

Frameworks

The Frameworks shown on this and the following pages are the underlying structures of the Town. The Plan recommends that the existing street and park systems be developed in such a manner that the community is better connected and functions more effectively and efficiently.

STREET FRAMEWORKS

The overall goal of the proposed Street Framework is to improve capacity, connectivity and access with new linkages. The following recommendations address the capacity needs of the study area calling for the creation of new street network or the connection of existing streets to form an integrated network. The plan recommends five types of improvements shown on the following page.

1. Major East West Arterial Links Across I-77.
Two new links of arterial roadway, both of them bridging I-77, will accommodate future travel growth without widening NC-73 (Sam Furr Road) beyond four lanes.

2. Improve Interchange Congestion by Adding New Network.
The Plan recommends minor modifications to the I-77, ramps in order to add network connections that will distribute traffic more efficiently. The Plan recommends an additional connection to and from the northbound pair of ramps (on and off ramps) that connect to US-21 and lengthening the ramps at their current locations. The additional links will offer an opportunity for traffic using the congested segment of NC-73 between the ramps and US-21 to quickly disperse via a number of alternate routes thereby reducing vehicle trips and improving traffic flow.



- NEW ROADS
- IMPROVED ROADS
- PEDESTRIAN AND BIKE CONNECTIONS

Proposed Street Frameworks



Proposed Open Space Frameworks



PROPOSED STREET FRAMEWORK New streets and a modified ramp system will create a more connected community and will help transition the area from a suburban commercial center to a mixed-use town center.

- KEY STREET FRAMEWORK RECOMMENDATIONS**
- 1 Additional major east/west arterial links;
 - 2 Reduce interchange congestion by adding network;
 - 3 New local streets;
 - 4 New local vehicular and pedestrian connections;
 - 5 Widen US-21 for limited segments/improve Sam Furr Road;
 - 6 Bicycle and recreational network.

- NEW ROADS
- IMPROVED ROADS
- PEDESTRIAN AND BIKE CONNECTIONS

3. **New/Well Connected Local Streets at the Commercial Centers**
 The Plan Recommends extending Rich Hatchett Road and Holly Point Drive through the Northcross Shopping Center. These new roads would, in turn, connect to US-21, providing additional relief to the congested Sam Furr Road/US-21 intersections.

4. **New Local Vehicular and Pedestrian Connections:**
 Various short roadway and pedestrian links are recommended between areas that generate local trips. The Plan recommends connecting roadways that when linked will provide additional capacity to the network. In a number of cases these new links connect to existing roadway stub-outs; in other cases the additional network can be built when the new development comes on line.

5. **Widen US-21 for Limited Segments**
 The Plan recommends widening US-21 to four lanes in between Northcross Center Court and Rich Hatchett Road. An additional travel lane yields significant increases in capacity at the critical US-21/Sam Furr Road Intersection. In the short term, NCDOT is proposing to improve the intersection to include two through lanes, dual left turn lanes, and a right turn lane, in all directions

6. **Bicycle and Recreational Network**
 In addition to the street connections and improvements listed above, the Plan recommends a bicycle and recreational network that connects neighborhoods to parks and other daily activities of life. Trails may be off-street as in the greenways, bike lanes on-street, or signed bike routes.

