



Morrisville Town Council

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Council Member (District 2)

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Council Member (District 3)

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Council Member (At Large)

Satish Garimella
Council Member (At Large)

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The Transportation Special Edition is Back!

Morrisville has grown significantly over the past several decades. We strive to be a great place to live. The town’s motto, “Live Connected. Live Well.” encapsulates what we want our residents to feel: welcomed, happy and at home. You may also feel frustrated by one of our main challenges – traffic and transportation. We are working hard to address your concerns and mitigate congestion as you travel throughout the area.

Plans are in place to address some of the concerns we hear from you. Last time we checked in with a Transportation Edition in the summer of 2016, we showed you the progress we were making. This edition shares new and updated information. Much has happened since then, and there is a lot more to come. This publication is meant to share information and keep you informed on current and upcoming projects and the work that is being done behind the scenes to address traffic in Morrisville. In addition, we are working with NCDOT to bring you information on all major road plans so we can keep you in the loop and give you an opportunity to look at plans and talk to staff directly - stay tuned for more details to come.

Road projects and improvements take years of planning and design before construction begins, and are significant financial investments for both NCDOT and the town. As work progresses, road closures, lane closures and detours are necessary before the value of the road improvements is observed. But we’re working on it. Every single day. Because it matters to us, just like it matters to you.

Please email us anytime at transportation@townofmorrisville.org or call 919-463-6927. Regular transportation updates are also available through our Citizens Interested in Transportation email listserv group, which you can sign up for at townofmorrisville.org/list.

Thank you for choosing Morrisville as your home. We’re so glad you’re here.

McCrimmon Parkway Extension Progress

Work is progressing on the largest Morrisville road project to date. Read more on page 3.



What is a Comprehensive Transportation Plan?

A Comprehensive Transportation Plan, or CTP, serves as a road map to guide multiple modes of transportation development in Morrisville. Keeping a CTP up-to-date is important to address changing demographics, development patterns, and changing transportation policies and technology.

Why is an Update Needed?

The 2009-2035 Comprehensive Transportation Plan, known as the 2009 Transportation Plan, was adopted in 2009 and much has changed in Morrisville since that time. There have been shifts in population and employment, new developments built, and some changes to transportation policies. In addition, many transportation improvements identified in the previous plan have already been advanced to funding and implementation.

When did the Comprehensive Transportation Plan Update process begin?

The process to update the 2009 Transportation Plan began in April 2016. The process included public outreach at two community events, four public workshops and open houses, six work sessions with Town Council and the Planning and Zoning Board, and technical analysis.



Morrisville CONNECTION Transportation Edition 2018

Draft Comprehensive Transportation Plan Update

After receiving over 700 comments from citizens and people interested in transportation during the first draft review, the Comprehensive Transportation Plan has been updated and is ready for review! The updated draft plan was presented to the Planning and Zoning Board (PZB) at its March 2018 meeting. Feedback from the community is important to the process, and many of the changes to the draft plan were based on valuable feedback from the community. We are still looking for feedback on the updated draft plan, and have scheduled multiple meeting opportunities to talk to staff, view the draft plan, and provide your feedback (more on that below). In addition, you can view the current draft Plan at www.townofmorrisville.org/transportationplanupdate.

The PZB will continue to review the plan during their regular meetings and will ultimately forward a recommendation about the plan to Town Council, who will review the plan, along with PZB's recommendation, for the final review and decision about the plan prior to its adoption. The timeline for both the PZB and Town Council are at their discretion in order to fully review the updated draft. Currently, staff estimates PZB will continue its discussion at the May meeting and consider a final updated draft for presentation to Town Council at its June meeting. Town Council may receive the draft plan in July 2018. The public comment period is currently open. Citizens may also speak at any meeting or comment online.

There are also several public community meeting opportunities for the public to view the plan, ask questions, and provide input on the draft plan. A postcard was mailed to all residents in early April with a list of meeting dates. In addition, meetings are posted on the Town's website at www.townofmorrisville.org and listed on the draft Comprehensive Transportation Plan Update webpage at www.townofmorrisville.org/transportationplanupdate. Can't make a meeting? View the plan, presentations and meeting materials, and submit your comments on the Draft Plan webpage.



NCDOT-Owned Road Projects in Morrisville

NCDOT has funded many projects in Morrisville for construction over the next 10 years for roads they own and maintain:

- Improvement of Aviation Parkway Interchange on I-40 (2017-2019)
- Construction of Louis Stephens Road between Poplar Pike Lane and Little Drive in RTP (2018-2019)
- Improvement of Airport Boulevard Interchange on I-40 (2018-2020)
- Widening NC 54 to 4 lanes between Perimeter Park Drive and NC 540 (2020-2022)
- Construction of a Grade Separation at the McCrimmon Parkway and NC 54 intersection and the Railroad (2020-2023)
- Widening of McCrimmon Parkway between Davis Drive and the new Grade Separation at NC 54 (2020-2023)
- Town-wide Signal System/Intelligent Transportation System (2020)
- Widening Aviation Parkway to 4 lanes between NC54 and I-40 (2022-2025)
- Extension of NC 147 (2022-2023)

In total, NCDOT has committed to spending over \$240 million to improve the roads in the Town of Morrisville over the next 10 years.

While all of this road work means increased delays and potential detours around town during construction, Town staff are dedicated to working with NCDOT to reduce the delays and detours as much as possible, and ensure any detours are clearly communicated to our residents and businesses. Get updates on NCDOT projects at www.ncdot.gov.

