Apex
Peakway Southeast Connector Feasibility Study Conclusion

August 7, 2018
Project Purpose

- The Southeast Connector will complete the last of the two missing gaps in the Apex Peakway (Southwest Connector final design is in progress)
- The Apex Peakway will provide improved mobility and connectivity as a loop around downtown
- The loop was included in the first Apex Transportation Plan in 2002 but conceptual plans date back to 1965
Feasibility Study

- Study performed by Kimley-Horn & Associates
- Purpose was to prepare a functional design with estimated costs, gather and respond citizen input, and identify major issues
- $95,000 study cost (data collection, traffic, design, public involvement, environmental screening, and feasibility study report)
Project Description

- Extend Apex Peakway from NC 55 to Center Street
- Widen and realign existing portion of Schieffelin Road
- 4-lane median divided thoroughfare rather than a phased widening
- 10’ sidepath, wide outside travel lanes, and 5’ sidewalk
- Consistent with Transportation Plan
Proposed 4-Lane (45 mph) Typical Section
N.C. 55 (East Williams Street) to Center Street
Public Engagement

- Public open house held November 2, 2017
  - 27 attendees
- Project survey posted on Town website
  - 82 survey respondents
- Overall survey response:
  - Favorable of the project design
  - Assign it as a high priority project
- WCPSS comment: beneficial to school bus transportation
- Police, EMS, and Fire comment: positive impact on emergency services
Survey Question 1

How would the project affect you?

- Very negatively: 2%
- Somewhat negatively: 5%
- Somewhat positively: 8%
- Very positively: 37%
- The project would not affect me: 15%
- No response: 33%
Survey Question 2

What priority would you assign to this project in thinking about all of the transportation needs in Apex?

- **High priority**: very important, needed within 5 years (53%)
- **Medium priority**: needed in 5 to 10 years (29%)
- **Low priority**: not needed within the next 10 years or longer (7%)
- **No response** (11%)
Survey Question 3

What do you think about the proposed design?

- Very good: 65%
- Needs some work: 8%
- Not good: 4%
- No response: 23%
Comments Presenting Project Concerns

Concerned about how long the project will take

Funding for the construction of this project has not yet been identified

Concerned there may be impacts

Impacts will be minimized where feasible

Relocations are anticipated
Comments Presenting Design Concerns

Why are so many lanes needed?

• 2040 traffic projections recommend a 4-lane roadway (ADT is 22,000-26,000 vpd)

*Pedestrian and bicycle crossings will be more difficult with a 4-lane road*

• Crosswalks will be added during the final design

• Pedestrian signals recommended at major intersections

(NC 55, James St, & Center St)
Comments Supporting a Lower Priority

The SW Apex Peakway Connector should continue to be a higher priority

- The SW Connector is funded and is currently in final design with estimated construction beginning May 2020

Other higher priority projects identified by survey respondents

- Jessie Drive, NC 55 Widening,
- & Richardson Road
Next Steps

• Determine the schedule and source of funds for final design and construction (roughly $14 million excluding right of way)

• Update Apex Transportation Plan to reflect the alignment in the feasibility study

• Use the alignment as guidance for future development

• Need to also consider widening north of Center Street to Old Raleigh Road

(30,000 vpd in 2040)