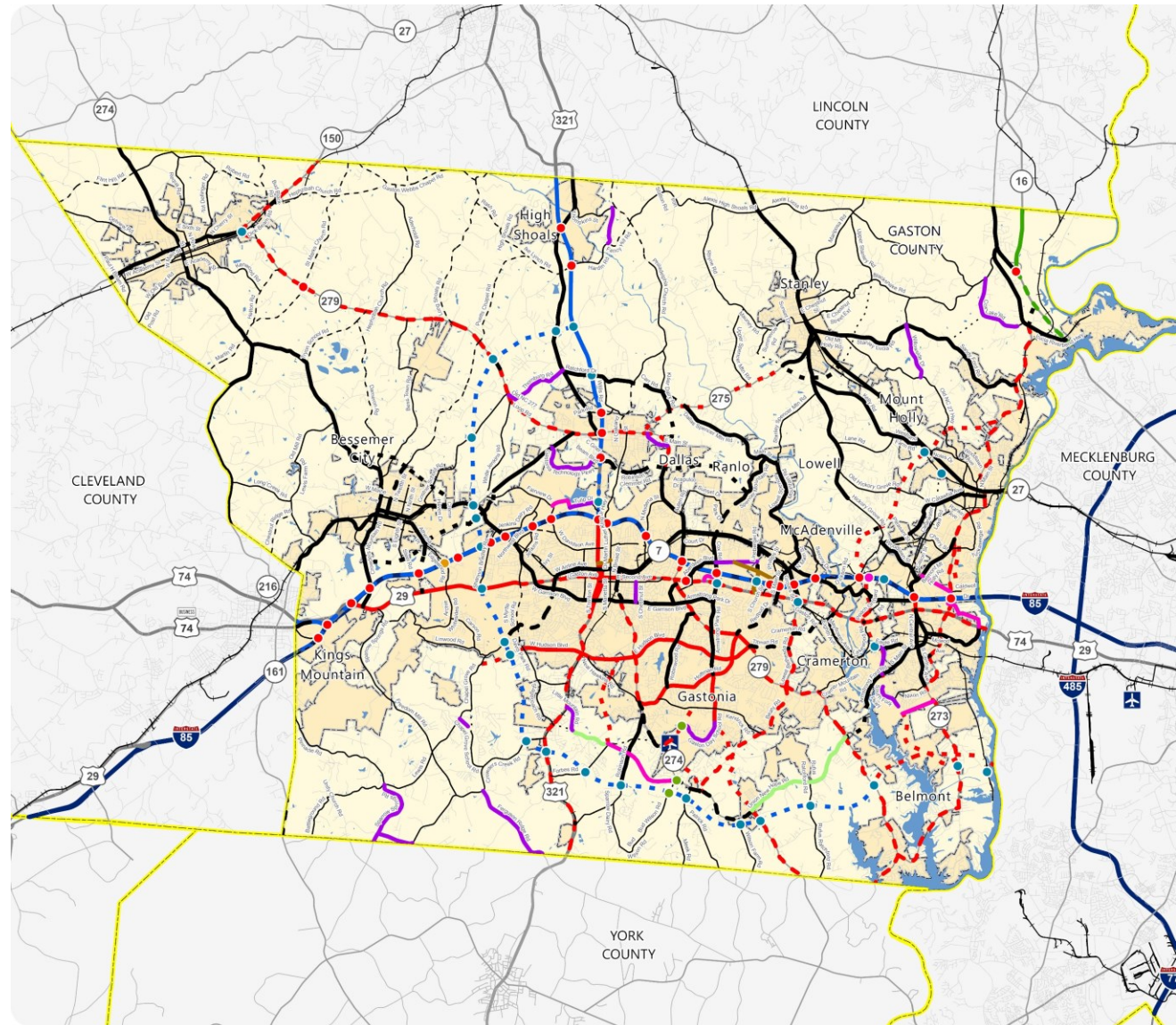
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Plan Date: March 12, 2025

- 18% over capacity
- 10% near capacity
- Belmont
  - Armstrong Ford Rd
  - Belmont Mt Holly Rd
  - Central Ave
  - NC-273
- Gastonia
  - Cox Rd
  - Gaston Day School Rd
  - Lowell Bethesda Rd
  - NC-279
  - US-321
  - US-74

