

**MECKLENBURG - UNION TECHNICAL COORDINATING COMMITTEE**  
**Summary Meeting Minutes**  
**Charlotte-Mecklenburg Government Center**  
**Room 267**  
**May 6, 2010**

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**Voting Members:** Wayne Herron-Chairman (Monroe), Bill Coxe-Vice-chair (Huntersville), Danny Pleasant (CDOT), Jim Keenan (E&PM), Ken Tippette (CDOT Bicycle Coordinator), Jonathan Wells – alt. for Debra Campbell (C-M Planning), Leslie Rhodes (LUESA-Air Quality), David McDonald (CATS-MTC), Richard Hancock – alt. for Barry Moose (NCDOT-Div. 10), Jack Flaherty (NCDOT-PTD), Anil Panicker (NCDOT-TPB), Karen Floyd – alt. for Andrew Grant (Cornelius), Lauren Blackburn (Davidson), Scott Kaufhold (Indian Trail), Ralph Messera (Matthews), Lee Bailey (Mint Hill), Shannon Martel- via phone - alt. for Brian Matthews (Stallings), Jordan Cook (Weddington)

**Staff:** Stuart Basham (MUMPO), Robert Cook (MUMPO), Nick Polimeni (MUMPO), Crissy Huffstickler (C-M Planning), Jim Schumacher (Charlotte Assistant City Manager), Andy Grzymiski (CDOT), Eldewins Haynes (CDOT), Tracy Newsome (CDOT), Norm Steinman (CDOT), George Berger (E&PM), Bill Duston (Centralina COG), Bjorn Hansen (Centralina COG), Julie Clark (Mecklenburg County Park & Recreation), Zac Gordon (Huntersville), Jim Loyd (Monroe), Jamal Alavi (NCDOT-TPB), Louis Mitchell (NCDOT-Div. 10), John Underwood (NCDOT-Div. 10), Carroll Gray (Lake Norman Transportation Commission)

**Guests:** Steve Blakley (Kimley-Horn), Greg Boulanger (HNTB), Carl Gibilaro (PBS&J), Lynn Purnell (PB Americas), Reid Simons (NCTA)

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TCC Chairman Wayne Herron opened the meeting at 10:05 AM. A matter regarding the Monroe Parkway was added to the agenda, to be considered after the minutes.

**1. Consideration of April Meeting Minutes**

Mr. Herron asked if there were any changes needed to the April minutes. Jonathan Wells made a motion to approve the April minutes as presented. Ralph Messera seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**1a. Monroe Parkway STIP Amendment** (Status Update also presented, see agenda item 11)

**Presenter:** Robert Cook

Mr. Cook explained that the requested action was necessary to bring the TIP in line with the project schedule and the LRTP. The action will place all project funds in fiscal years 2011 through 2014 and clarify the funding sources. Van Argabright of NCDOT's Program Development Unit was participating by telephone and confirmed Mr. Cook's statements. Bill Coxe stated that he had had some concerns about the nature of the action, but explanations from Mr. Argabright allayed his concerns.

**Motion:**

Anil Panicker made a motion to recommend to the MPO that it modify the TIP as presented by Mr. Cook and confirmed by Mr. Argabright. Mr. Messera seconded the motion. Upon being put to a vote, the motion passed unanimously.

## 2. CMAQ

### a) **TIP Amendment**

Presenter: Julie Clark, Mecklenburg County Park & Recreation

#### Summary/Requested Action:

Ms. Clark provided information to the TCC via a Power Point presentation, the contents of which are incorporated into the minutes [here](#). Ms. Clark explained that the request was for the TCC to recommend to the MPO to amend the TIP by shifting funds from five previously approved projects to two new projects. The affected projects are listed below:

#### **Projects from which funds are proposed to be removed:**

- Old Concord Road bike lanes
- Iverson Way-Marion Place bike/pedestrian connection
- McAlpine Creek Greenway
- Mallard Creek Greenway-connection to park & ride
- Sugar Creek/Rumple Road intersection improvements

It was stated that the above five projects cannot move forward due to a combination of funding and logistical problems. One example is that the Sugar Creek/Rumple Road intersection project is being funded entirely by City of Charlotte funds.

