



City of Winston-Salem City Council Council Agenda Item Summary

Title	Resolution to Support the Replacement of the Fourth Street Bridge Over US 52 as a Multi-modal Vehicular Bridge
City Council Committee	Committee of the Whole
Staff Lead (Presenter)	Jeff Fansler, Director of Transportation
Department Head	Jeff Fansler, Director of Transportation
City Manager/ACM	Aaron King, ACM

Agenda Item Summary

Recommended Council Action	Resolution Approval
Suggested Motion Options	I move approval of the Resolution to Support the Replacement of the Fourth Street Bridge over US 52 as a Multi-modal Vehicular Bridge
Strategic Focus Area	Community Advocacy and Engagement
Strategic Plan Objective	CAE1: Strengthening Relationships With Community Partners
Anticipated Fiscal Impact	No Material Fiscal Impact

Summary of Information

The North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) is managing the bridge replacement project HB-0031, which will replace the Third, Fourth, and Fifth Street bridges over US 52 in Winston-Salem as a single coordinated effort. Third, Fourth, and Fifth Streets are City owned and maintained streets. The Winston-Salem Department of Transportation (WSDOT) recommends replacing the Fourth Street Bridge over US 52 as a multi-modal bridge that includes vehicle travel lanes.

During a public meeting held on September 11 at United Metropolitan Missionary Baptist Church, the NCDOT presented two design options for the Fourth Street Bridge:

1. A multi-modal bridge with vehicle travel lanes
2. A bicycle/pedestrian-only bridge

Following public input and consultation with NCDOT, most of the feedback supported the multi-modal option that maintains vehicular access, despite Fourth Street currently carrying fewer than 2,500 vehicles per day—a volume that could be absorbed by surrounding infrastructure.

Since project development began, WSDOT has received varying opinions and letters of support for both options. While the bridge is not essential from a traffic operations

standpoint, strong community support has emerged for preserving vehicular connectivity.

Importantly, the Creative Corridors Visionary Master Plan identifies the Fourth Street Bridge as a “Signature Bridge” with a focus on reconnecting the Center of the City to East Winston. While the plan highlights the bridge’s civic and design significance, it does not recommend limiting the structure to pedestrian and bicycle use. A multi-modal bridge supports the plan’s vision of equitable access and physical reconnection across US 52.

Selecting a pedestrian-only bridge would require additional City maintenance and a broader planning effort to terminate the street ends and incorporate a multi-use path within the existing right-of-way. It would further require a comprehensive capital project to address the change in transportation options across US 52 to properly establish said multi-use path. This capital project and its contributing funds are currently not programmed in the City’s capital plan.

WSDOT recommends that NCDOT proceed with replacing the Fourth Street Bridge as a multi-modal vehicular bridge. WSDOT staff has prepared a presentation to provide further details and context for the Council’s consideration.

Analysis of Fiscal Impact

No Material Impact

Attachments

- Resolution
- Presentation – HB 0031

Committee Action	COTW 11/12/25
For:	Against:
Remarks: Approved Unanimously	