



Town of Knightdale

Staff Report

Title: Comprehensive Transportation Plan

Staff: Andrew Spiliotis, Senior Planner

Date: November 16, 2022

Director Signature:

Asst. Town Manager Signature:

Town Manager Signature:

PURPOSE: To consider approving the Comprehensive Transportation Plan and the associated Unified Development Ordinance modifications.

COMPREHENSIVE TRANSPORTATION PLAN OVERVIEW:

The Comprehensive Transportation Plan (CTP) kicked off in October of 2021. The process began with an existing conditions analysis alongside substantial public outreach and stakeholder interviews. The outreach also included an urban design workshop focused on how to incorporate transit supportive design principles into the eighty-eight acres located northwest of downtown Knightdale. The process also included extensive modal needs analysis in order to develop the transportation network maps and recommendations for transit, roadways and greenways. The draft CTP was released for a thirty-day public comment period on September 19 until October 19, 2022. The key CTP recommendations are summarized below by transportation mode:

Roadways

- *Cross Sections:* The CTP's updated roadway cross sections include revised designs for Main Streets, Urban Main Streets, Avenues, Urban Avenues, Boulevards (4 lane) and Boulevards (6 lane). The revisions focused on allocating 10-11 feet travel lanes in order to slow vehicle speeds, separating bicycle facilities when roadway speeds are greater than 25 mph and providing multiple bicycle facility options for cross section types.
- *Roadway Network:* The roadway network recommendations revised the existing Comprehensive Plan & Unified Development Ordinance maps with a focus on providing roadway capacity in commuting corridors such as Poole Road, Buffaloe Road and Knightdale Boulevard. The recommendations also reduced the roadway capacity of several roads in the center part of Knightdale to focus on providing more walkable and transit supportive urban designs in the center part of town.
- *Hot Spots:* The CTP includes concept designs and cost estimates for three priority projects. The projects include a roundabout project at Bethlehem Road at Old Faison Road, a Widewaters Parkway extension bridge over the railroad, and a project to fill in sidewalk and crosswalk gaps along Knightdale Boulevard between I-540 and downtown Knightdale.

Sidewalks & Greenways

- *Sidewalks:* Infill sidewalk projects are prioritized for higher volume roadways and on roadways connecting residential areas to key destinations.
- *Additional Greenways:* Several new greenways are recommended to the existing Comprehensive Plan & Unified Development Ordinance greenways network map. The additions focused on providing additional connectivity in the Hodge Road area, adding sidepaths along Knightdale Blvd, adding a



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greenway along I-540, adding two additional greenway connections to Wendell Falls, adding a northern segment of the Marks Creek Greenway, and adding a sidepath along Old Crews Road.

Transit

- *Planning Towards Bus Rapid Transit:* The transit recommendations focus on enhancing the existing GoRaleigh Route 33 bus service in order to set the stage for long-term bus rapid transit extension from New Hope Road in east Raleigh to downtown Knightdale. The enhancements include adding weekend service, implementing transit signal priority and increasing Route 33 service frequency from hourly to every thirty minutes.
- *Enhancing Access to Transit:* The CTP recommends filling in sidewalk and crosswalk gaps along roads where Route 33 operates such as Knightdale Boulevard and Old Knight Road.
- *Mobility Hubs:* The CTP identified locations for future mobility hubs where transportation mobility amenities can be clustered where different modes of transportation intersect. Mobility amenities are flexible and categorized by three different mobility types: neighborhood, commuter and regional.
- *Other recommendations:* Additional transit recommendations include marketing transit service and rerouting the GoTriangle Zebulon-Wendell Express (ZWX) commuter bus route to serve a future stop where I-87 intersects Knightdale – Eagle Rock Road / Wendell Falls Parkway.

PUBLIC HEARING SUMMARY:

- On October 20, 2022 a Public Hearing was held to discuss the Comprehensive Transportation Plan. Staff presented a summary of the process and an overview of the plan including recent modifications. Sam Bratton, CEO and President of Wake Stone Corporation, spoke against the proposed greenway on the east side of I-540. There was no further public comment.

CHANGES TO PUBLIC HEARING DRAFT COMPREHENSIVE TRANSPORTATION PLAN:

- Staff received two comments after the 30 day public comment period from Town Council members. The final CTP addresses those comments by: 1) adding a sidepath to Old Crews road in UDO's *Appendix B – Sidepaths & Greenways Plan*; and 2) staff will add a separate CTP Executive Summary document to the CTP website.

APPLICABLE REGULATIONS:

- NCGS 160D-501 & 160D-601

ATTACHMENTS:

- Comprehensive Transportation Plan:
 - [CTP Document](#)
 - Appendix F: Vision Zero Resolution of Support
 - CTP Adoption Ordinance 22-11-16-005
- Unified Development Ordinance:
 - Chapter 10, Infrastructure Improvement Standards
 - Chapter 11, Subdivision Standards
 - Appendix A: Roadway Network Plan
 - Appendix B: Sidepaths & Greenways Plan



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- Appendix C: Transit & Mobility Plan
- UDO Amendment Ordinance 22-11-16-006

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

- Approve the Comprehensive Transportation Plan Ordinance # 22-11-16-005
- Approve the Vision Zero Resolution of Support # 22-11-16-006
- Approve the Unified Development Ordinance Amendment Ordinance # 22-11-16-006