#### **Projects proposed to be funded:**

- A one mile extension of the Toby Creek greenway from University City Boulevard to Rockland Drive.
- A new sidewalk along the north side of University City Boulevard (NC 49) between Mallard Creek Church Road and the new main entrance to UNCC.

Funding the above two projects with CMAQ funds from the other five projects will result in the funds staying within MUMPO's planning area. The approximate amount of funds to be shifted is \$1,848,800.

#### Motion:

Ken Tippette made a motion to recommend to the MPO that it amend the TIP as presented. David McDonald seconded the motion. Upon being put to a vote, the motion passed unanimously.

### b) **Upcoming Projects**

Presenter: Robert Cook

#### Summary/FYI:

Mr. Cook stated that 47 potential CMAQ projects had been submitted. He stated that it is likely that not all projects will be formally submitted by the May 26 deadline. The next steps in the process were reviewed. Mr. Cook asked for Mr. Herron's assistance in forming a subcommittee to review the applications and make a recommendation to the TCC.

## 3. I-485 Functional Class Changes and NC 24 Route Change

Presenter: Robert Cook

#### Summary/Requested Action:

Mr. Cook stated that NCDOT's Transportation Planning Branch requested that MUMPO act to change the functional classification of the following sections of roadways:

<b>Road &amp; Road Segment</b>	<b>Current Classification</b>	<b>Prop. Classification</b>
I-485, from I-85 to Brookshire Blvd	Freeway/Expressway	Interstate
I-485, from Brookshire Blvd to I-77	Future freeway/Expressway	Interstate
W.T. Harris Blvd, from I-77 to I-485	Major Collector	Principal Arterial

Motion:

Mr. Coxe made a motion to recommend to the MPO that it approve the functional classification changes as presented. Mr. Messera seconded the motion. Upon being put to a vote, the motion passed unanimously.

**4. Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)**

Presenter: Robert Cook

Summary/Requested Action:

Mr. Cook noted that the UPWP had been discussed several times at the TCC. The presentation was based upon two memoranda to the TCC from Mr. Cook dated April 22, 2010 and May 3, 2010, the contents of which are incorporated into the minutes [here](#). In addition, Mr. Cook noted that MUMPO had received its FY 11 allocation figure the day before and that it was almost \$100,000 more than the figure being used in the UPWP's development. He recommended that a portion of funds be used to make up for a reduction in Section 5303 funds, and that the remainder be allocated to a task code(s) via a UPWP amendment in July. For the purposes of action at this time, the remainder will be placed in the Management & Operations task code.

Motion:

Mr. Coxe made a motion to recommend to the MPO that it approve the FY 11 UPWP as presented. Mr. McDonald seconded the motion. Upon being put to a vote, the motion passed unanimously.

**5. MPO Self-Certification**

Presenter: Robert Cook

Summary/Requested Action:

Mr. Cook stated that this was an annual requirement. MPOs must certify that they adhere to all laws, regulations, etc in the implementation of the metropolitan planning process.

Motion:

Mr. Coxe made a motion to recommend to the MPO that it certify that MUMPO adheres to all laws, statutes, regulations etc in carrying out the metropolitan planning process. Mr. McDonald seconded the motion. Upon being put to a vote, the motion passed unanimously.

**6. North Carolina Railroad/NC 49 Feasibility Study**

Presenter: Greg Boulanger, HNTB

Summary/FYI:

Mr. Boulanger used a Power Point presentation, the contents of which are incorporated into the minutes [here](#). Mr. Boulanger presented a feasibility study for the Eastern Circumferential Road (ECR)-NC 49/NCR crossing, located in northeast Charlotte. After describing the project overview, context, goals and design criteria, he presented the following four alternative concepts that the study evaluated:

- Alt. 1 – ECR bridged over NCR and NC 49 with connector road
- Alt. 2 – ECR under NCR and NC 49 with connector road
- Alt. 3A – ECR under NCR and NC 49 depressed for at grade intersection
- Alt. 3B – ECR over NCR and NC 49 elevated for at grade intersection

Mr. Boulanger described a number of screening criteria used to evaluate each alternative concept and based on those results, the design concept for Alternative 3A was recommended. Mr. Boulanger

concluded his presentation by stating the advantages and disadvantages of Alternative 3A and discussing the next steps in the process.

