



STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

ROY COOPER
GOVERNOR

J. ERIC BOYETTE
SECRETARY

DATE: October 16, 2020

TO: Joint Legislative Transportation Oversight Committee

FROM: Johanna H. Reese
Deputy Secretary for Intergovernmental Affairs

SUBJECT: Division of Highways Financial Management Personnel Structure Report

Session Law 2020-91 requires the Department of Transportation to report to the legislature on its plan to develop and establish a uniform financial management personnel structure within all highway division offices. The department is addressing these requirements in two phases.

1) Staff in each highway division are meeting on a regular basis to discuss all facets of a division's budget. The division discusses the budget and spend plan of each program, the purchases of the division and any irregularities in the division, the priorities of projects within each program, and the budget and progress of projects in the STIP. The division business officers are meeting on a regular basis with the department's financial staff to discuss and share activities in each division. The department is also looking at opportunities to better educate the business officers on department accounting procedures and processes.

2) The department plans to create and fill several Accounting IV positions assigned to the divisions to be solely responsible for financial management. The chief engineer's office is working with Human Resources to identify seven administrative positions to convert to accounting positions. Each would assist two divisions aligned with the STI regions. These positions would work directly with their assigned divisions and report to the eastern and western deputy engineering positions. The goal is to have the positions reallocated and posted in January and have the positions filled by June for the beginning of fiscal year 2022. However, this schedule is dependent on identifying the seven administrative positions and the approval to re-allocate the positions.