

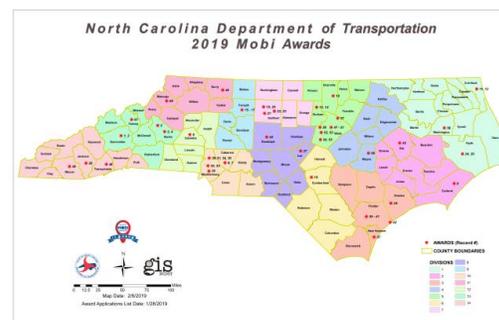


The Multimodal Message

The latest news from the Multimodal Division of NCDOT
Bicycle/Pedestrian•Public Transportation•Aviation•Ferry•Rail

Celebrating Multimodal Investments Message from Deputy Secretary Julie White

The submission deadline for the Mobi, our new award program that showcases the important role that multimodal investments play in creating vibrant communities, recently closed. **We received 62 applications from all across the state!**



Our judges will start reviewing the projects soon. Stay tuned to the NCDOT's [social media](#) for project profiles, and join us for the [Mobi Awards Luncheon](#) on April 3. Our panel of judges includes Chris Chung, CEO of the Economic Development Partnership of NC; John Kane, CEO of Kane Realty; Stephen Hill, co-founder and CEO of Mother Earth Brewing; Harvey Gantt, former Charlotte mayor; and Kit Cramer, president and CEO of the Asheville Chamber of Commerce. They will select one winner and three honorable mentions in each of five project categories: Rural, Suburban, Tourism, Urban and Innovation. NCDOT Secretary Jim Trogdon will announce the winners at the luncheon.

This process has shown us just how valuable multimodal investments - no matter the size - are to North Carolina communities. They advance economic development, spur private sector investment, improve public health and the environment, and even connect people to jobs, health care and educational opportunities.

We are grateful to the team that worked on the Mobi Awards and to Stephanie Sudano, who led the team. They included members from NCDOT IT,

communications, aviation, bike/ped, public transportation, rail, ferry and highways.

Thanks again to our entire team! Stay tuned for more great news about the Mobi Awards.



N.C. Airports Receive Infrastructure Grants

Six publicly owned airports in North Carolina will receive a total of \$5.7 million in state and federal funds to make infrastructure improvements that maintain and expand their facilities. Funded projects include a new waterline and pumping system to support firefighting at Ashe County Airport, services to acquire runway protection zone lands at Dare County Regional and Mid-Carolina Regional (Salisbury) airports, and the development of a stormwater master plan at Lumberton Regional Airport.



Two airports will receive grants from a new state fund designed to support economic development projects at general aviation airports. Johnston Regional Airport will receive nearly \$3.9 million to develop a site capable of hosting a fixed-base operator and maintenance facility. Wayne Executive Jetport will receive \$692,439 to expand its corporate area.

[Read more online.](#)



Passenger Ferry Progress

This is the latest look at the new Ocracoke Express passenger ferry, which will carry as many as 98 passengers on a speedy 70-minute trip from Hatteras directly into Ocracoke Village. Service is expected to begin this spring.

Divisions Merge, Focus on Mobility

NCDOT's Bicycle & Pedestrian and Public Transportation divisions are merging into a division focused on community mobility.

The reorganization will better reflect the changing landscape of mobility and focus on the needs of rural and urban communities.



"The emergence of new transportation technologies, such as the e-scooter and autonomous vehicles demonstrate the need to rethink how people use our transportation network," said Julie White, deputy secretary for multimodal transportation. "This new division will help communities use mobility as a tool to achieve their goals for vibrancy, land use, economic development and sustainability. It will also address the diverse needs of communities, large and small, and align with the goals of state leaders to strengthen rural communities."

Hanna Cockburn, director of the Bicycle and Pedestrian Division, will serve as interim director for the Public Transportation Division during the restructuring process. The merger process has involved listening sessions with stakeholders of both divisions. The process will include planning by staff from both divisions and NCDOT leadership to set a strategic course for moving forward.



