

MECKLENBURG - UNION TECHNICAL COORDINATING COMMITTEE

Summary Meeting Minutes

Charlotte-Mecklenburg Government Center

Room CH-14

October 7, 2010

Voting Members: Wayne Herron-Chair (Monroe), Bill Coxe-Vice-Chair (Huntersville), Danny Pleasant (CDOT), Alan Giles – alt. for Leslie Rhodes (LUESA-Air Quality), Ken Tippette (CDOT Bicycle Coordinator), Jonathan Wells – alt. for Debra Campbell (C-M Planning), Louis Mitchell – alt. for Barry Moose (NCDOT-Div. 10), Anil Panicker (NCDOT-TPB), Adam McLamb – alt. for Scott Kaufhold (Indian Trail), Ralph Messera (Matthews), Shannon Martel – alt. for Brian Matthews (Stallings), Amy Helms (Union County), Joshua Langen (Wesley Chapel), Jordan Cook (Weddington), John Rose (CATS), Lee Bailey (Mint Hill), Kevin Icard (Pineville), Andrew Grant (Cornelius), Jack Flaherty (NCDOT-Public Transportation), Lauren Blackburn (Davidson)

Staff: Stuart Basham (MUMPO), Robert Cook (MUMPO), Nick Polimeni (MUMPO), Crissy Huffstickler (Planning), Andy Grzymiski (CDOT), Norm Steinman (CDOT), Craig Thomas (Indian Trail), Jim Loyd (Monroe), Tom Tasselli (Cornelius), Gwen Cook (Mecklenburg County Park & Recreation), Pate Butler (NCDOT), John Underwood (NCDOT-Dist. 3), Ron Reid (Mecklenburg County), Jennifer Harris – via phone (NCTA), Loretta Barren – via phone (FHWA)

Guests: Angela Schlottman (CCOG), Carroll Gray (Lake Norman Transportation Commission), Lynda Paxton (MPO Vice-Chair – Stallings), Steve Blakley (Kimley-Horn), Greg Boulanger (HNTB)

TCC Chairman Wayne Herron opened the meeting at 10:00 AM.

Mr. Herron announced that agenda item numbers 3 and 9 would be removed from the agenda and considered at a later date.

1. Consideration of September Meeting Minutes

Mr. Herron asked if there were any changes needed to the September minutes. Mr. Wells made a motion to approve the September minutes. Mr. Pleasant seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Herron stated that agenda item number 4 would be taken first.

2. Transit Funding Presentation

Presenter: Jack Flaherty, NCDOT Public Transportation Division

Summary/FYI:

Mr. Flaherty provided information to the TCC via a Power Point presentation, the contents of which are incorporated into the minutes [here](#). He gave an overview of the various aspects of transit funding, including Federal Transit Authority (FTA) grants, the difference between funding transit projects and highway projects, and how transit projects relate to the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), as well as providing examples of transit projects that lead to TIP amendments. Mr. Coxe asked why transit projects often require TIP amendments when, in a similar situation, a highway project would not. Mr. Flaherty responded that there is more oversight and more pots of money associated with transit funding. There was also a discussion regarding the TCC and MPO's involvement in weighing transportation priorities. It was noted that historically, the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) has been the body that evaluates transit priorities, but there is nothing that precludes the MPO

from weighing in. Finally, Mr. Herron noted that if more discussion on the topic is necessary, it could be included on a transportation staff meeting agenda, but in the meantime, as much information as possible be provided to the TCC when transit action items are included on its agenda.

3. JARC & New Freedom Project Selection

Presenter: Angela Schlottman, Centralina COG

Summary/FYI:

Ms. Schlottman informed the TCC that CATS is again subcontracting with Centralina COG to facilitate the selection process for a second round of JARC and New Freedom grants. She indicated that there was money unallocated in both programs after the first round of project selection so a second round of applications are due on October 8. After the applications are reviewed and the selection committee makes a recommendation, the results will be presented to the TCC for endorsement at its November meeting.

