

**GASTON-CLEVELAND-LINCOLN
Metropolitan Planning Organization**

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August 26, 2016

Earl Mathers, County Manager
Gaston County Administration Building
128 W. Main Avenue
Gastonia, NC 28053

RE: Replacement of the Garden Parkway Centerline GIS Map to Gaston County's webpage

Mr. Mathers,

I would like to respectfully request that this overlay be added back to the Gaston County GIS web site as an "Optional Map Layer". As noted in your email, the Garden Parkway alignment is still part of the Comprehensive Transportation Plan (CTP) and listed as an unfunded project in the 2040 GCLMPO Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) a.k.a. our Long Range Transportation Plan.

The primary reason for my request, extends from questions submitted by the Gaston Association of Realtors®. Removing the overlay has given real estate agents and home owners the illusion that they no longer have to disclose the Garden Parkway as a material fact when selling property which is not true. It also now stands to confuse potential buyers that have been told the project is "dead". These are not imagined scenarios. We have already had two instances where people are seeking legal advice regarding the purchase of property that was previously shown in the overlay.

The simple fact that the overlay has been removed has created a lot of unnecessary confusion and the removal, in my opinion was premature. The public has a right to know that this project is not in fact "dead". The Parkway is a long range highway project in the MTP and remains on the current and proposed CTP update for December 2016.

As the chairman of the GCLMPO and on behalf of the Gaston Association of Realtors® (of which I am a member), I would like to formally request that this overlay be reinstated to the Gaston County GIS website. Should you have any questions, please contact Hank Graham, MPO Coordinator, at (704) 854-6663 or hankg@cityofgastonia.com.

Sincerely,



Todd Pierceall
Chairman, Gaston-Cleveland-Lincoln Metropolitan Planning Organization

CC: Charles Moore, Gaston County Attorney
GCLMPO Board