

Survey Data on P 5.0 Projects in Transylvania County

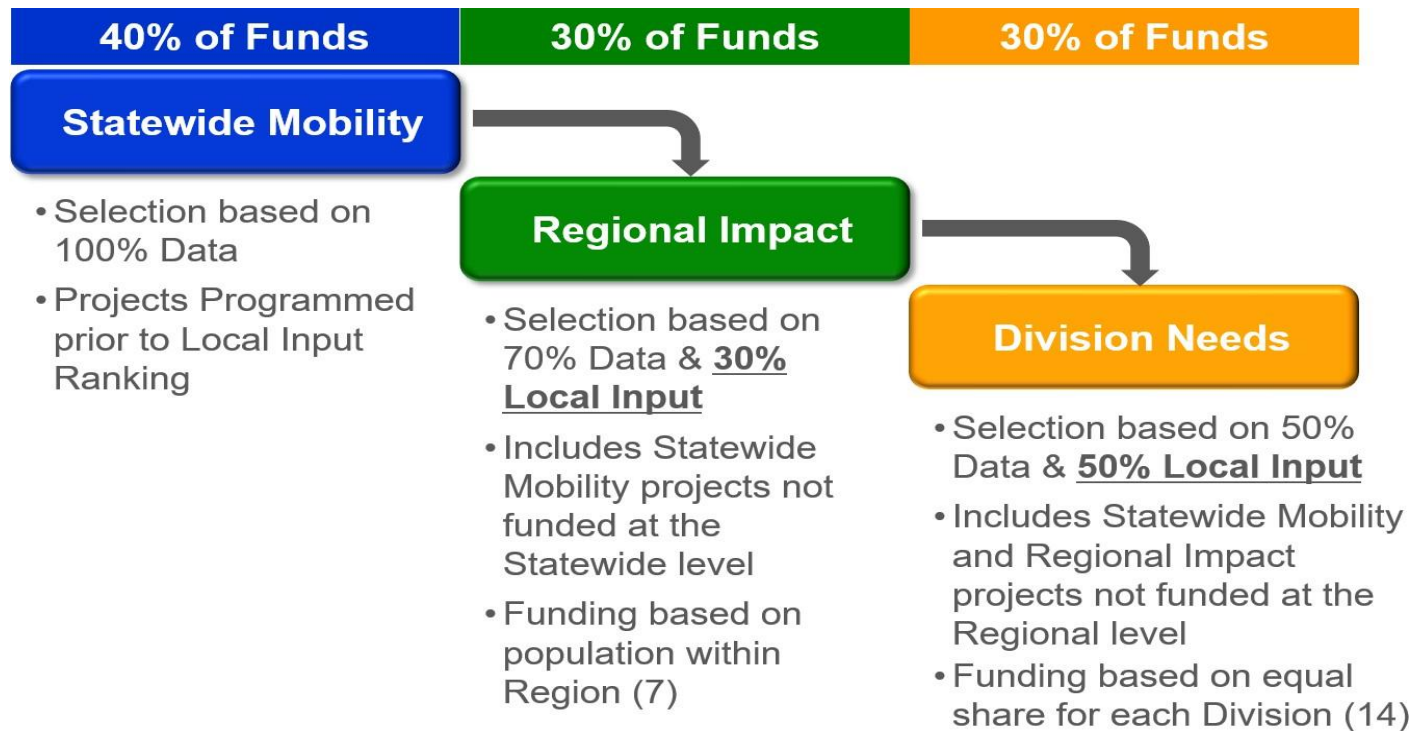
LAND OF SKY RPO

08/31/2018

INTRODUCTION

The Strategic Transportation Investments (STI) law governs the process in which the State of North Carolina prioritizes transportation projects. The law was passed in 2013 with the intent of creating a data-driven, collaborative process between NCDOT, planning organizations, local governments, and the public to efficiently utilize funding for transportation improvements across the state.

