



NORTH CAROLINA
Department of Transportation

Capital Programming Office Updates

RPO Quarterly Meeting
July 2026

Connecting people, products and places safely and efficiently with customer focus, accountability and environmental sensitivity to enhance the economy and vitality of North Carolina

Topics

- P8 Status Update
- 2028-2037 STIP Status Update
- P8 Scoring Challenges Discussion
- P9 Timeline Discussion
- STIP Manager Update

P8 Status Update



P8 Status Update

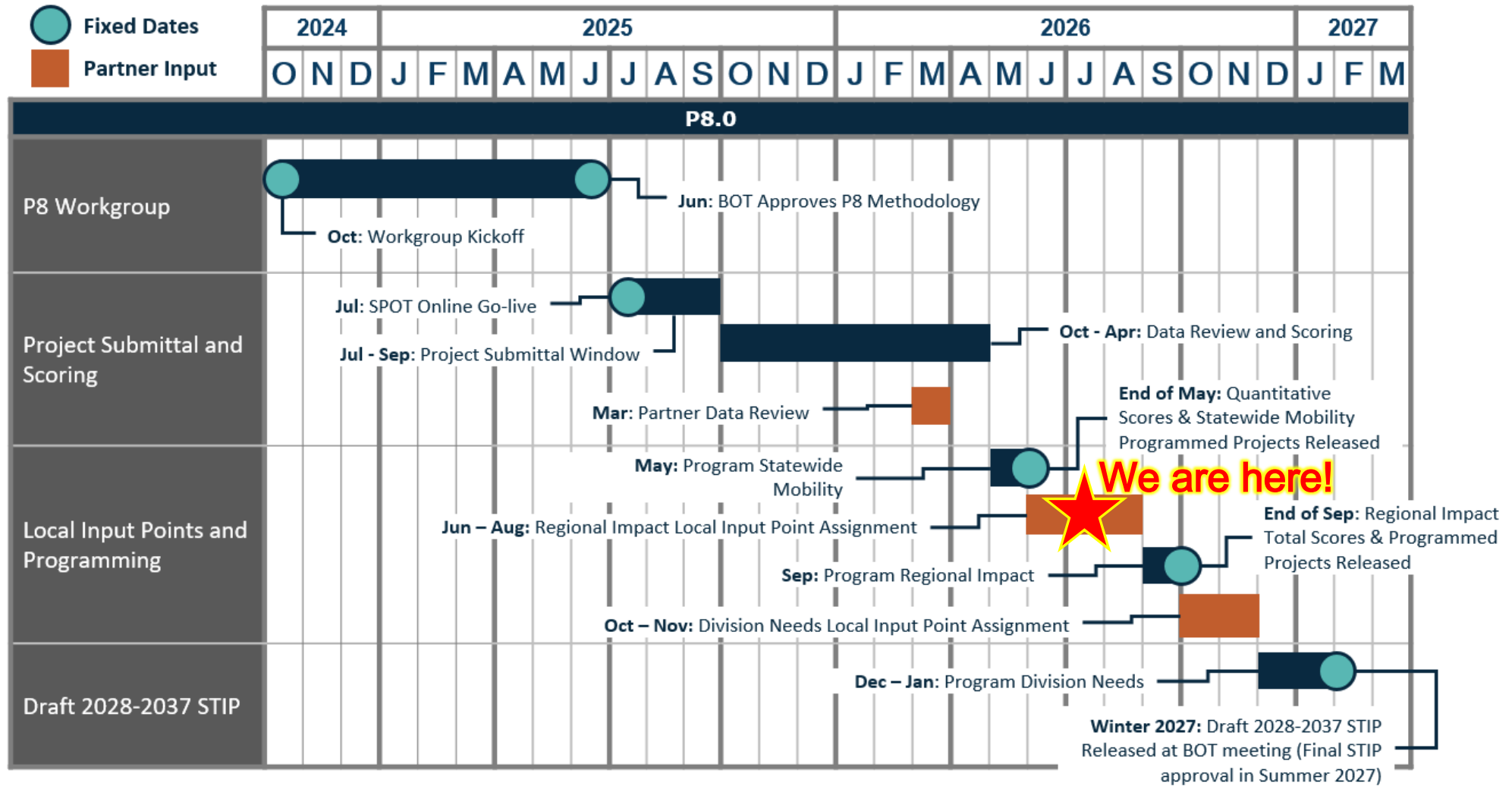
- SPOT Online is OPEN for LIP assignment!
 - Training available in Partner Check In Folder
- Provided AGOL maps
- Provided Division LIP spreadsheets

