

MECKLENBURG - UNION TECHNICAL COORDINATING COMMITTEE
Summary Meeting Minutes
Charlotte-Mecklenburg Government Center
Room 267
January 10, 2013

Voting Members: *TCC Chair* – Bill Coxe (Huntersville), *TCC Vice Chair* – Danny Pleasant (CDOT), George Berger (Charlotte Engineering & Property Management), Ken Tippet (CDOT Bicycle Coordinator), Jonathan Wells – alt for Debra Campbell (C-M Planning), Jason Rayfield (LUESA-Air Quality), David McDonald (CATS), Louis Mitchell (NCDOT-Div. 10), Anil Panicker (NCDOT-TPB), Andrew Grant (Cornelius), Scott Kaufhold (Indian Trail), Ralph Messera (Matthews), Lisa Stiwinter (Monroe), Travis Morgan (Pineville), Shannon Martel – alt for Brian Matthews (Stallings), Greg Mahar (Waxhaw), Jordan Cook (Weddington), Joshua Langen (Wesley Chapel), Joe Lesch (Union County)

Staff: Robert Cook (MUMPO), Nick Landa (MUMPO), Stuart Basham (MUMPO), Norm Steinman (CDOT), Anna Gallup (CDOT), Tim Gibbs (CDOT), David Meachum (Charlotte E&PM), Adam McLamb (Indian Trail), Elinor Hiltz (Iredell County), Andrew Bryant (Lincoln County), Lisa Thompson (Marvin), David Nelson (Matthews), Jim Loyd (Monroe), Neil Burke (Mooresville), Phil Collins (Statesville), Dana Stoogenke (Rocky River RPO), David Keilson (NCDOT-Div. 12), John Underwood (NCDOT)

Guests: Bill Thunberg (LNTC), Radha Swayampakala (RS&H), Todd Steiss (PB), John Johnson (STV), Nikki Honeycutt (STV)

Bill Coxe opened the meeting at 10:00 AM.

1. Election of Officers

Summary/Action Requested:

Mr. Coxe stated that it is the responsibility of the TCC to annually elect new officers as the first action item of the first meeting of the year. Mr. Coxe opened the nominations for Chair of the TCC.

Chair Nominations

Mr. Pleasant nominated Bill Coxe for Chair of the TCC; George Berger seconded the nomination. No other nominations were put forth.

Joe Lesch made a motion to close the nominations; Mr. Wells seconded the motion.

Mr. Bill Coxe was elected Chair of the TCC for 2013 by acclamation.

Mr. Coxe then opened the nominations for Vice-Chair of the TCC.

Vice-Chair Nominations

David McDonald nominated Danny Pleasant for Vice-Chair of the TCC; Mr. Lesch seconded the motion. No other nominations were put forth.

Ralph Messera made a motion to close the nominations; Mr. Wells seconded the motion.

Mr. Danny Pleasant was elected Vice-Chair of the TCC for 2013 by acclamation.

2. Adoption of the Agenda

Mr. Coxe asked if any modifications to the agenda are necessary. Hearing none, he asked for a motion to adopt the agenda. Greg Mahar made a motion to adopt the agenda. Jonathan Wells seconded the motion. The agenda was adopted unanimously.

3. Consideration of December Meeting Minutes

Mr. Coxe asked if any changes to the minutes are necessary. Hearing none, he asked for a motion to approve the minutes. Mr. Lesch made a motion to approve the December TCC minutes. Anil Panicker seconded the motion. Upon being put to a vote, the motion passed unanimously.

4. MPO Census-Related Activities

a. County Level Population and Employment Projections

Presenter: Anna Gallup, Charlotte DOT

Summary/Action Requested:

Ms. Gallup reminded the TCC that the population and employment projections are updated after each census, and are used for many of the MPO's activities, including the long range transportation plan (LRTP) update. She noted that the numbers for Mecklenburg County in the agenda packet are incorrect, and provided a handout with the correct numbers. She also indicated that she worked closely with Mr. Lesch to develop the Union County numbers, and Ruchi Agarwal to develop the Mecklenburg County numbers, and that the relevant agencies in those counties are comfortable with the proposed projections. Mr. Coxe asked if it would be necessary to adopt the projections produced for Iredell and Lincoln County. Ms. Gallup responded that the MPO could adopt them when they are available, after they are adopted by the Lake Norman Rural Planning Organization, which has not yet taken place.