4. Proposed I-77 HOT Conversion (North Mecklenburg)

Presenter: Lauren Blackburn, Town of Davidson

Summary/FYI:

Ms. Blackburn provided some background on the topic, including that the Town of Davidson recently submitted a letter of support for the TIGER II grant application for the I-77 HOT lanes between Charlotte and Exit 28. In addition, she noted that the letter also advocated for the expedited environmental review of adding thru-lanes on I-77 along the two causeways over Lake Norman. Mr. Coxe described the background of the project, including a feasibility study that was conducted in 2003 as well as a TIP project that has funds programmed for right-of-way in 2017 (TIP# I-4750). It was requested that the TCC discuss next steps to adding thru-lanes along the causeways and how adding the lanes fits in with the other projects described. Mr. Herron suggested that since the item is for information only, perhaps further discussion at a transportation staff meeting would be beneficial. Mr. Steinman, of CDOT, noted that content and priorities also need to be discussed.

A motion was made by Mr. Coxe to discuss the above issues at a future staff meeting. Mr. Wells seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

5. Monroe Parkway/McKee Road Interface Issues

Presenter: Ralph Messera, Town of Matthews

Summary/FYI:

Mr. Messera provided background information regarding the McKee Road Extension project in Matthews, including the following:

- The Monroe Connector/Bypass design will create access issues and impact Fire and EMS services for the Town of Matthews and the Town of Stallings.
- NCDOT Division 10 has committed approximately \$75 million to the Monroe Connector/Bypass project. If the actual cost is less than anticipated and some of those funds remain, the Town of Matthews and Town of Stallings would like to apply some of those remaining funds to alleviate some of the access issues that will be created.
- A potential connection near the existing McGee Corporation has been discussed as a possible use for the funds.
- Matthews and Stallings wanted to bring these issues to the TCC for feedback.

Mr. Herron stated that the City of Monroe will have similar access issues due to the design of the

connector/bypass project so it might be best, if there is leftover money, to go back to the ranked project list to determine which projects the funds should be applied to.

6. FY 11 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)

Presenter: Robert Cook

Summary/FYI:

Mr. Cook stated that Planning (PL) funds previously rescinded were being restored; \$291,642 will be available for programming in FY 11. This will require an amendment to the UPWP. No action was requested at this meeting, but the following project allocations were recommended:

1. Updates and improvements to the transportation database.
2. Development of web-based, interactive project information that provides essential information about transportation projects in the planning area.
3. Updates to land use information that will be crucial to the development of the next LRTP.
4. A thoroughfare alignment study in Monroe.
5. Additional travel demand modeling support.

The TCC will be asked to take action on the amendment at its November meeting.

7. Draft Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

Presenter: Robert Cook

Summary/FYI:

Mr. Cook provided information to the TCC via a Power Point presentation, the contents of which are incorporated into the minutes [here](#). The main purpose of the presentation was to identify the major issues and to seek direction from the TCC. The issues identified were: Augustalee; STP funding for CATS (U-5120); proposed accelerated and delayed projects; Rea Road Extension funding; Indian Trail Road/Stallings Road/Chestnut Connector. Also discussed were existing STP-DA projects and Mr. Cook reminded project sponsors to return project surveys.

Direction on how to proceed with identifying projects for STP-DA funding in fiscal years 2016-2018 was sought, and the TCC decided that it was not necessary to develop specific projects at this time. Clear direction on what to do with Unfunded projects was not provided.

Miscellaneous Announcements

Mr. Polimeni announced that the Mobility Fund Preliminary Report had been released. He suggested that comments from MUMPO be developed at the October 13 transportation staff meeting since the TCC will not meet again until November 4, and the comments are due to NCDOT on October 29.

- 8. Adjourn:** The meeting was adjourned at 11:50 AM.