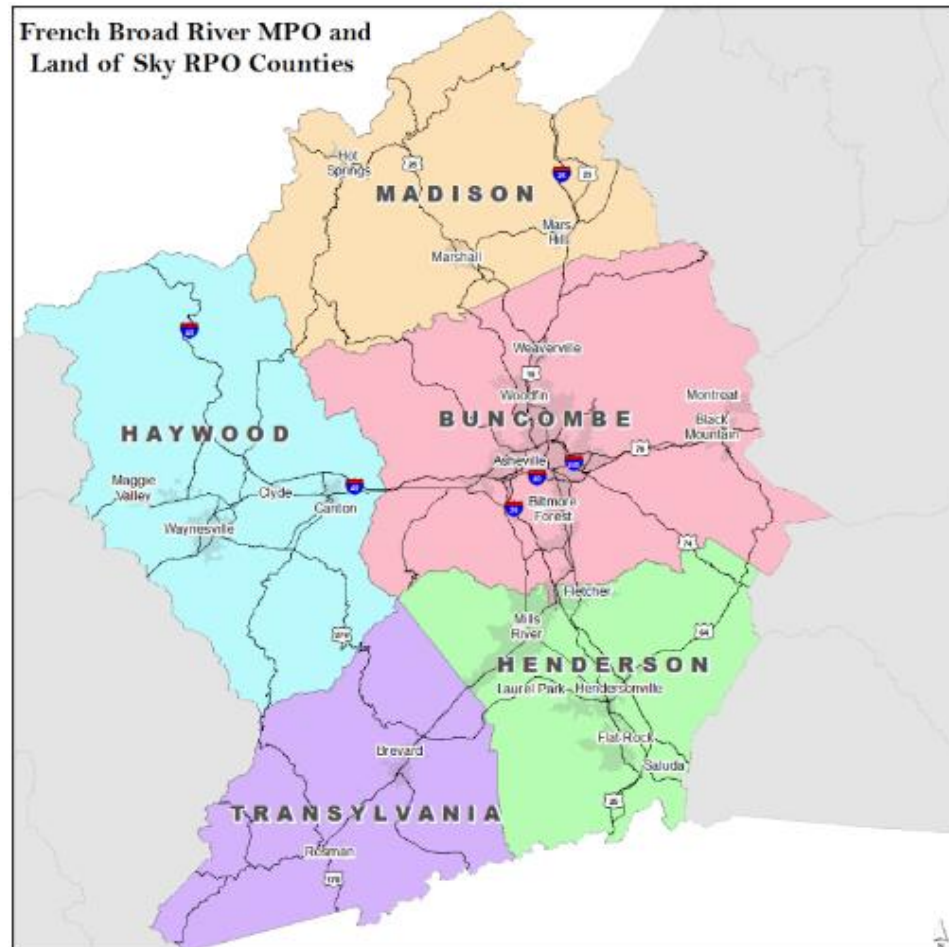
As part of the prioritization process, projects are solicited from planning organizations and NCDOT Divisions. Projects submitted into the prioritization process are placed into three different funding categories based on facility and project types: Statewide Mobility, Regional Impact, and Division Needs. Project scoring for the Statewide Mobility funding category is based solely on quantitative data developed by the Prioritization Workgroup. Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs), Rural Planning Organizations (RPOs), and Division Engineers assign local input points to projects in the Regional Impact and Division Needs funding categories. These points are applied in the calculation of the final project scores for Prioritization 5.0 to determine which projects are funded at the Regional Impact and Division Needs funding categories



SURVEY BACKGROUND

The Land of Sky RPO and French Broad River MPO opened a public survey on all highway, bike/ped, and transit projects in the RPO and MPO planning area being considered for funding in the North Carolina prioritization process (P5.0). The survey attempted to be simple and user-friendly while also generating information that could be useful for decision makers considering applying local input points as part of the P 5.0 process.