Representatives from NCDOT, the City of Raleigh, GoTriangle and HNTB recently toured [Brightline](#), an express inter-city rail system in Florida. Brightline is the United States' only privately owned and operated inter-city passenger railroad.

Rail Division Wins \$11 Million in Grants

The Rail Division recently secured three grants, totaling more than \$11 million.

The Federal Railroad Administration awarded the division a \$10 million grant under the Consolidated Rail Infrastructure and Safety Improvements (CRISI) program to fund three grade separations on the CSX S line north of Raleigh. These improvements will be the first construction projects on the planned Raleigh-to-Richmond section of the Southeast Corridor Sealed Corridor.

The division was awarded another \$584,080 grant under the CRISI program to help purchase and install Positive Train Control hardware on its locomotives. Positive Train Control technology and equipment reduces collisions between trains and automatically enforces speed limits.

A third grant will help reduce emissions from the division's locomotives. The division received a \$484,500 Diesel Emissions Reduction grant from the N.C. Department of Environmental Quality to implement a specialized air pollution reduction system known as a Blended After-Treatment System (BATS) onto one of its locomotives.

[Read more online.](#)

Watch for Me NC Accepting Applications

The Bicycle and Pedestrian Division is working with the UNC Highway Safety Research Center to seek out new communities to participate in the 2019 Watch for Me NC program, which aims to reduce the number of pedestrians and bicyclists hit and injured in crashes with vehicles.



Communities will be selected through a competitive application process. Those chosen to participate will receive free law enforcement training, technical assistance and safety materials such as bicycle lights and reflective arm bands. Areas may also be eligible for advertising such as transit ads and sidewalk stencils.

Visit WatchforMeNC.org to learn more or download the application which is due March 1.



Submit Your Ideas!

There is still time to submit your ideas to the [Multimodal Innovation Challenge](#). Submissions to improve the way multimodal divisions work, serve customers and strengthen employee morale can be submitted until March 8.

Aviation Hosts Advanced Drone Class



Fifteen people from across NCDOT participated in the Division of Aviation's inaugural NCDOT advanced class for drone pilots. The class was a next step in training NCDOT drone pilots who had previously completed an introductory drone pilot course and earned FAA Remote Pilot Certification.

The advanced class is part of the Division of Aviation's comprehensive program to expand and integrate the

use of drones across NCDOT in ways that save time, money and improve public service delivery and efficiency. Currently, NCDOT counts more than 30 drones and 20 pilots who support a range of activities, from inspecting transportation infrastructure to supporting emergency response.

Ferry Division Hosting Career Fair



The Ferry Division will hold its first-ever career fair on March 1 at the Hatteras Civic Center from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

The fair is free and open to the public. For more information on job requirements and positions available, contact Alma Fountain at (252) 423-5125 or at

afountain@ncdot.gov.

[Read more online.](#)

Photo courtesy of Chris Matney, a ferry crew member who works the Hatteras to Ocracoke route.

SPAM Program Protects Airport Infrastructure

An innovative Division of Aviation program is ensuring North Carolina's 72 public airports efficiently and cost-effectively preserve critical infrastructure, promoting safety and increasing the life of airport assets.



The Safety Preservation Airfield Maintenance (SPAM) program combines small preventative maintenance projects, such as pavement crack sealing and repainting runways, into a single statewide contract. This creates economies of scale and efficient, centralized administration of projects previously bid and managed as individual projects by local governments. And because the projects promote safety, DoA can fund them entirely, providing a cost savings to the airports.

DoA recently completed SPAM projects at Cape Fear Regional (Southport), Jackson County and Gastonia Municipal airports. Work is underway at Anson County, Washington-Warren, Triangle North (Louisburg), and Odell Williamson (Ocean Isle Beach) airports.

Piedmont Service Earns Top Marks

The Rail Division's Piedmont service was rated #1 nationwide in customer satisfaction by Amtrak passengers in November 2018. Great team work by Amtrak, RailPlan and the Rail Division made this score possible.



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