# Other Considerations

- Safety
- Resilience
- Public Concerns

# Initial Changes to Current CTP (After SC Meeting #1)



## RECOMMENDED CHANGES TO CTP HIGHWAY MAP



### GASTON COUNTY

#### Comprehensive Transportation Plan

Current CTP and Recommended Changes

| Highways                         | Recommended CTP Changes                   |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|
| Freeway Existing                 | Add as Existing                           |
| Freeway Needs Improvement        | Add as Recommended                        |
| Expressway Recommended           | Change to Needs Improvement               |
| Expressway Existing              | Improve                                   |
| Expressway Needs Improvement     | Remove                                    |
| Boulevard Existing               | Add as Recommended                        |
| Boulevard Needs Improvement      | Change from Existing to Needs Improvement |
| Boulevard Recommended            | Interstate                                |
| Major Existing                   | US Route                                  |
| Major Needs Improvement          | NC Route                                  |
| Major Recommended                | Secondary Routes and Local Roads          |
| Minor Existing                   | Railroad                                  |
| Minor Needs Improvement          | Airport                                   |
| Minor Recommended                | Waterbody                                 |
| Interchanges & Grade Separations | Municipal Limits                          |
| Existing                         | Planning Boundary                         |
| Proposed                         | County Boundary                           |
| Unknown                          |                                           |



WebAddress



0 0.75 1.5 3 4.5 6 Miles

Base map date: November 20, 2024

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Plan Date: March 04, 2025



# Needs Identification Activity

- Resource Maps
  - Study Roads
  - Facility Types
  - Current CTP Highway
  - Recommended Changes to CTP Map (after SC Meeting #1)
  - 2050 MTP Projects
  - 2024-2033 STIP Projects (January 2025)
  - 2023 and 2055 Volume and Capacity Deficiencies
  - Planning Level Crash Locations
  - Resilience

# Group Questions

- Are there projects that should be removed from CTP?
  - Is there a need?
  - Is the project feasible?
- Are there projects that should be added to the CTP?
  - What is the need?
  - How will the project meet the need?
- Assumption is that intersections will be improved as a part of roadway projects. Are any stand-alone intersection projects needed?



# Bike and Ped Assessment

# Identification of Initial Needs

- All STIP and MTP Projects Included
  - CTP will align with MTP and STIP
- All Projects Reflected in a Local Adopted Plan (Not on a Local Road) Will Be Included
- Project Connects Key Destinations

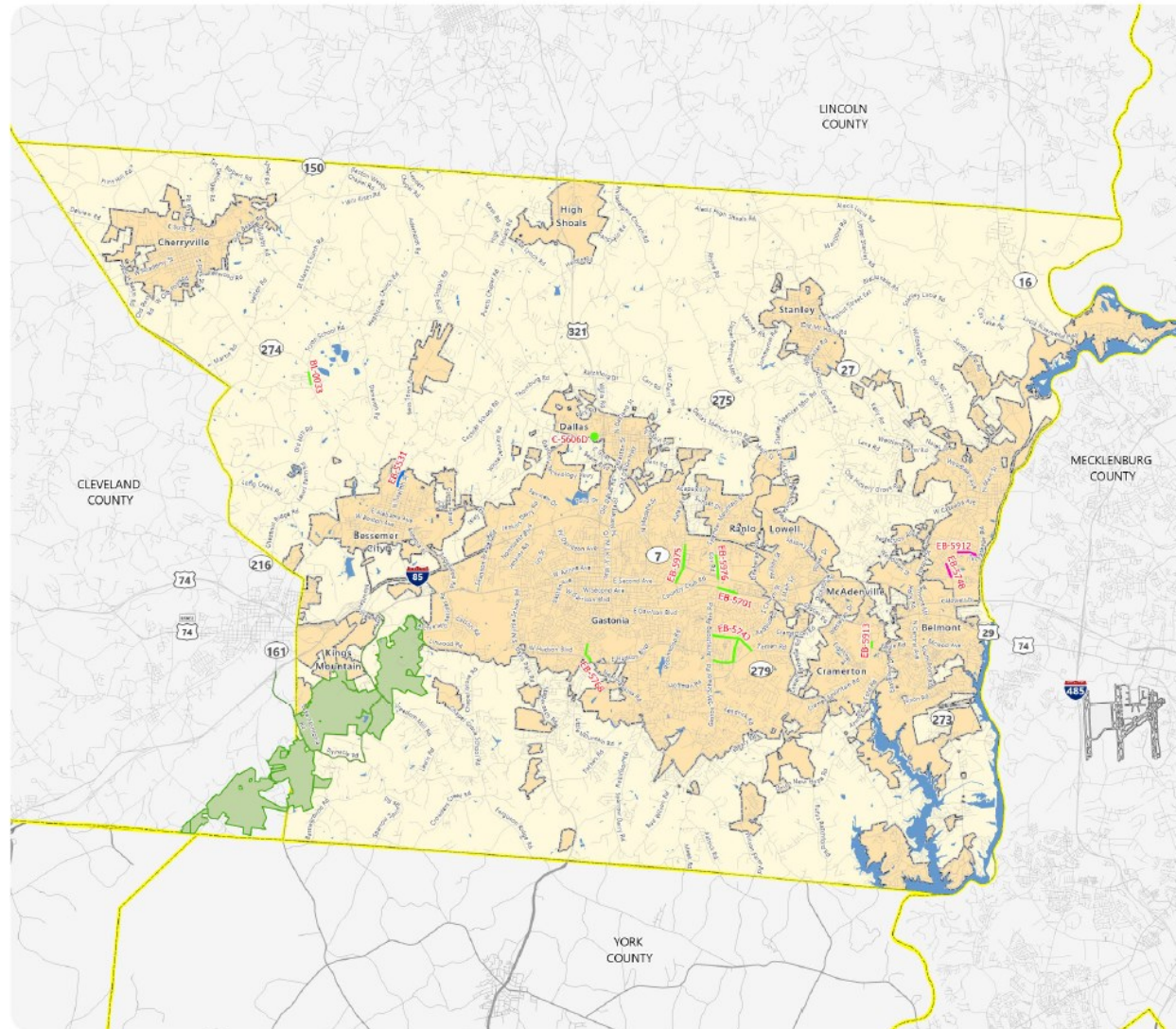
Note: All facilities shown as existing in current CTP will be carried forward to CTP update; existing facilities will also be updated