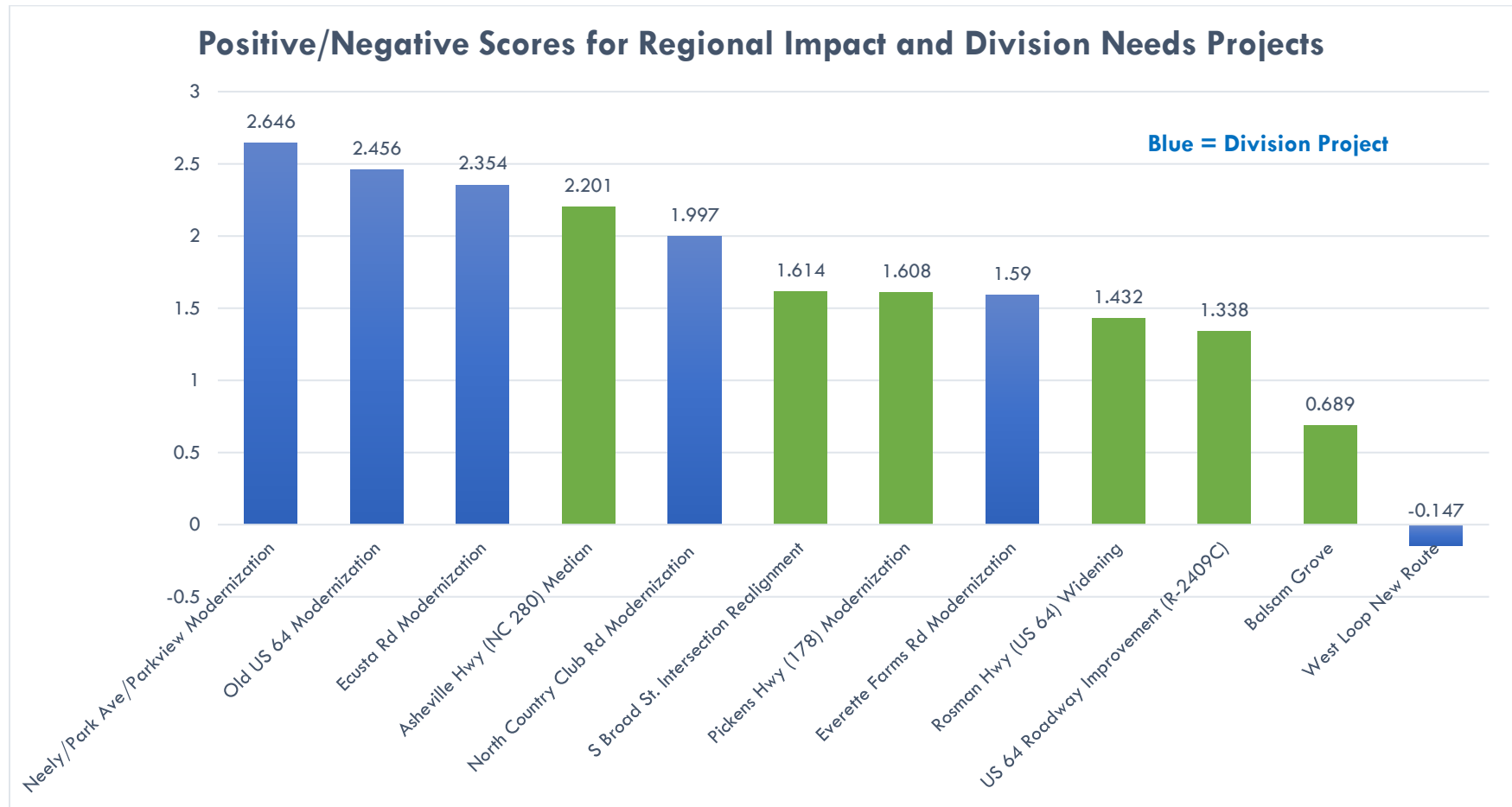
The survey was developed through Survey Monkey and could be accessed through the organizations websites. The survey was developed for each county. Users were then asked if they wanted to evaluate roadway or non-highway projects. For Buncombe and Henderson counties, a “short” option was developed that asked users to rank projects based on their perceived need for the projects. Users could still use the “deep dive” option which allowed both positive and negative responses. For all other counties, users would rank each individual project.



