



### **RPO Technical Coordinating Committee**

**[Join LOSRPO TCC Meeting](#)**

Meeting Id: 824 6125 2058

Passcode: 158661 Call in: 646 558 8656 US

Minutes from the RPO TCC September 11<sup>th</sup>, 2025, Meeting

#### **Remote and in Person Attendance:**

William High	Vicki Eastland
Aaron Bland	Daniel Sellers
Chris Medlin	Asha Rado (Minutes)
Jodie Ferguson	Troy Wilson
Steve Williams	Doug Phillips
Stephen Sparks	Jeff Adams
Jeremy Chapman	Hasan Obias
John Hunter	

#### **WELCOME AND HOUSEKEEPING**

Vicki Eastland called the meeting to order at approximately 10:02am, welcomed everyone, and roll was called. A quorum was announced to conduct business.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Vicki Eastland opened the floor for public comment. No public comments were received.

#### **CONSENT AGENDA**

August 2025 Meeting Minutes:

<https://landofskyrpo.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/08/LOSRPO-TCC-8-14-25-Agenda.pdf>

***William High moved to approve the agenda, consent agenda including the August 2025 TCC Meeting Minutes. Steve Williams seconded and the motion passed upon a unanimous roll call vote.***



## **RPO BUSINESS**

### **4A. LOSRPO Prioritization 8.0 Project List**

The North Carolina Board of Transportation at their July 2025 meeting adopted the 2026

- 2035 The State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP). The STIP is North Carolina's document that reflects planned transportation investments over a ten-year period. The STIP describes each project, has a schedule for implementation, funding sources, and estimated costs.

NCDOT updates the STIP on a two-year cycle based on projects selected for funding from the NCDOT Prioritization process. This is the process in North Carolina that helps determine the majority of transportation improvements across the State. The process is dictated by the [Strategic Transportation Investments Act \(STI\) 2012](#) and is generally designed to be a data-driven, transparent process to determine what transportation projects are funded or not. The adoption of the new STIP triggers the beginning to the next Prioritization cycle, **P8.0**.

RPO's, MPO's and NCDOT Divisions work with local partners to select projects to be submitted for consideration for funding, (inclusion in the next STIP). Projects from all modes are submitted and will be scored based on the mode, facility type, proposed improvements, and compete for any available funding.

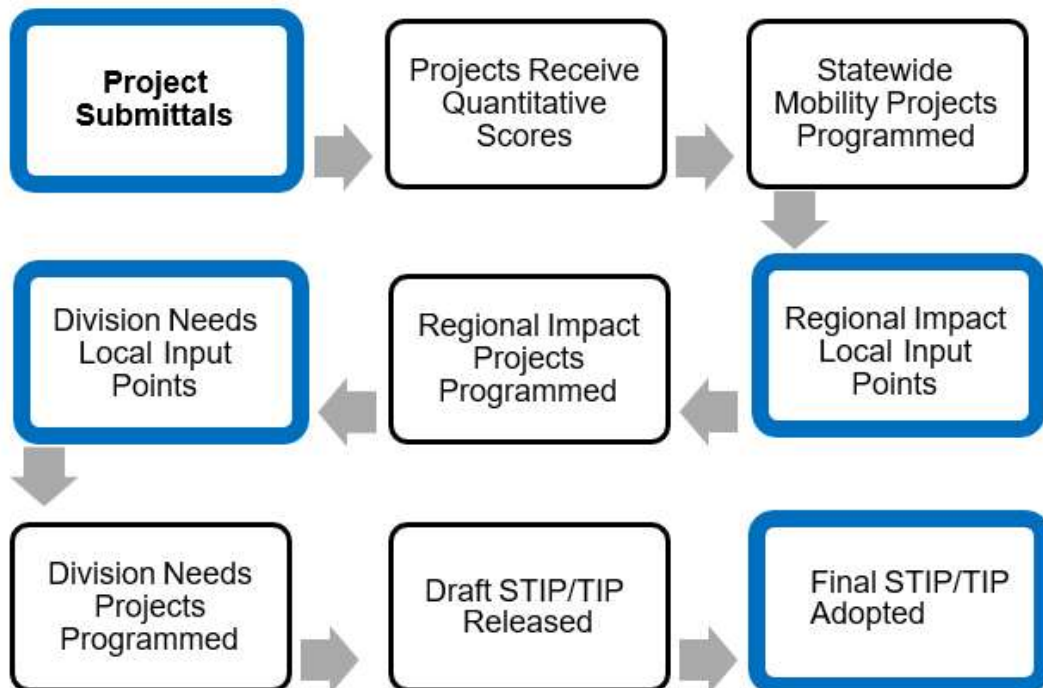
The outcome of Prioritization 8.0, P8.0 will be the 2028 – 2037 State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP).

Projects submitted in the Land of Sky RPO planning area can be RPO submittals, LOSRPO has 11 submittal slots for each mode in P 8.0. Division 13 or 14 submittals, each division get 10 submittal slots for each mode in P8.0. And carryover projects, LOSRPO has no carryover projects in P8.0.