A discussion followed Mr. Boulanger's presentation in which several comments were made regarding the design issues. Danny Pleasant stated that the City of Charlotte was generally in support of the recommended alternative and advocated for bicycle/pedestrian improvements.

## **7. I-77 HOV-to-HOT Lanes Conversion and Extension**

Presenter: Lynn Purnell, PB Americas

### Summary/FYI:

Mr. Purnell used a Power Point presentation, the contents of which are incorporated into the minutes [here](#). Mr. Purnell informed the TCC about a feasibility study that took place between February 2009 and February 2010 with the following three objectives in mind:

- Feasibility for extending existing HOV lanes on I-77
- Feasibility for converting the existing HOV to HOT lanes and extending them
- Feasibility of allowing general purpose traffic on the right shoulders

Along with explaining the benefits of HOV and HOT lanes, he informed the TCC that the conclusion of the study was to recommend converting the existing HOV to HOT lanes and extending the lanes to Exit 28 in Cornelius. Mr. Purnell explained some of the possible financial feasibility options, some implementation actions necessary, as well as stating that it was possible the project could be completed around the end of 2013 assuming a continuation of the current efforts, and depending on the financing. He also mentioned that the Lake Norman RPO was very supportive of the project and that Barry Moose of NCDOT's Division 10 office was taking the lead on the project.

Several TCC members voiced support for the project.

## **8. Regional Transportation Planning Study**

Presenter: Bill Duston, Centralina COG

### Summary/FYI:

Mr. Duston used a Power Point presentation, the contents of which are incorporated into the minutes [here](#). The purpose of Mr. Duston's presentation was to inform the TCC about the Regional Transportation Planning Study that the COG is undertaking. He described the purpose and goals, methodology, participation and timeline of the study. Mr. Duston concluded by announcing that a focus group for the MPO would be held near the end of May.

## **9. Sustainable Communities Planning Grant**

Presenter: Bill Duston, Centralina COG

### Summary/FYI:

Mr. Duston used a Power Point presentation, the contents of which are incorporated into the minutes [here](#). Mr. Duston described a planning grant based on the "Livability Principles" developed by USHUD, USEPA and USDOT, and that up to \$5 million is available to metro regions, with a 20% match required. He explained why this region is a contender for the grant money, as well as the approach being used to apply for the grant. Mr. Duston concluded his presentation by stating the timeline, next steps and the current partners in the process.

## **10. NCDOT Complete Streets Policy Development Update**

Presenter: Tracy Newsome, CDOT

### Summary/FYI:

Ms. Newsome briefly updated the TCC on the Complete Streets Policy Development advisory group, stating that a consult was selected to assist with the development of the policy. Julie Clark asked if the Complete Streets advisory group is the appropriate forum to discuss a statewide greenway policy. Ms. Newsome said she would look into it, but that she didn't know if that issue would fall under the scope of the advisory group.

## **11. Monroe Parkway Status Update** (item moved to 1b, presented with STIP Amendment)

Presenter: Reid Simons, NCTA

### Summary/FYI:

Ms. Simons reported on the following:

- The Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) should be completed in about a week
- Shortly after the FEIS is completed, work will begin to get the Record of Decision (ROD). Hopefully by late June or early July.
- A workshop was held with the Stallings business community and a similar effort is planned for Indian Trail businesses.
- A transponder has been decided upon, and a contract of \$5.9 million was awarded to the company chosen
- Work continues to assemble bicycle and pedestrian information

Mr. Coxe asked if a more detailed presentation about the chosen transponder could be given at a future TCC meeting. Ms. Simons indicated that that could be arranged.

## **12. Comprehensive Transportation Plan (CTP)**

Presenter: Anil Panicker, NCDOT

### Summary / FYI:

Mr. Panicker reported that base maps were still being worked on and apologized for the delay. He also informed the TCC that an exercise to classify two roads was performed at the last CTP subcommittee meeting.

**13. Adjourn:** The meeting was adjourned at 12:00 PM.