Next Steps for Partners

- June – August: Regional Impact Local Input Point Assignment Window
 - Flexing, Local Contribution, and Donation requests due to SPOT Office COB Monday, August 24 (Email SPOT@ncdot.gov)
 - **Updated** submittal deadline: COB Friday, August 28
 - NCDOT Divisions: Send **completed** LIP assignment spreadsheets to SPOT at end of window to post online
 - Feedback from NCDOT Public Comment Period to be distributed next week
- Next Partner Check In: Monday, August 17th, 1:00pm
- Release of Regional Impact project total scores, Regional Impact projects selected for funding, and updated available funding: End of September

REVISED P8 Schedule

April 2026



Other Key Dates

Friday, July 18, 2025: Carryover Modifications and Deletions due

Tuesday, September 30, 2025: Submittal window closes

Tuesday, September 30, 2025: Area-specific Weights due to SPOT Office

Friday, May 1, 2026: Deadline for SPOT Office approval of LIP Assignment Methodologies

2028-2037 Draft STIP Update



Draft 2028-2037 STIP Update

- May – Selected Statewide Mobility Projects from P8
 - 43 projects selected
 - Schedules will be shown with release of Draft STIP (Winter 2026/2027)
 - Most projects will be funded for Preliminary Engineering Only
 - Using completed Confident Scope and Cost Estimate (CSCE) as a guide when considering whether to schedule a project in the first five years of the STIP (Scheduled for Delivery), depending on funding availability
 - 4 projects have completed CSCE – eligible for Regional Impact points to potentially advance schedules depending upon funding availability (if project scores high enough for funding and Regional funding is available)
 - Additional information on the CSCE (including PO signatories) expected by September

Draft 2028-2037 STIP Update

- September – Release of Selected Regional Impact Projects and Division Needs funding availability
 - Incorporates cost and schedule changes
- Draft 2028-2037 STIP will incorporate updated revenue forecast
 - Adopted consensus budget
 - Federal revenues?? (IIJA replacement)
 - Updated variance adjustments (lookback law)

P8 Scoring Challenges





Submittal Window

Delayed opening

Speed of platform/crashing

Errors stopping projects from submitting

Submitters appearing under wrong Organization



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SPOT Online Project Information

Projects unable to be submitted

Projects submitted but missing mapping

Projects submitted but missing data



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Data Issues

Safety Data Layer
Capacity Layer
AADT/PADT Layer
Paved shoulder width



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Paved shoulder width



Other Challenges

Communication
Less time available for internal data review
Consistency (between projects and cycles)
Knowledge gaps

Mitigation for P9

SPOT Online Rebuild

- Better User experience
- More flexibility of system
- Better processing of information

Documentation Overhaul

- Improve internal processes for consistency
- Share data sources and processes externally for additional transparency
- Improve relationship with partners who provide authoritative data and establish checks
- Document roles and responsibilities for data management

P9 Timeline



Proposal

Have an additional year between P8 and P9

- One-time, one-year delay between prioritization cycles

Why do this?

- Stepping back and letting the Prioritization process catch up to the evolving needs and resources available to the program
- The Prioritization process has matured since the creation of the STI Law in 2013, yet it continues to rely on many resources from that time period
- Postponing P9's start allows us to update our technology infrastructure, and explore new data sources that will enhance user experiences

What are the Benefits to Postponing the P9 Start Date By 1 Year?