# Local Plans

- Belmont
  - Bicycle Master Plan
  - Pedestrian Plan Update
  - Vision Zero Plan
- Bessemer City
  - Pedestrian Plan
- Cramerton
  - Bicycle Plan
  - Pedestrian Master Plan
- Dallas
  - Bicycle & Pedestrian Plan
- Gastonia
  - Comp Pedestrian Plan
  - Comp Bicycle Plan
- Lowell
  - Bicycle & Pedestrian Plan
- Mount Holly
  - Comp Pedestrian Plan
  - Bicycle Plan
- Carolina Thread Trail
  - Master Plan for Gaston County



# STIP Bike-Ped Projects



## STIP PROJECTS BIKE & PEDESTRIAN



## GASTON COUNTY

CTP Analysis and Information

### STIP Project Features

Bike & Pedestrian STIP  
Year Funded  
2019-2022  
2023-2025  
2026-2028

Waterbody  
State Park  
Municipal Limits  
Planning Boundary  
County Boundary



0 0.75 1.5 3 4.5 6 Miles

Base map date: November 20, 2024

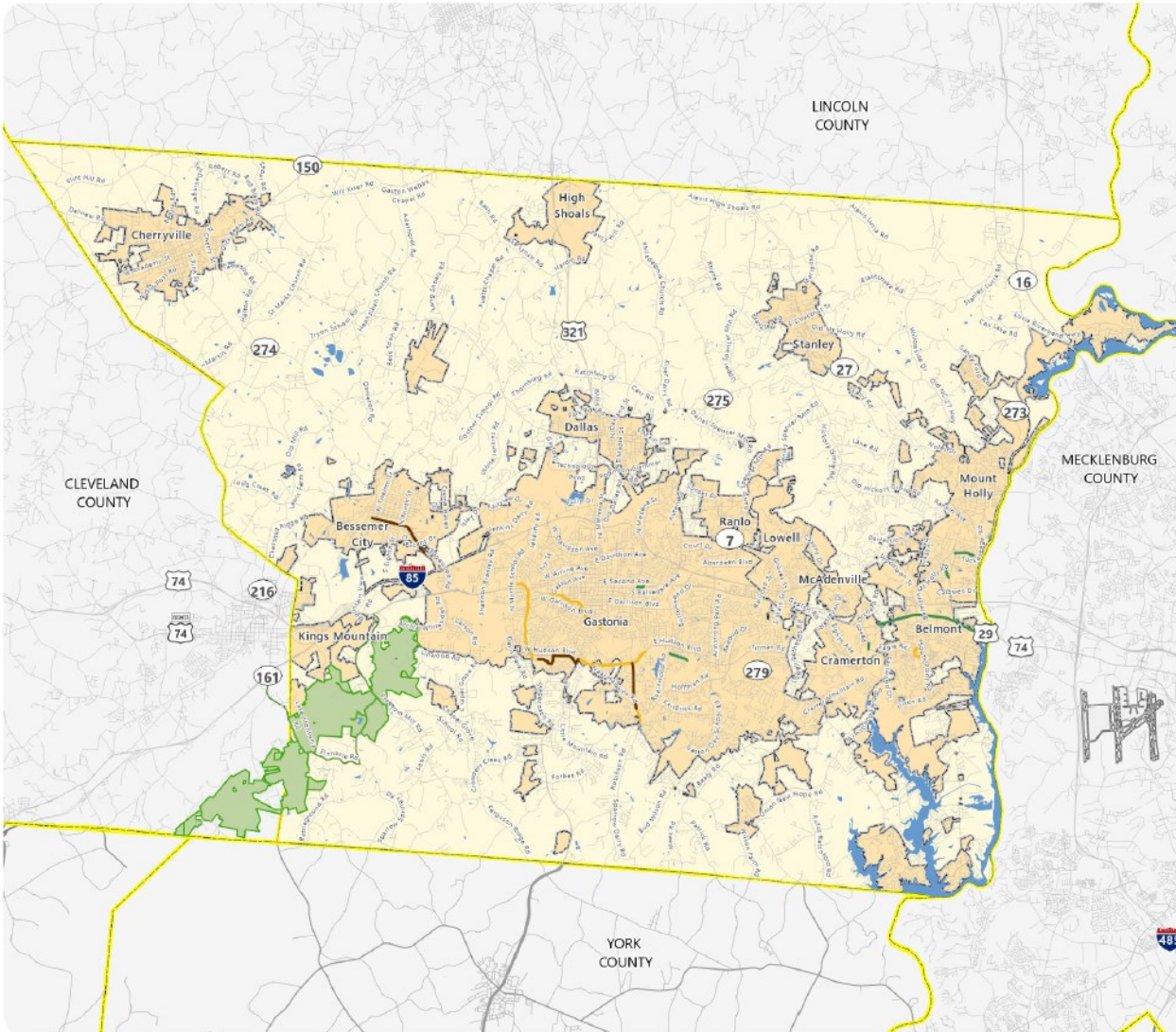
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Plan Date: March 11, 2025



# MTP Bike-Ped Projects



## 2050 MTP PROJECTS BIKE & PEDESTRIAN



## GASTON COUNTY

CTP Analysis and Information

MTP Project Features

|                         |                   |        |
|-------------------------|-------------------|--------|
| MTP Bike and Pedestrian | Waterbody         | Blue   |
| Year Funded             | State Park        | Green  |
| 2026-2035               | Planning Boundary | Orange |
| 2036-2045               | Municipal Limits  | Yellow |
| 2046-2050               | County Boundary   | Yellow |