There are several steps in the prioritization process. See the illustration below with RPO tasks circled in **BLUE**: We are currently at Step one Project Submittal.

The LOSRPO DRAFT P8.0 Project list will be available at [LOSRPO-DRAFT-P8.0-Project- List-09032025](#)

# RURAL PLANNING RURAL ORGANIZATION



Current timeline for P8.0.

Prioritization Task	Estimated Date
Prioritization Workgroup meets	October 2024 - June, 2025
NC Board of Transportation Adopts Methodology	July, 2025
SPOT Online Go-live Project submittal window opens	July 2025 – September, 2025
NCDOT Data Review and Scoring	October 2025 – April, 2026
Project Prioritization Public Survey (TPD)	Winter - Spring 2026
DRAFT Statewide Programmed Projects and SPOT Scores Released	End of May 2026
Regional Impact Local Input Points Window	June - August, 2026
DRAFT Regional Impact Programmed Projects Released	Sept, 2026
Division Needs Local Input Points Window	October – December, 2026
Program Division Needs Projects	January 2027 – March, 2027
DRAFT 2028-2037 STIP Released	March, 2027

Discussion did not occur.



***Steve Williams moved to approve the recommendation of the P8 Project List to the RPO Board with knowledge some small things might change. William High seconded and it passed unanimously upon a roll call vote.***

**Item 4B: NCDOT Functional Classification Change Request Form Post 2020 Census**

Our nation's roadway system is a vast network that connects places and people within and across national borders. Planners and engineers have developed elements of this network with particular travel objectives in mind. These objectives range from serving long-distance passenger and freight needs to serving neighborhood travel from residential developments to nearby shopping centers. The functional classification of roadways defines the role each element of the roadway network plays in serving these travel needs."

-FHWA Highway Functional Classification Concepts, Criteria and Procedures, 2023 Edition

NCDOT maintains the Federal Functional Classification (FC) System based on consultation with the planning organizations and approval of FHWA.

The classifications from those serving mostly long-range trips to those serving local traffic are in this order

- Interstates
- Other Freeways and Expressways
- Principal Arterial
- Minor Arterial
- Major Collector
- Minor Collector
- Local Roads

**Application  
of Functional Classification System**

- Federal legislation continues to use functional classification in determining eligibility for funding under the Federal-aid program. With more funds allocated to higher classifications.
- Statistics derived from the federal roadway databases are organized around functional classification.
- Secondary Functional Classification Uses Nationally
- Program and Project Prioritization
- Asset Management
- Safety Programs

# RURAL PLANNING ORGANIZATION

- Highway Design
- Bridge Programs
- Traffic Control
- Maintenance
- Highway Design

Functional Class changes can be made at any time. FHWA has opened a window for bulk changes to FC in response to the census. The window closes November 1, 2025 NCDOT is looking for any official request from planning organizations in middle September so we can finalize an application. If a request is missed or controversial, it can be made later.

- NCDOT assembled a Functional Classification System Revision Committee
- Each facility's current functional class, hierarchy in the network, and latest AADT were reviewed
- Results were sent to staff at end of June
- TPD and PO staff refined the concepts in July and August
- Shapefile and Table prepared for FHWA Approximately half of the proposals are additions and half changes.
- New Roads added to the system
- Classifications extended to serve new growth
- Several Minor Collectors proposed expanding coverage into underserved areas
- Roads adjusted to fit hierarchy so that there are smooth and logical transitions
- Technical Fixes added where Classifications stop short or overshoot intersections, interchanges, and grade separations
- Two segments removed that were not roads

A list of Proposed Functional Classification changes for LOSRPO can be reviewed in this document.

[LOSRPO-  
NCDOTFunctionalClassificationChangeRequestFormPostCensus\\_2025Aug28](#)

Discussion did not occur.

***William High moved to recommend the proposed changes to the Board. Steve Williams seconded and it passed upon a roll call vote.***

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Aaron Bland opened the floor a second time for public comment. No public comments were received.

LAND OF SKY

# RURAL PLANNING ORGANIZATION

## **REGULAR UPDATES**

- |   |                    |
|---|--------------------|
| A. NCDOT Division 13 and 14 updates<br><a href="https://landofskyrpo.org/division-13-updates/">https://landofskyrpo.org/division-13-updates/</a><br><a href="https://landofskyrpo.org/division-14-updates/">https://landofskyrpo.org/division-14-updates/</a> | Division Staff     |
| B. NCDOT Transportation Planning Division Updates<br><a href="https://landofskyrpo.org/ncdot-tpd-news/">https://landofskyrpo.org/ncdot-tpd-news/</a>  | Daniel Sellers, PE |
| C. Staff Updates  | Vicki Eastland     |

## **ADJOURNMENT**

***Aaron Bland adjourned the meeting at 10:45AM as there was no further business.***