

Hybrid Buses arrive in Winston-Salem Cleaner, quieter and a new look for WSTA!



The Winston-Salem Transit Authority (WSTA) used federal Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) funds to purchase ten new green technology buses. Emphasizing their environmentally friendly features with an eye-catching color scheme for the entire fleet, the buses hit the streets of Winston-Salem in mid-February. The buses have a diesel-electric hybrid powertrain that lowers fuel consumption and significantly reduces emissions of carbon monoxide, nitrogen oxide and particulate matter. Another major benefit is a reduction in noise. The new buses are quiet and less polluting because a battery gets the bus rolling and a smaller diesel engine provides power to the already moving vehicle avoiding the loud, heavily polluting engine demands of starting up a conventional bus. Other new features include foldout platforms for the disabled and proximity card reader fare boxes.

The WSTA Board has resolved to purchase hybrids exclusively for the large bus fleet. The next 10 buses will arrive this December. Although the hybrids cost more than conventional buses, \$580,000 versus \$330,000, the City portion of the federal match is 5%. Art Barnes, WSTA General Manager, noted an estimated fuel savings of \$145,000 to \$232,000 a year depending on operating mileage. The City could recoup its cost to buy the 20 buses in less than three years.

MPO ARRA Stimulus Road Projects

American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA) Road Projects

Pavement Rehabilitation Projects

I-5132 Interstate 40 from Harper Road to Jonestown Road

Project Status Update

98% Complete

Intersection Improvements and Resurfacing

R-2201	Main Street widening in King	38% Complete
U-4742	Shattalon Dr widening from Murray Rd to Bright Oak Ave in Winston-Salem including bus shelter	60% Complete
U-4742KA	Concord Church Rd Roundabout Reconstruction in Lewisville	30% Complete
U-5144A	Northwest Boulevard Resurfacing, Bike Lanes & Sidewalk in Winston-Salem	Completed
U-5144B	US 421 in Forsyth County from Williams Road to Yadkin River bridge	90% Complete
R-5174A	US 52 in Stokes County to match with R-2201 Main Street in King	Preconstruction
On various	Federal-aid routes	
R-5171	Davidson County	Completed
R-5172	Davie/Davidson Counties	Completed
R-5174	Stokes County	90% Complete

Other Projects

U-5195	Dynamic Message Sign Replacement on Interstate 40	Preconstruction
ER-5100	Interstate 40 Landscape Beds planting and rehabilitation	95% Complete

Planning and Roadway Update

Reformed Transportation Improvement Program (STIP)

NCDOT used the new strategic planning process, SPOT, to develop an initial ranking of Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) projects by category for the 5 to 10 Year Work Program. The draft list was issued in late February using traffic congestion, pavement condition, road safety, priority input from MPOs and NCDOT staff and other data to determine rankings for all transportation modes in the STIP. The urban loop projects are being prioritized using congestion, safety, economic impact and construction cost as factors. The draft STIP will be released with the final step of fiscal constraint applied to the prioritized projects.

STIP Process Timeframe

Reformed STIP Steps to Adoption	Schedule
Release of the Draft STIP to Public Including Committed projects and 5 to 10 year Work Program	July/August 2010
Loop Prioritization List	August 2010
MPO and NCDOT Stakeholder Meetings	Fall 2010
Air Quality Conformity Analysis	Winter 2011
Final Reformed STIP Adopted by NC Board of Transportation	June/July 2011
Federal Air Quality Conformity Deadline	October 2011

Comprehensive Transportation Plan (CTP) Update

The MPO adopted the Comprehensive Transportation Plan (CTP) including the Highway, Public Transportation and Rail, and Bicycle Maps on September 17, 2009 with adoption by the North Carolina Board of Transportation on December 10, 2009. The Highway portion of the CTP was a conversion of the old Thoroughfare Plan without updates or changes to the roadway system other than conforming to the functional classification system established by NCDOT.

Last fall, the MPO began working with a Street and Highway Steering Committee to begin a full update of the plan with policy changes that include removing, adding, realigning and changing future cross-sections based on projected future volumes and congestion.

CTP Process Schedule

CTP Tasks	Schedule
Brief TAC on CTP Progress Policy Changes to Street & Highway Map Street and Highway Congested Facilities	July 15, 2010
Data Collection for Street & Highway Table Produce draft Street & Highway Table Fieldwork to update pedestrian database Work with NCDOT to develop draft CTP Pedestrian Map	Summer 2010
Present Draft Highway and Pedestrian Maps and Technical Report to TAC	Sept. 2010
Public Review of Draft CTP documents	October 2010
Adoption of CTP Maps and Technical Report	January 2011

Bicycle & Pedestrian Projects

Cycling Sunday

On May 2nd, a sunny and hot Sunday, over 400 people came to Winston-Salem with bicycles, scooters, rollerblades, skateboards and unicycles to enjoy a traffic free ride on the downtown streets.

The second Cycling Sunday was a great success with an afternoon full of activities and programs for adults and children. Matthew Burczyk, MPO Bicycle and Pedestrian Planner, worked with bike shop owners, interest groups, and dozens of volunteers to plan and carry out the event. With the growth in popularity, planning has begun for a third Cycling Sunday to be held in late September or early October.



