



February 23, 2001

Overview

The Town of Cary invites you to help determine the future transportation system for the town. Make your voice heard by participating in the process!

The Draft Comprehensive Transportation Plan has been prepared and is available for review from the links on this page. When calling up a link, be patient! Some of the chapters are large and contain many graphics and photos. They may take a while to download depending upon your connection.

NOTE: As a living document, the recommendations have changed based upon the input received from multiple sources, including your fellow citizens. Unfortunately, these changes result in the existing document posted on this website to be somewhat out of date. Since the entire document cannot be revised as frequently as the recommendations are received, included with this posting are links to issue papers describing the changes since the Plan was originally prepared. A discussion of these documents is found at the end of this paper.

This draft plan describes the proposed enhancements to Cary's transportation system, including elements affecting pedestrians, bicyclists, transit users, and automobile drivers. We hope you will review the chapters of interest to you and send your comments to the address listed at the end of this introduction.

Report Organization

The plan could not have been developed without the hard work of Town staff led by Tim Bailey, the Engineering Director, and the Citizens Advisory Committee, chaired by Darryl Black. Wilbur Smith Associates in Raleigh prepared the document, but the direction for the plan is the result of the vision of Cary residents. The responsible individuals are listed in the [Acknowledgements](#).

As a comprehensive plan, the document covers more than just streets and thoroughfares. All modes of transportation are covered, regardless of whether you are a pedestrian, bicyclist, transit rider, or automobile driver. The [Introduction](#) provides an overview of the report. You should begin your review by reading this brief chapter, and by reading the [Issue Paper](#) (292 KB) that summarizes the changes since the plan was originally prepared. The [Vision and Goals](#) chapter provides the background on the purposes of the transportation system and how it fits in the overall character of the town.



The [Pedestrian Element](#) (227 KB) describes the recommendations for the sidewalk system of the town. In the future, sidewalks will be continuous, and greater opportunities will be provided for travel by foot.

The [Bicycle Element](#) (1.4 MB) describes the improvements in bike paths, neighborhood connectors, bike lanes, and greenways. Among the recommendations are to provide more paths separate from autos as well as providing wider outside lanes on roadways to permit safe bicycle use.

The [Transit Element](#) (727 KB) describes the recommended transit improvements for the town. Included are short-term recommendations focused on the bus system, and long-term improvements focused on the Triangle Transit Authority's rail plans. Included is a discussion of the recommendations of the Seniors and Persons with Disabilities Transportation Task Force for an immediate increase in transit service.

The [Thoroughfare Element](#) (1.1 MB) describes the recommended changes to the street network for the town. Included are recommendations on the widths of roadways, and the general location of new roadways. Portions of the recommendations are already being implemented, such as the construction of a wider North Harrison, and the design of Davis Drive. **NOTE:** The thoroughfare map (Figure 6.9) **has** been updated to reflect the recommended changes.

The Draft Comprehensive Transportation Plan concludes with a series of Appendices, for those interested in more detail. [Appendix A](#) (9 MB) provides a street-by-street description of the recommended changes. **NOTE:** The appendix **has** been revised to reflect the changes. The cross sections should match the Thoroughfare map. [Appendix B](#) provides traffic calculations for the Levels of Service for streets and intersections and the highest accident locations. [Appendix C](#) (302 KB) provides technical descriptions of Levels of Service and the Triangle Regional Traffic Model, which was used to project future traffic volumes. [Appendix D](#) provides a ride check of the TTA Gold Route. Finally, [Appendix E](#) provides a detailed recommendation on the Bikeways.

Public Comment and Public Meeting (revised)

As a draft plan, the recommendations contained will be modified based upon the comments received from the public. You are encouraged to review the parts of the plan most important to you and to offer comments on the recommendations. Comments can be emailed to traffic@townofcary.org.

The draft plan was the subject of open houses on October 18, 2000 and February 12, 2001 at the Page-Walker Hotel. More than 30 individuals attended each of these open houses. Nearly 40 emails have been received at the above address with further comments on the plan.



On February 22, 2001, a public hearing was held before the Cary Town Council on the Comprehensive Transportation Plan. The majority of the speakers addressed issues surrounding the recommended extension of Cary Parkway between Harrison and Trinity. Comments were also received on the Transit Element.

Changes to the Comprehensive Plan

Since the plan was originally posted on this website in October 2000, several modifications to the recommendations have been made based upon the public input received. Links to two documents are provided here that describe the changes.

The first link is the minutes of the [October 30, 2001 Advisory Committee Meeting](#). During this meeting, the committee discussed the issues that were raised and the recommendations of Wilbur Smith Associates to modify the plan. The committee then voted 8 to 1 to send the document on to the Town Council. The second document is the [Issue Paper](#) (292 KB) that was presented to Town Council along with the forwarded Comprehensive Transportation Plan. This document describes the issues that have been raised since the October version of the plan.

Next Steps (revised)

At the February 22, 2001 Town Council meeting, the Council forwarded the Comprehensive Transportation Plan to the Planning and Zoning Commission. This commission will review the document at their March 19, 2001 meeting. Following this meeting, the document is anticipated to be sent to Town Council for adoption at the April 19, 2001 Town Council meeting.

The Council adopted plan will go before the Capital Metropolitan Planning Organization in May for inclusion in their comprehensive transportation plans for Wake County.