NCDOT Road Progress

Over the past several years, we have successfully advocated with NCDOT for the completion of several major road projects to make progress on the traffic in Morrisville. NCDOT investment in Morrisville since 2012 is over \$42 million. While there's still work to do, here are some of the projects that have taken place:

- Morrisville Parkway Grade Separation (shown below)
- Morrisville Carpenter Road widening/Davis Drive Intersection Improvement
- Installation of a Traffic Signal at Airport Boulevard and Slater Road



What about Transit Services?

The Town is participating in the implementation of the Wake Transit Plan, adopted in 2016, which will provide significant additional transit service in Town. The Town is scheduled to receive all-day bus transit service and commuter rail transit service that will provide connections to other communities in Wake County, RTP and Durham.

The first phase of bus service, including service to the new Wake Tech campus, is expected to begin by 2021, with Commuter Rail beginning by 2027. More information about the Wake Transit Plan, including upcoming outreach events and an online survey, are available at www.goforwardnc.org/wake.

The Town Council discussed transit during their Retreat in February, and will be considering funding for a Town Transit Study in the FY2018-2019 budget to help determine how the Town can provide additional bus service to residents.

Existing Transit Service

- GoTriangle Route 300 – serves Perimeter Park in the mornings and afternoon. More information at www.gotriangle.org.
- Wake TRACS – provides shared, demand response trips for eligible residents. More information at <https://waketracs.com/>.

Morrisville Transportation Project Updates

Visit the project websites listed below for updates on schedules, closures/detours and maps

McCrimmon Parkway Extension

www.townofmorrisville.org/mccrimmonparkwayextension

The Town has made great strides since the last transportation edition of the newsletter in the summer of 2016, breaking ground on this project in late 2016, and working towards the completion of Phase 1 by the end of 2018. The Town split the project into two phases. This allowed the Town to partner with NCDOT to construct the Phase II portion of the project.

Phase I consists of constructing a new four lane median divided roadway from NC-54 to Perimeter Park Drive. In addition, Phase I includes widening the intersection of NC54 and McCrimmon Parkway along with constructing new turn lanes on McCrimmon Parkway across the railroad tracks. In December 2016, the Town awarded the construction contract to Triangle Grading and Paving for \$4.3 million. There is still a 2-week closure scheduled for this project at the railroad tracks near

NC54, but dates for the closure have not been finalized. Phase I is anticipated to be complete in 2018.

To help maximize the bond funding for the project, the Town partnered with NCDOT on Phase II. Phase II consists of constructing a four lane median divided roadway from Airport Boulevard to Aviation Parkway, as well as sidewalks, medians and landscaping. In April 2018, NCDOT, who will manage Phase II of the construction, awarded the construction contract to Barnhill Contracting Company for \$11.6 million. Phase II could be completed as soon as late 2019.

Morrisville Carpenter Road Widening

www.townofmorrisville.org/msvcarpenter

The widening of Morrisville Carpenter Road, a state-owned road, will make a significant impact in the flow of traffic in the Town of Morrisville and surrounding region. This road widening project has been needed

for many years, but the Morrisville Carpenter Road Widening project did not compete well with other area projects when scored for state funding prioritization and funding was not awarded. In 2015, the Town Council made a strategic decision to invest in the road design to help the project score higher. This effort was successful. Funding for construction of the road widening will be available in the fall of 2018, when construction is anticipated to begin. The project is scheduled to be completed in 2020. The Town has worked with residents, the business community and NCDOT to understand the needs and concerns about the widening. The final design (available late spring/summer 2018) will consider these concerns, while keeping safety as the top priority.

Access to homes and businesses along Morrisville Carpenter Road during construction will remain open, but may be limited during certain phases of construction. The Town has worked with NCDOT to phase the construction so that the road will remain open to two-way travel, but there will be periods when lane closures will have to occur that may limit access. Any lane closures that do occur will only occur between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m., with two travel lanes (one in each direction) open during the morning and afternoon peak hours.

There will be a weekend road closure (from 8 p.m. on Friday to 6 a.m. on Monday), between the railroad tracks and Town Hall Drive, near the completion of the project, in order to allow the contractors to safely install a new median in the area. While the timing of this closure is unknown at this point, the Town will post notice of the road closure in advance using the Town's website, email lists, social media and electronic message boards. During this closure, a detour will be posted advising traffic of alternate access.

Carolina Street Extension

www.townofmorrisville.org/carolinastreet

The Carolina Street extension project will connect the existing Carolina Street to Town Hall Drive through a roundabout. It will also connect Foxglove Drive from Carolina Street to Jeremiah Street. Sidewalk and lane closures will be required on Town Hall Drive. Also, the work will require one weekend closure of Town Hall Drive from Jeremiah Street to the Chamber of Commerce building (260 Town Hall Drive). The closure is anticipated for late summer, and dates will be posted on our website and through electronic message board signs. The detour route during that closure will be McCrimmon Parkway to Church Street to Morrisville Carpenter Road.

This project is a key piece of the Town Center project, which is currently in development.

Fiscal Year 2018 Street Maintenance Project

www.townofmorrisville.org/residents/current-projects/street-maintenance-project

The Town of Morrisville has contracted with Raleigh Paving to perform pavement, curb & gutter and sidewalk repairs on Perimeter Park Drive (from Watkins Road to Airport Boulevard) and on McCrimmon Parkway (from dead end to Perimeter Park Drive, and Perimeter Park Drive to Airport Boulevard). Work is currently underway, and the project is expected to be completed by late spring/early summer.

Access to business driveways will remain open. However, some delays are anticipated during the workday. The contractor will make every effort to keep any delay minimal in duration. Additional construction days are scheduled in the event unforeseen issues are uncovered during construction or weather delays occur.

McCrimmon Parkway Extension, shown at right, will connect the existing McCrimmon Parkway to Aviation Parkway, providing an alternate route that could traffic on NC54.