Students from the Whitaker Elementary Unicycle Club perform tricks for the crowd.



Families enjoy circling 4th Street.

ARRA Stimulus Pedestrian and Bicycle Improvements



New Walkertown Rd at Overlook Dr before ARRA project improvements.



New Walkertown Rd at Overlook Dr sidewalk improvements from Waterworks Rd to Spaulding Dr including a bus shelter for WSTA Route 1.

MPO ARRA Stimulus Projects Completed in 2009-2010

Resurfacing

Northwest Boulevard - Bike Lanes & Sidewalk Winston-Salem

Sidewalks

Morris St. (New Walkertown Rd. to Old Hollow Rd.) Walkertown
 East Friendly Rd. (Main St. to Willoughby Dr.) Walkertown
 New Walkertown Rd. (Waterworks Rd. to Spaulding Dr.)
 Winston-Salem*

Peters Creek Pkwy. (I-40 to Brewer Rd.) Winston-Salem*
 Oakhurst St. (Cherry St. to Lambeth Farm Ln.) Kernersville
 Broad & Park Sts. (Paso to Wall & NC 66 to Church) Rural Hall
 Middlebrook Dr. (Greenbrook Dr. to Idols Rd.) Clemmons

* Includes Bus Shelter



The repaving of Northwest Boulevard included parking and bicycle lanes from Hawthorne Road to Reynolda Road.

**Winston-Salem Urban Area
Metropolitan Planning Organization**
P.O. Box 2511
Winston-Salem, North Carolina 27102

2010 MPO Meeting Dates

July 15, 2010
September 16, 2010
November 18, 2010

TAC meets at 4:15 p.m. 5th Floor Meeting Room
TCC meets at 2:00 p.m. 2nd Floor Conference Room
Bryce A. Stuart Municipal Building, First and Church Streets, Winston-Salem

MPO's New Engineering Technician



Chad Aldridge joined the MPO staff as the new Engineering Technician in the Winston-Salem Department of Transportation on June 21, 2010.

Chad is a native of Winston-Salem and has been with the Winston-Salem DOT for four years in the Operations unit. His immediate duties will include producing bicycle striping plans for repaving projects, assisting in the completion of the Transit Authority bus stop and bus shelter inventory, and conducting field work to update the sidewalk and pedestrian facilities database.

Northern Beltway Lawsuit Ends

Federal District Court Judge Thomas Schroeder rendered a decision on Wednesday, May 21, 2010 to dismiss two lawsuits filed in 1999 and 2008 challenging the Northern Beltway Environmental Impact Statement.

The construction schedule for the Northern Beltway project will depend upon the outcome of a Loop Prioritization process that is currently under review and comment with the North Carolina Department of Transportation Strategic Planning Office. The priority assigned to the Northern Beltway will then determine when funding will be available through the Highway Trust Fund to resume the project.

The Eastern Section of the Beltway from US 52 to US 311 is part of the proposed Interstate 74 corridor and will be the first part of the freeway to be built. The segment from Business 40 to U.S. 158 near Walkertown was in Right-of-Way acquisition prior to the second lawsuit being filed, and NCDOT will now be able to proceed with hardship acquisition of property throughout the highway corridor.



Contact Us



**City of Winston-Salem
Department of Transportation**
Phone: 336-727-2708 Fax: 336-748-3370
Website: dot.cityofws.org

Stan Polanis, Director

Technical Coordinating Committee Chair
stanp@cityofws.org

Connie Curtis, P.E., Deputy Director
Operations Manager

conniec@cityofws.org

Greg Errett, AICP

Planning Development Coordinator
MPO Manager

grege@cityofws.org ph. 747-6871

Wendy Miller, ASLA, Principal Planner

Long Range Planning, Newsletter
wendym@cityofws.org ph. 747-6878

Lakesha Dunbar, Civil Engineer

Congestion Management and Environ. Justice
lakeshad@cityofws.org ph. 747-6877

Fredrick Haith, Civil Engineer

Modeling and Northern Beltway Contact
fredrickh@cityofws.org ph. 747-6865

Phillip Vereen, Transit Project Planner

Transit Planning Liaison
phillipv@cityofws.org ph. 747-6882

Matthew Burczyk, Project Planner

Bicycle and Pedestrian Facilities
mattbk@cityofws.org ph. 747-6884

Kevin Edwards, Planner

Street and Highway Planning, Website
kevine@cityofws.org ph. 747-6881

Myra Stafford, Sr. Engineering Technician

Sidewalk Construction
myras@cityofws.org ph. 747-6831

Chad Aldridge, Engineering Technician

Mapping and GIS Data Management
chada@cityofws.org ph. 747-6885

Art Barnes, General Manager

Winston-Salem Transit Authority
Abarnes@wstransit.com
Phone: 336-727-8131 Fax: 336-727-8104

Margaret Bessette, AICP, Principal Planner

Transportation Advisory Committee Secretary
margb@cityofws.org

Amy Crum, Project Planner

Greenway Planning
amyc@cityofws.org

City County Planning Board
Phone: 336-727-2087 Fax: 336-748-3163