

**Transportation Planning Division
Project update
July 22, 2015**

On-going

- **RADTIP**
 - The design process for RADTIP is ongoing.
 - The target date to begin right-of-way acquisition is September of 2015.
 - The start of construction is targeted for 2017.
 - Consultants will deliver 65% complete design plans in August 2015.
 - Staff review of construction plans is ongoing.
 - Public meeting anticipated in late August of 2015.

- **East of the Riverway Transportation Network Plan**
 - Set aside for Livingston project.
 - Still pending a few final changes, mostly maps.

- **JARC Signals Design contract**
 - Locations:
 - Louisiana & Haywood Rd
 - McDowell & Choctaw
 - South Charlotte & Biltmore
 - Firming up funding to move forward with two of three signals. Budget amendment for the local match portion and still waiting for FTA on the federal portion.

- **Asheville in Motion Plan.**
 - POC meeting on June 25
 - Presentation to the MMTC on July 22.

- **French Broad River Greenway West-** French Broad River Greenway (Duke Energy property) and connection between FBR Park and Carrier Park
 - The Grilling on Greenways meeting on June 27th was a big success. Nearly 100 people attended the drop-in meeting to gather information from the designers who represented their greenway work. There were 6 greenways on display for review. We gathered input via comment sheets. The spreadsheet with the transcribed comments is available upon request.
 - The FBR West Greenway is at 25% completion. We should see the drawings Monday (July 20).

- **ISO 14000 - ART**
 - Second audit on August 18-19.

- **ADA restructuring**
 - No updates

- **Bike Corral on Haywood**
 - In front of Bledsoe Bldg, between crosswalk and signal pole
 - Encroachment agreement with NCDOT in place for simple corral
 - Presented revision proposal by AoB

- **Watch for Me NC Ped/Bike Safety Campaign**
 - Coalition now includes BC Sheriff
 - Preparation, training and education over summer
 - Expect main campaign to begin in August
 - Program includes education for all modes and yielding enforcement

New

- **Transit Station repairs**
 - Evaluation process.

Other efforts

- **TIGER VI grant application**
 - Awarded and going through the steps to sign the grant agreement.

- **Clingman Forest and Town Branch Greenways and Depot Street Roundabout**
 - Staff is working out the land acquisition in the next months; completing the documents needed for Categorical Exclusion status; and working on construction timelines for 2017 with Capital Projects Team.

- **Livingston St. Complete Streets**
 - Contract awarded to Davenport, Inc.

- **Beaucatcher Greenway:**
 - The construction drawings for the greenway and trailheads are in progress and due to be completed in June. Once the construction documents are complete the permitting and bid process will initiate.

- **Craven Street**
 - Construction activities continue to move along. The arch culvert has been installed and the road is now open between Waynesville Ave and Georgia Ave. Work is currently taking place between Waynesville Ave and Hazel Mill Rd, this section of roadway is closed and is expected to be closed until spring, and the roadway in this section is nearing finished elevation and is expected to be paved by the end of April. The rough grading for the greenway is taking place with the sewer line completed. The fill for the LID parking lot is in with continued work on the sidewalk and stone placement in the parking lot. The reconfiguration of Hazel Mill Road and Emma Road had taken place and is open to traffic currently. The water line construction is complete. With warmer weather, the project is expected to accelerate. The stream restoration work has begun with the wall treatment being constructed currently.

- The City of Asheville is applying for Tourism Product Development Funds (TPDF) through the Buncombe County Tourism Commission. The final application is due the end of August.
- The project scope:
- The River to Ridge: Riverfront Destination Development Project -- 2.0, builds upon a comprehensive set of brick and mortar projects that are transforming the River Arts District and its gateways into a fully-developed destination of interesting attractions for the leisure traveler.
- The vision for this project phase is to create an enjoyable outdoor recreation experience that connects from the scenic Beaucatcher Overlook Park (30 acres of urban greenspace preserved for recreation) to the River Arts District and beyond, arriving at recreation destinations along the French Broad River at Carrier Park, including the City of Asheville's velodrome. Asheville's velodrome -- an outdoor cycling track -- will be resurfaced and renovated as part of the development of this cohesive vision. The specific project elements are:
 - 1. River to Ridge Greenway Trail Connection
Beaucatcher Greenway – construction of a greenway trail from historic Helen’s Bridge trailhead to recreational facilities at McCormick Field (home of the Asheville Tourists) and Memorial Stadium (used for outdoor play and spectator sports)
 - 2. French Broad River Greenway Network
French Broad River Greenway West Bank connection -- This one-and-a-half mile multi-use path will connect the city’s most beautiful riverfront park and the three miles of existing riverfront greenways and parks beyond it with the production, visitor’s facilities, and tasting room for the United States third largest craft brewery, New Belgium Brewing - Asheville.
 - 3. Improvements to connect visitors to riverfront recreation
 - o Velodrome rebuild – park and track improvements to the existing Carrier Park velodrome, including complete resurfacing of the track
 - o Crosswalk and river access – development of improved safety features across Amboy Rd. into Carrier Park, as well as construction of a river access point
- By linking multiple cultural and recreational elements, this project gives the leisure traveler a variety of opportunities to exercise, explore, and enjoy at least a day's worth of activities in and around the River Arts District -- an area that is booming with investment and renewed interest.
- This project continues the destination development vision that was partially funded by the TPDF in 2014. The enhancements proposed expand the connections from the RAD, offering a richer experience for leisure travelers. The City of Asheville is happy to discuss this vision with the Tourism Development Association and the Convention and Visitors Bureau, as we work together to stimulate economic development and strengthen place making in Asheville that appeals to leisure travelers.