PROPOSED STREET NETWORK IMPROVEMENTS AND PEDESTRIAN CONNECTIONS



1. Additional major east-west arterial links across I-77.



2. Improve interchange congestion by adding new network.



3. New local streets connecting the commercial centers.



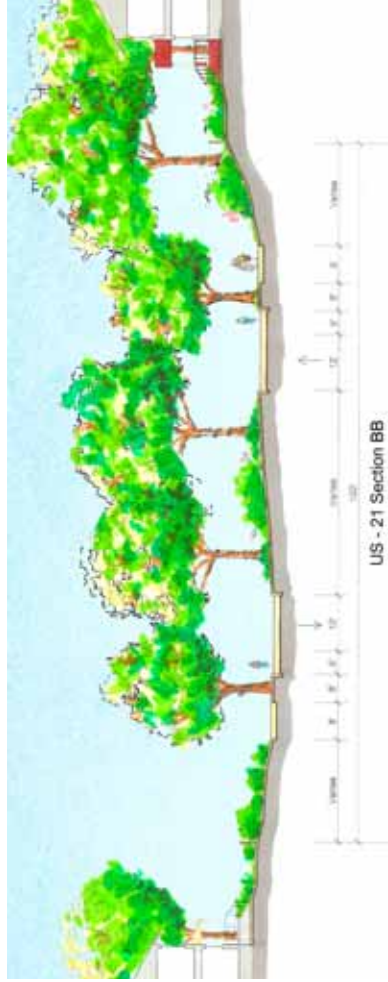
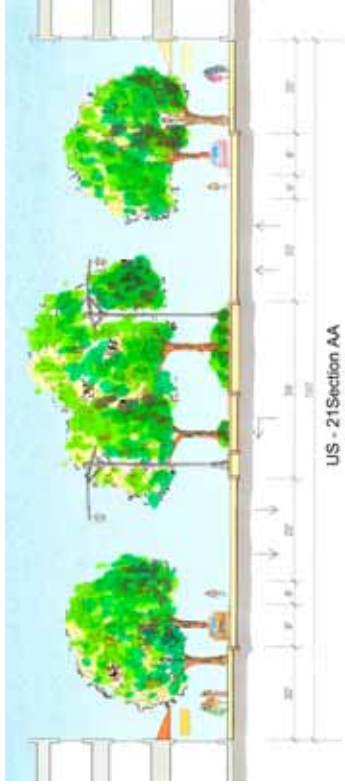
4. New local vehicular and pedestrian connections between commercial areas and neighborhoods.



5. Widen US-21 for limited segments; improve Sam Furr Road.



6. Bicycle and recreational network.



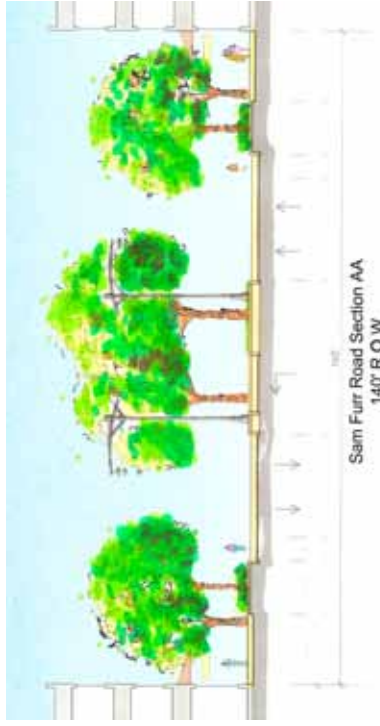
US-21/STATESVILLE ROAD The plan recommends widening Statesville Road (US-21) to four lanes between Rich Hatchett Road and Northcross Center Court.



PROPOSED PERSPECTIVE OF US-21, BETWEEN RICH HATCHETT ROAD AND NORTHCROSS CENTER COURT (TOP) The Plan recommends converting a limited segment of US-21 into a parkway.
EXISTING VIEW (BOTTOM) Existing conditions south of Rich Hatchett Road.



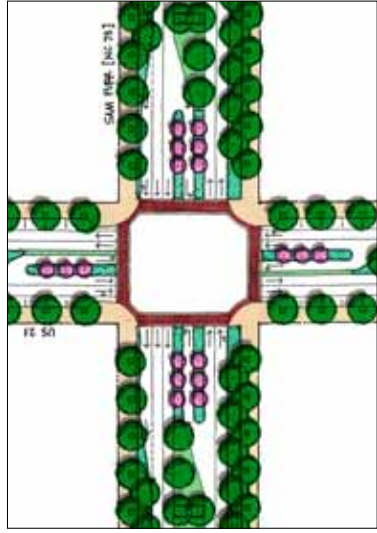
SAM FURR ROAD The Plan recommends widening NC-73 to four lanes with a planted median.



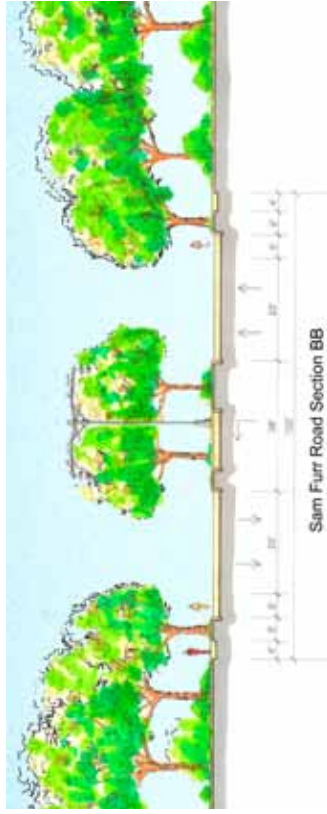
SECTION AA Proposed Sam Furr Road between I-77 and Rich Hatchett Road.