0 0.75 1.5 3 4.5 6 Miles

Base map date: November 20, 2024

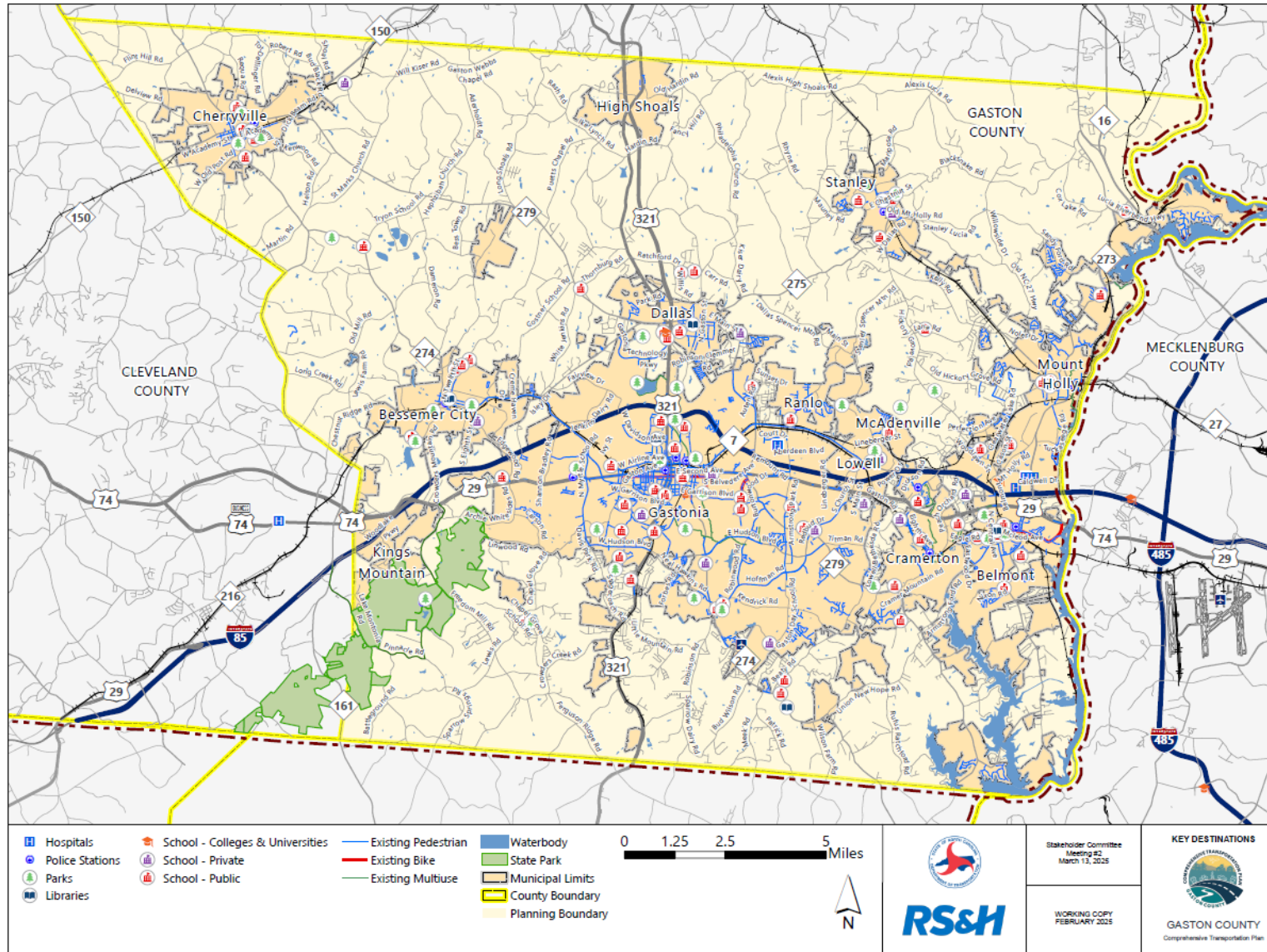
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Plan Date: March 06, 2025



# Key Destinations



# Needs Identification Activity

- Resource Maps
  - Current CTP Pedestrian
  - Current CTP Bicycle
  - 2050 MTP Projects
  - 2024-2033 STIP Projects (January 2025)
  - Key Destinations
  - Bicycle and Pedestrian Crash

# Group Questions

- Do you have GIS shapefiles of existing or recommended bike/ped infrastructure from your local plans that you could share?
- Are there bike/sidewalk/trail projects that have been recently constructed in your jurisdiction that are not shown as existing?
- Are there any projects noted in your local plans that are no longer feasible or desired?
- In terms of nomenclature, we recommend using multi-use paths for standalone facilities, such as greenways. Along roadways, if both bicycle and pedestrian facilities are desired, we recommend using the Bicycle and Pedestrian classification. Are there concerns with this recommendation?



# Public Transportation and Rail Assessment

# Identification of Initial Needs

- All STIP and MTP Projects Included
  - CTP will align with MTP and STIP
- Project Reflected in a Local Adopted Plan

Note: All facilities shown as existing in current CTP will be carried forward to CTP update; existing facilities will also be updated

# Local Plans

- CONNECT Beyond
- NCDOT Passenger Rail Service Development Plans (SDP)
  - Kings Mountain-Charlotte
  - Atlanta-Charlotte High Speed Rail Project
- LYNX Silver Line

