

This document is the result of 5-7 months of meetings and research by the 10 State Reentry Council Collaborative (SRCC) workgroups and presents draft recommendations. The SRCC welcomes your comments and feedback on these draft recommendations. **Note: Budget numbers in these recommendations are estimates only and have not been verified.**

All feedback will be reviewed and considered. Once the final recommendations are approved by the SRCC, they will be submitted to the NC General Assembly and the Office of Governor Roy Cooper.

In submitting your feedback, please include the following information:

- Your name
- Organization (if applicable)
- Workgroup and recommendation to which your feedback applies

We welcome any feedback submitted prior to the deadline, but all comments must be emailed to Irene Lawrence at irene.lawrence@ncdps.gov by 5pm on October 31st.

SRCC Transportation Workgroup Recommendation #1

Expand DMV Mobile Unit services to all minimum custody facilities and pilot program to train, credential, and otherwise facilitate a North Carolina Department of Public Safety (NCDPS) corrections officer at each reentry facility providing DMV services.

SRCC Transportation Workgroup Recommendation #2

To facilitate imprisoned people restoring driver's licenses prior to release and maintaining licensure during post-release supervision, the SRCC Transportation workgroup recommends the NC General Assembly (i) provide funding to nonprofit legal services providers to resolve indefinite driver's license suspensions under G.S. § 20-24.1 and (ii) amend several provisions of Chapter 20 of the North Carolina General Statutes, including:

- a. G.S. § 20-24.1(a)(2) to require a pre-deprivation hearing to determine a defendant is able to pay in order to suspended the defendant's license for failure to pay;
- b. G.S. § 20-24.1(b) to provide for automatic restoration of a driver's license after a 12-month suspension period;
- c. GS § 20-26(b) to provide free certified driving records to nonprofit legal services providers;
- d. various provisions to allow hearings on permanent suspensions to occur in the county of residence;
- e. G.S. § 20-28(a) to make retroactive the amendments of Session Law 2015-186 eliminating permanent suspensions for 3 or more convictions of driving while license revoked-not impaired revocation.

SRCC Transportation Workgroup Recommendation #3

To increase access to public and private transportation services for people on post-release supervisions, the SRCC transportation workgroup recommends that NCDPS establish a pilot voucher system to fund transportation expenses of people on post-release supervision based on need and at the discretion of post-release supervision officers.

SRCC Transportation Workgroup Recommendation #4

The SRCC transportation workgroup recommends that the NCDMV establish a presumption of restoration for incarcerated individuals with permanent suspensions for 3 or more convictions of Driving While License Revoked and not require a hearing for permanent suspensions for 3 or more convictions of DWLR unless the underlying suspension was related to a Driving While Impaired offense.

Other recommendations:

- The North Carolina General Assembly amend G.S. § 148-10.5 to require North Carolina Department of Public Safety (NCDPS) to identify and attempt to resolve all outstanding traffic charges while an individual is in custody.
- District Attorneys use data from the NC Administrative Office of the Courts and a best practices toolkit created by the Driver's License Restoration Project to resolve all pending and otherwise unresolved traffic offenses causing driver's license suspensions for people currently incarcerated.
- The NCDMV establish a rule for G.S. § 20-7(i1) to provide for indigency waiver of restoration fees and service fees for all incarcerated individuals; ensure the completion of Drug Alcohol Recovery Treatment (DART) or DART-Cherry satisfies the assessment and treatment requirements for a Driving While Impaired (DWI) conviction and TASC satisfies the substance abuse assessment requirement; Produce a report on the number of suspended driver's licenses for people in NCDPS custody, including reasons for suspension, lengths of suspension, and demographic data; redraft the notice letter for suspensions pursuant to G.S. § 20-24.1 to inform recipients of potential relief under G.S. § 20-24.1(b).
- The Office of the Governor partner with the NC Department of Public Safety and nonprofits, including congregations, to pilot a volunteer transportation services program that provides software, liability insurance, training, and other support to facilitate volunteers providing free transportation to essential employment, goods, and services to people on post-release supervision. The Department of Public Safety should explore using surplus automobiles and prison labor to support this program in rural communities.