

bills. To save energy (and money!) used for water heating, repair any leaky faucets, install low-flow fixtures and insulate accessible hot water lines. When it's time to purchase a new washing machine or dishwasher, look for models that are ENERGY STAR*-certified.

source: energy.gov

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THE EXPRESS • September 14, 2022 • Page NCDOT Seeks Input on Draft 10-Year Transportation Plan

The public is invited to learn more about and comment on the N.C. Department of Transportation's draft 10-year transportation plan for 2024-2033, called the State Transportation Improvement Program, or STIP.

Over the next several weeks, each of the department's 14 highway divisions will host week-long open houses during normal business hours. (See local division information below.) The sessions will serve as opportunities for people to review the funding and proposed schedules for projects in their area, ask questions of local NCDOT staff and submit comments. Anson County is a part of the Divison 10 Office which also includes Cabarrus, Mecklenburg, Stanly and Union Counties. That office will hold their open house September 26-30. The address is 716 W. Main Street, Albemarle NC 28001. The contact is Sean M. Epperson 704-983-4400.

The department will provide auxiliary aids and services under the Americans with Disabilities Act for disabled persons who want to provide input. Anyone requiring special services should contact their local NCDOT division as early as possible so that arrangements can be made.

People who cannot attend the public comment sessions have the opportunity to submit comments online at *www.ncdot.gov* and participate in an online survey to indicate which projects matter most to them.

The department initially unveiled its proposed funding and construction plan in May and has revised the draft document to reflect new sources of revenue.

The STIP is typically updated every two years. This draft plan, however, was developed under unique circumstances. Material and labor cost escalations led local, regional and state transportation planning partners to recommend, and the Board of Transportation to concur, with foregoing the usual process for prioritizing projects. Instead, they decided the new plan should be built from existing projects in the current (2020-29) STIP to the extent that funding allows, while giving planning organizations the opportunity to propose project swaps that meet the needs of their communities.

The draft plan still adheres to the Strategic Transportation Investments law using the required data-driven process and input from local officials and the public.

Projects scheduled in the first five years are generally considered to be committed, while those on the latter half of the schedule are subject to be re-evaluated when the next STIP is developed.

The NCDOT plans to use public input and the requests of planning organizations from around the state to produce a final draft STIP that will state transportation officials will adopt next year. More information on the STIP process can be found on the NCDOT webpage, *www.ncdot.gov*.

Anson County Comprehensive Transportation Plan Survey

There are big things happening in Anson County and your input is needed. Here's your chance to make your voice heard.

Anson County is working with the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) to plan future transportation projects. Some of these projects could have huge impacts on growth and development in Anson County.

Anson County, the Rocky River Rural Planning Organization (RRRPO), and the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) are updating the 2012 Comprehensive Transportation Plan (CTP). This plan will identify future transportation needs (vehicle, public transportation, rail, bicycle, and pedestrian) in Anson County.

A Comprehensive Transportation Plan is a long-range transportation plan that identifies deficiencies and proposes solutions to address them. Feedback on this plan goes straight to NCDOT.

Multiple modes of travel will be studied, including highways (cars, trucks, motorcycles, freight), public transportation, rail, bicycles, and pedestrians.

All transportation solutions identified in this plan may be submitted to NCDOT for consideration for future funding and construction.

Planners need your opinion on the future transportation needs for Anson County. Please take this online survey and give your input. It is a:

metroquestsurvey.com/AnsonCTP. Thank you for participating!

Share your top priorities for Anson County's future transportation network.

NC State Fair Announces Home Chef Challenge

The NC State Fair is looking for home chefs to spice up the competitions at the fair with 11 days of cooking challenges. Included are loaded nachos, ultimate brownies, spirited pies, quirky cobbler, a make-ahead breakfast challenge, chili cook-off, grain bowls, sirloin salad, fair food featuring bacon and chicken casserole.

"Like the NC State Fair, cooking is a way to bring people together," said John Buettner, competitive exhibits director. "I know that the competitions offered this year will bring out the creative side of our home chefs and I can't wait to see the results. In addition to bragging rights, the winning recipe for each challenge brings home a prize of \$500." Recipes will be judged on appearance, taste and creativity.

A complete list of Home Chef Challenges is listed below. Deadline to enter is Oct. 3. The Home Chef Challenge will be held in the North Lobby of Dorton Arena. Contestants will receive two gate tickets and a parking pass to bring their entry to the fair.

Information: ncstatefair.org/2022/Competitions/Entering/HomeChefChallenge.htm. • Loaded Nachos Challenge Thursday, Oct. 13 at 4 p.m. Dream up an ultimate loaded nachos recipe that will wow the judges.