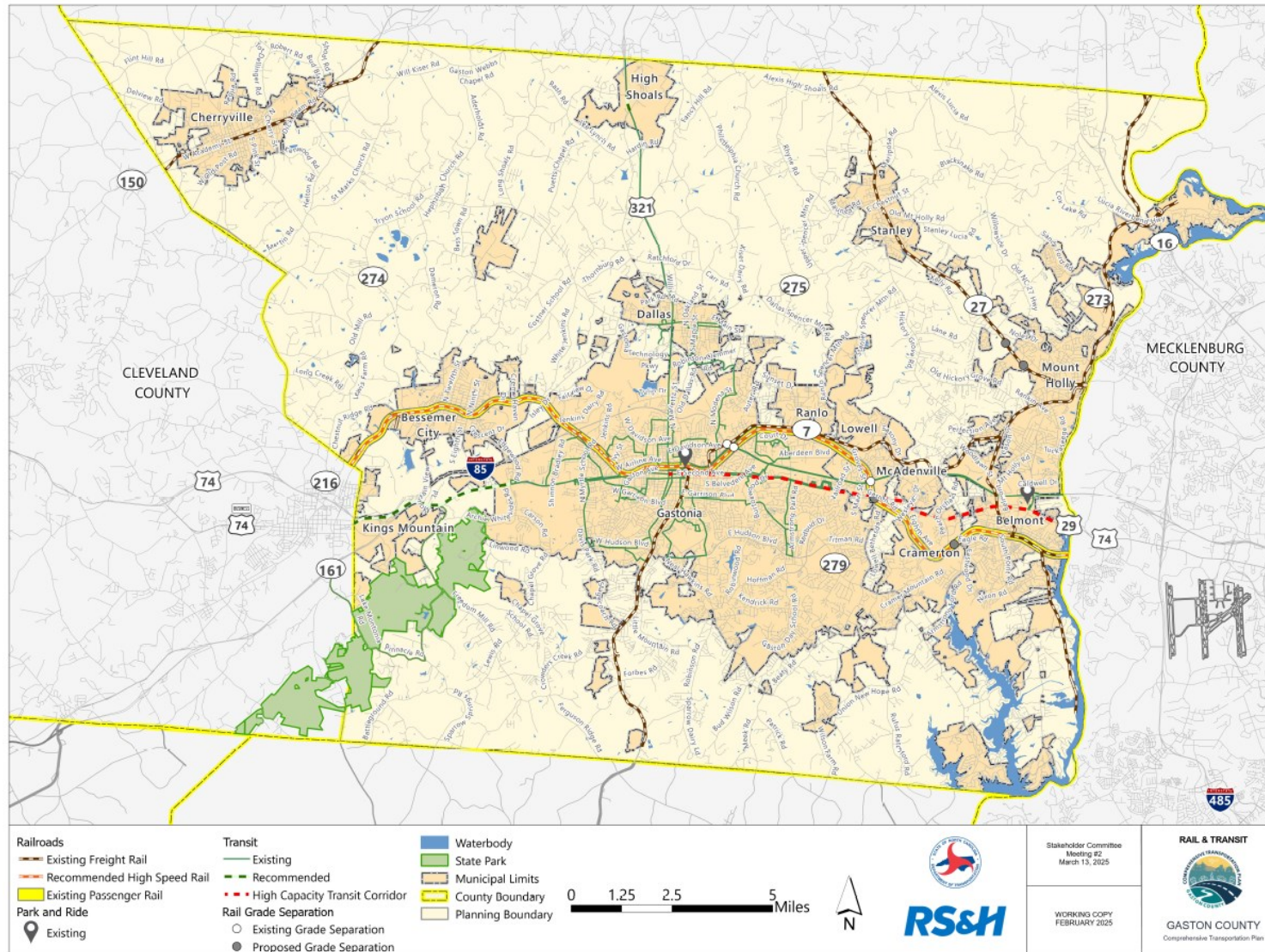
# STIP Public Transportation/Rail Projects

- None Relevant to CTP

# MTP Public Transportation/Rail Projects

- None Relevant to CTP

# Projects in Local Plans



# Needs Identification Activity

- Resource Maps
  - Current CTP Public Transportation & Rail
  - CONNECT Beyond Recommendations

# Group Questions

- What recommendations from CONNECT Beyond should be included as projects?
  - High-Capacity Transit Corridors
  - Emerging Mobility Corridors
  - Commuter Rail Corridors
  - Mobility Hubs
- Show Express Bus Service on map?



# Next Steps

# Next Steps

- Finalize Needs Lists by Mode
- In-Person Public Meeting
- Summarize Public Input
- Analyze Alternatives

# Q & A