1. Deliver Better Technology Solutions
2. Improve Data Transparency
3. Address Complex Topics

1. Deliver Better Technology Solutions

- Implement a major upgrade for the project submittal application (SPOT Online) to improve the user experience, system performance, and data collection by replacing obsolete technology
 - Migration to ESRI Roads and Highways
- Allow time for proper vetting and testing of the new application
- **Ensure all users are fully trained on the new system**

2. Improve Data Transparency

- Provide greater visibility into data sources for project scoring
 - how data is used
 - where it is derived
 - details of calculations within the scoring methodology
- Help establish consistency of knowledge and understanding of the scoring methodology between cycles
 - Particularly in light of staff turnover
 - More predictability in scoring between cycles
- Complete additional express designs to continue improving the accuracy of project cost estimates

3. Address Complex Topics

- Tackle challenging issues in Workgroup that require careful evaluation
 - Local Input
 - Highway Safety
 - Clean Transportation
- Discover new improvement opportunities with advanced data availability
 - Opportunities with Probe Data
 - Update Bike/Ped Cost Estimation Tool
- Provide flexibility to address emerging challenges
 - An additional year of Updated NC Statewide Model expected to be released this year
 - Will allow time to understand impact to Project scoring
 - Workgroup would not be on as a compressed timeline
 - Give the group some “breathing room” to discuss these items

Anticipated Questions

- **What would this mean for funding availability?**
 - This would allow an additional year for funding to build up; however, it is NOT guaranteed that this would lead to MORE funding for P9. Subject to revenues, project costs, and schedules
- **What would this mean for Express Designs?**
 - Additional year to complete Express Designs
- **How would this affect PE Only projects?**
 - These projects stay funded for PE Only
- **How would this affect the P9 schedule?**
 - Workgroup would likely start at the same time (fall 2026), Potential to meet less frequently
 - Project submittal and remaining schedule would be the same, just a year later
- **How would this affect the next STIP?**
 - The STIP developed from P9 would likely cover the years 2031-2040

Prioritization Update

● P9 Schedule Change

What are the benefits to postponing the P9 start date by one year?

● Opportunity to...



Deliver Better Technology Solutions

(Provide major upgrade to project submittal application)



Improve Data Transparency

(Provide greater visibility into data sources and calculations)



Address Complex Topics

(Tackle challenging issues in Prioritization Workgroup)

● Purpose

- Postponing the P9 start date is about stepping back and letting the Prioritization process catch up to the evolving needs and resources available to the program
- The Prioritization process has matured since the creation of the STI Law in 2013, yet it continues to rely on many tools from that time period
- Postponing P9's start allows us to update our technology infrastructure and explore new data sources that will enhance user experiences



Next Steps

- Discuss proposal today and receive feedback
- Discuss proposal with MPOs (likely at NCAMPO meeting on Sept. 11th)
- NCDOT to make a final decision on the overall P9 Schedule

Discussion



STIP Manager

- We have a new STIP Manager for the Central Region (Austin Chamberlain)
- STIP Unit has been using STIP Manager (the application) since March
- Currently in transition from Access databases (anticipated completion by end of Sept.)
- Next enhancements focus on providing partner access (anticipated completion by end of 2026)
- Will include new application called STIP Viewer for public to search/query for projects
- In 2027 – Move STIP Manager to cloud-hosted environment to enable faster implementation of changes

The image displays the STIP Manager web application interface. The top navigation bar includes tabs for MAP, PROJECTS, ACTIONS, REPORTS, and STIP 2026-2035 (A). The main map area shows a geographical view of South Carolina, densely populated with colored dots representing various projects. The dots are color-coded, likely indicating different project types or statuses. The map includes labels for major cities (e.g., Knoxville, Asheville, Greenville, Columbia), highways (e.g., I-75, I-85, I-95), and natural areas (e.g., Great Smoky Mountains National Park, Cherokee National Forest). A legend on the left side of the map provides additional context for the data points. The bottom of the screen features the Esri logo and a 'Powered by Esri' watermark.

Thank you!