• Ultimate Brownie Showdown Friday, Oct. 14 at 10 a.m. Dense and fudgy or light and fluffy? Extra fillings or simply classic? Our judges will try them all.

• **Spirited Pie Challenge** Saturday, Oct. 15 at 10 a.m. Fill them with your best fruit, chocolate, nuts and more – but be sure to add the feature ingredient of a spirit made in North Carolina. Check out the competition guidelines for a list of 41 N.C. craft spirits acceptable for the challenge.

• Great Bowls of Fire Chili Cook-Off Sunday, Oct. 16 at 2 p.m. Beans or no beans? It's a debate for the ages. Everyone has the best chili recipe and today's the day to put yours to the test.

• Morning Mayhem Buster: Make-Ahead Breakfast Challenge Monday, Oct. 17 at 10 a.m. Everyone could use a little more time in the morning. Bring us your BEST make-ahead breakfast to make that vision a reality. It could be a casserole, muffins, breakfast burritos, overnight oats, etc.

• Brain Food Healthy Grain Bowl Challenge Tuesday, Oct. 18 at 11 a.m. The N.C. State Fair's first super food challenge. Start with a healthy whole grain base and start topping to build a delicious protein-packed meal. • Tip Top Sirloin Salad Challenge Wednesday, Oct. 19 at 10 a.m. Make a steak salad that's meal worthy, don't forget a dressing that will put your creation together! • Bacontastic Fair Food Challenge Thursday, Oct. 20 at 10 a.m. This competition offers a Junior and Adult Division with two \$500 first place prizes. It's for home chefs that might have dreamed of their own fair booth and know just what fair food they'd offer. Just be sure to add bacon! • Not Your Mama's Chicken Casserole Challenge Friday, Oct. 21 at 10 a.m. Everyone has that chicken casserole recipe that's been passed down for generationsthat's not what this competition is about. Put a new spin on an old favorite and add a twist that excites the judges. Duke Cancer Care in Wake County Celebrates Cancer Warriors Challenge Saturday, Oct. 22 at 10 a.m. This competition is heart-led. Honor or recognize someone you know who has experienced cancer through your appetizer, main dish or dessert. Story matters, so be sure to share your inspiration along with the recipe. • Quirky Cobbler Challenge Sunday, Oct. 23 at 10 a.m. Fall calls for cobbler and sonker. Show the judges what you've got in this competition looking for the best sweet and savory, or sweet and more sweet, cobbler. Information at www.ncstatefair.org



Grilled Hamburgers & Hot Dogs with all the trimmings, chips, dessert & drink.

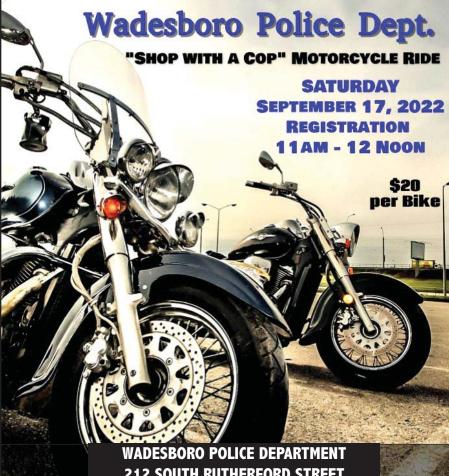
Goody Bags with masks, hand sanitizer, home Covid test, other goodies & information.

All Types of Games will be played for your chance to win prizes:

2 Grand Prizes - 1 for a male & 1 for a female. Tickets given out at arrival. *You don't have to be present to win the Grand Prize, but, if selected, you have until* 4:30pm that day to pick up the prize or another ticket will be drawn. No Exceptions!

> Call to register at 704-694-6616 Monday-Friday, 8:30am to 5:00pm

199 HIGHWAY 742 SOUTH IN WADESBORO, JUST PAST IGA



212 SOUTH RUTHERFORD STREET WADESBORO, NC 28170

For more info contact Sgt. Cannon 704-465-8705

Lunch Included - Door Prizes - 50/50 Drawing



Anson County Farm Bureau Annual Meeting Monday, October 3rd

Location: Lockhart-Taylor Center 514 North Washington Street • Wadesboro, NC

Time: **Doors will open at 6:15 p.m.** Dinner starts at 6:30 **p.m.** Business meeting starts at 7 **p.m.**

Admission: **\$2 per person** We can only allow 2 people per membership. You must be present for your guest to come. *Please present your membership card at the door.

This is the Annual Meeting of the members of the Anson County Farm Bureau, Inc., a North Carolina corporation (the "Corporation"). During the meeting, the members will consider a proposed amendment to the Corporation's bylaws regarding the eligibility requirements for the Corporation's Officers and Directors.

We look forward to seeing you there. Ronnie Mills, President

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