



# NC Capital Area Metropolitan Planning Organization

## Staff Report

One City Plaza  
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**Agenda Date: 11/3/2022**

**Agenda Item:**

**To: Technical C**

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### Roadside Landscaping & Forestation Program

Chris Lukasina, CAMPO Staff

The current 2020-2029 TIP and draft 2024-33 TIP have several major projects scheduled to be constructed over the next 10-12 years. Each of these projects will include landscaping as part of the improvements that are implemented. Roadside landscaping and forestation have garnered increasing interest in recent years.

There is a breadth of research on the benefits of roadside reforestation including:

- Economic
  - o Increased Property Values as a result of more extensive greening and higher positive consumer inferences
- Safety
  - o Roadside vegetation, particularly trees cut wind and cross-glare and provide relief from the sun and opposing traffic.
- Health/Environmental
  - o Reduction in pollutants, improved mental health, reduction in stormwater runoff, and reduced temperatures from increased vegetation canopies.

NCDOT as well as FHWA have guidelines for what vegetation and landscape measures are used for various situations. Jeff Lackey with the NCDOT Roadside Environmental Unit provided a presentation on the process for developing and implementing roadside landscaping and forestation programs for the various TIP projects that are programmed for implementation throughout the region at the June 2, 2022 TCC meeting. After the presentation the TCC requested staff research this subject further and report back to the TCC. Staff will provide a presentation on the current status of this effort.

**Requested Action:** Receive as information