FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 23, 2026

Contact: Tori Dellinger, Principal Transportation Planner
704.854.6631
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PUBLIC INPUT BEGINS ON GCLMPO'S LOCAL INPUT POINT ASSIGNMENTS FOR DIVISION NEEDS PROJECTS UNDER NCDOT'S PRIORITIZATION 8.0

The Gaston-Cleveland-Lincoln Metropolitan Planning Organization (GCLMPO) opened a 15-day public comment period, beginning **Friday, October 23, 2026,** requesting public input on the local point allocation for projects on the draft Division Needs projects lists for Gaston, Cleveland, and Lincoln Counties. This is the final public comment period prior to the release of the draft 2028-2037 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). Prioritization 8.0 (P8.0) is the name of the process administered by the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) to develop the 2028-2037 TIP.

Highway, aviation, bicycle and pedestrian, public transit, and rail projects are all represented on the draft lists and maps proposed for Division Needs local input point assignment and can be found on the GCLMPO website at Hub - GCLMPO SPOT 8 Division Needs Projects - Public Comment Period.

NCDOT has developed quantitative scores for transportation projects submitted by Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs), Rural Planning Organizations (RPOs) and NCDOT Divisions, according to formulas established under the Strategic Transportation Investments (STI) law. The STI law is a quantitative, data-driven approach to develop the Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) and its local counterpart, the locally adopted Metropolitan TIP.

The GCLMPO has 1,900 local input points to allocate to transportation projects within the Division Needs tier of STI. The STI legislation specifies that MPOs, RPOs and NCDOT Division offices must adhere to their adopted methodologies to the greatest extent possible when assigning local input points. The GCLMPO's adopted Local Input Point Methodology for P8.0 can also be found on the website.

The public comment period will conclude on **Friday, November 6, 2026.**

The public may also provide comments during the GCLMPO TCC Meeting on **Wednesday, November 18, 2026 at 10:00 am** and the Board Meeting on **Thursday, December 3, 2026 at 6:30 pm**.

Written comments may be sent by mail, email, or fax to the following address:

Gaston-Cleveland-Lincoln MPO
Attn: Tori Dellinger, Principal Transportation Planner
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Gastonia, NC 28053
tori.dellinger@gastonianc.gov
FAX: 704-869-1960

All comments must be received by Friday, November 6, 2026. Additional information can be obtained by contacting GCLMPO staff at 704-854-6631.

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The Gaston-Cleveland-Lincoln MPO hereby gives public notice of its policy to uphold and assure full compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and all related acts and statutes. Title VI and related statutes prohibiting discrimination in Federally assisted programs require that no person in the United States of America shall, on the grounds of race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability be excluded from the participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be otherwise subjected to discrimination under any program or activity receiving Federal assistance.

Any person who believes they have been aggrieved by an unlawful discriminatory practice regarding the Gaston-Cleveland-Lincoln MPO programs has a right to file a formal complaint with the GCLMPO, within one hundred and eighty (180) days following the date of the alleged discrimination occurrence. For instructions on how to file a complaint, or additional information regarding GCLMPO's nondiscrimination obligations, please contact Tori Dellinger at 704-854-6631 or tori.dellinger@gastonianc.gov.

Individuals requiring special accommodations when attending this public meeting and/or if this information is needed in an alternative format because of a disability, should contact the City of Gastonia Human Resources Department, located in City Hall at 181 S. South Street, telephone (704-866-6786), fax (704-836-0022) or by email: judy.smith@gastonianc.gov. The Human Resources Department requests at least 72 hours' notice prior to the meeting to make the appropriate arrangements.