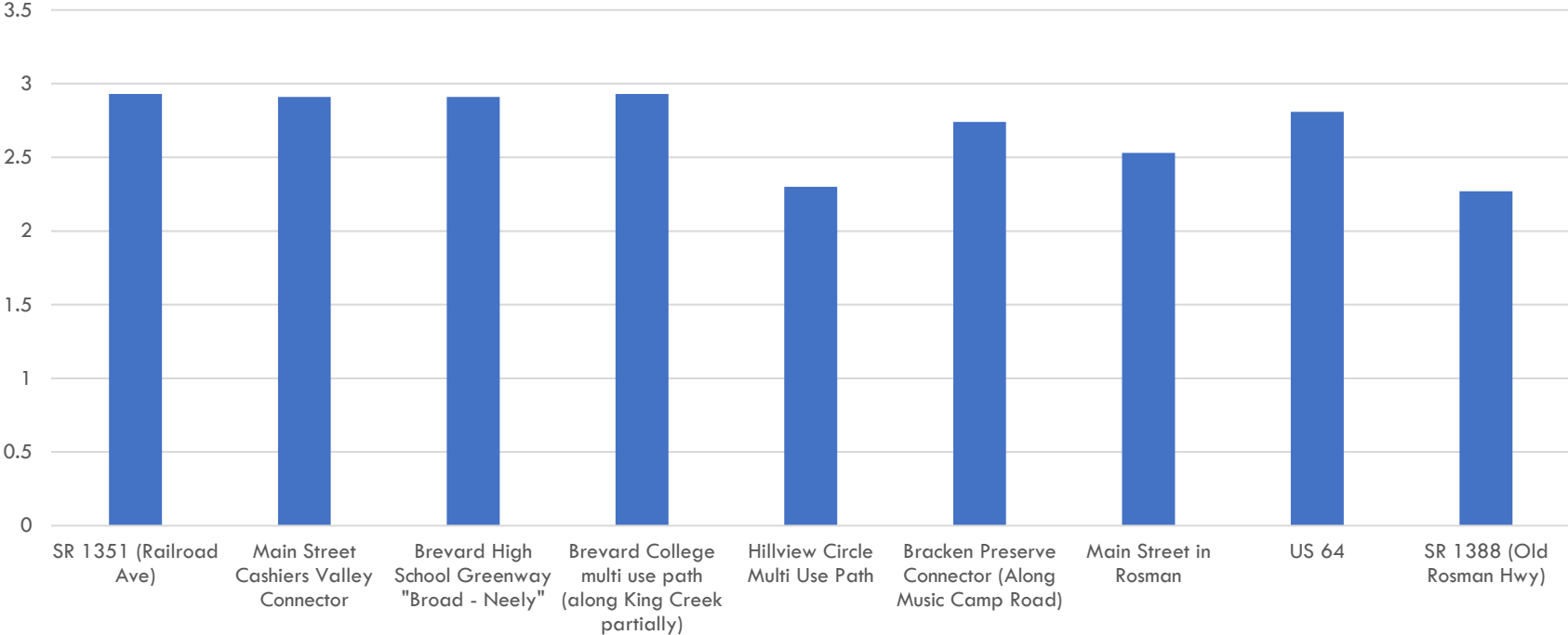
As of the survey closing on April 30, 2018, the Transylvania County section of the RPO’s survey collected **910** responses. The results in this packet provide a general overview and will be updated in-depth for the RPO TCC and TAC at a later date, but the results aim to be indicative of the public’s perceived need for the projects being considered.

PROJECTS AS RANKED

The scoring allowed users to go project-by-project to give both positive and negative responses. Users could rate a project from a “5” (most positive) to “-5” (most negative). The results are averaged below from most to least positively received (left-to-right).



Average Score of Bike/Ped Projects



OPEN-ENDED COMMENTS SUMMARY

The survey received **149** open-ended comments as of the survey closing. While each comment is unique, there are a few general trends among comments and they are summarized below.

- 26 - Oppose West Loop
- 22 - Support for Greenways/multi-use paths
- 10 - Overall support for projects
- 9 - Support for sidewalks and/or bike lanes
- 9 – Support for Ecusta Trail
- 6 - Support for Multimodal/Complete Streets
- 5 – Disapprove of new roadway projects
- 5 – Maintain our current roadways
- 5 – Support for projects in rural or under-represented areas of the county
- 4 – Disapproval of bike lanes and/or multi-use paths
- 4 – Railroad Avenue Improvements
- 4 – Disapprove of Survey and Map
- 2 – Support of West Loop/Bypass alternatives
- 2 – NC 215 high priority project
- 1 – NC 280 high priority project
- 1 – Everett Road high priority
- 1 – Support Bridge near Sycamore Flats
- 1 – Support for Parkview/Neely Rd Improvements