Existing Conditions at Sam Furr Road/US-21 Intersection.



Concept Plan for Sam Furr Road/US-21 Intersection (with network improvements).



SECTION BB Proposed Sam Furr Road east of Greenfarm Road.

PARK AND OPEN SPACE FRAMEWORK

The Plan recommends several additions and improvements to the current inventory of parks and open spaces. Developing a well integrated and connected park and open space system in Huntersville will be increasingly important to the overall quality of life in the Town. Such a system will provide recreational opportunities, stormwater management opportunities, the creation of unique development addresses and transportation alternatives to surface roadways.

The underlying structure to the Open Space Framework are the Town's many streams and creeks. Protection of these resources is critical because they are a primary source for Mountain Island Lake, the Town's public water supply.

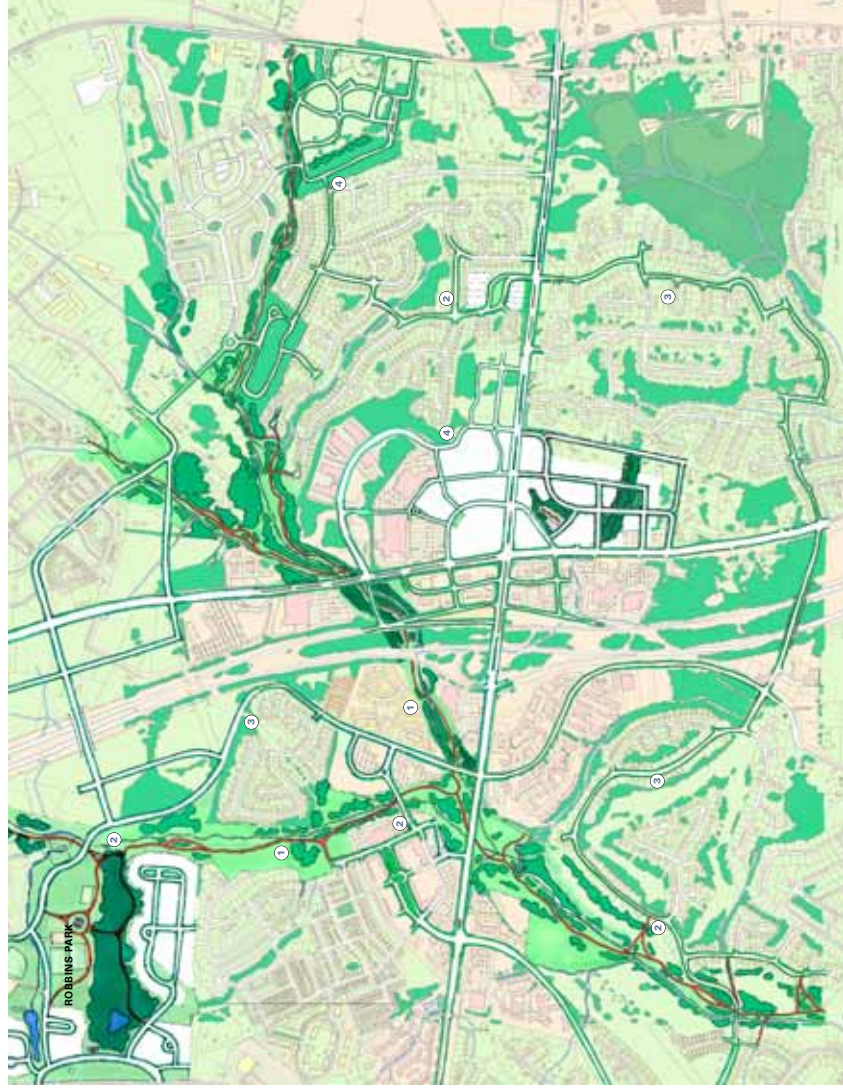
The Plan also recommends augmenting the greenway system with an on-street bike network containing both striped bike lanes as well as simply marked bike routes. These routes are particularly important where access to greenways is limited.

KEY OPEN SPACE AND PARKS FRAMEWORK RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1 Extension of Greenway System
- 2 Multiple access points and trail heads to greenway
- 3 On-street bike routes and lanes.
- 4 Sidewalks on all new streets



Examples of trails and greenways



PROPOSED OPEN SPACE FRAMEWORK Expanding the open Space and Park system will be critical to maintaining Huntersville high quality of life.