Motion:

Mr. McDonald made a motion to recommend that the MPO approve the county level population and employment projections as presented. Mr. Lesch seconded the motion. Upon being put to a vote, the motion passed unanimously.

b. Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) Revisions

Presenter: Robert Cook

Summary/FYI:

Mr. Cook provided an overview of the outstanding MOU issues discussed at the most recent MOU subcommittee meeting, including the following:

- TCC membership
 - Unanimous support given for including a greenway planner on the TCC, either from the County Park & Recreation Department or from the Carolina Thread Trail;
 - Discussion followed by the TCC in which consensus was provided for including a county greenway planner on the TCC.
- MPO voting structure
 - Mr. Landa highlighted information presented to the MOU subcommittee, as well as the discussion that took place at the meeting, which resulted in the MOU subcommittee taking a straw vote (which passed unanimously) that the City of Charlotte retain its current percentage of the total weighted vote (~41%), each county continue to receive 2 votes, each BOT member to receive 1 vote, and each member jurisdiction receive an additional one vote for every 20,000 people in its jurisdiction;
 - The weighted voting issue discussed and voted upon at the MOU subcommittee assumed

a hybrid voting system in which a weighted vote would only be used if invoked, otherwise each voting member of the MPO would receive one vote;

- Mr. Coxe noted that two potential issues associated with invoking a weighted vote include the time in advance that would be required for it to be invoked, and whether the weighted vote, if invoked, would apply to the entire agenda or just a particular item.

Mr. Cook noted that the issues of how to establish a quorum, and the naming of the MPO, were on the MOU subcommittee agenda but were not discussed in detail by the subcommittee. It was decided that further discussion by the TCC will be required in order to provide guidance to the MOU subcommittee on the remaining outstanding issues.

5. Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

a. 2012-2018 TIP Amendments

Presenter: Robert Cook

Summary/Action Requested:

Mr. Cook outlined the proposed TIP amendments, which can be viewed by clicking [here](#). He noted that the proposed amendments do not impact TIP funding, and are administrative in nature, but require the MPO's action.

Motion:

Mr. McDonald made a motion to recommend that the MPO approve the proposed 2012-2018 TIP amendments as presented. Mr. Lesch seconded the motion. Upon being put to a vote, the motion passed unanimously.

b. Draft 2015-2021 TIP

Presenter: Robert Cook

Summary/Action Requested:

Mr. Cook reminded the TCC that a draft TIP was released late last year, but due to the fact that new transportation legislation was passed last year (MAP-21), there is a new administration in Raleigh, and based on public comments received, the NCDOT made the decision to withdraw the draft TIP. He stated that a new draft 2015-2021 TIP is anticipated to be released later this year. He also indicated that the MPO will be required to prepare a fiscal plan for the TIP, a plan that had previously been prepared by NCDOT but which will now be the responsibility of the MPOs throughout the state. Finally, he noted that locally administered projects funded in the current TIP will also need to be reviewed. Mr. Coxe asked if amendments to the current TIP should consider fiscal constraint. Mr. Cook indicated that they would, but suggested that further guidance from NCDOT and FHWA will be necessary. He also noted that the amendments on this agenda do not change any funding amounts, so they do not apply.

6. Bicycle & Pedestrian Ranking Methodology

Presenter: Adam McLamb, Town of Indian Trail

Summary/FYI:

Mr. McLamb stated that the TCC is being asked to recommend that the MPO approve revisions to MUMPO's bicycle and pedestrian ranking methodology, which was originally approved in May 2011. He noted that there have been several opportunities for review and comment of the proposed revisions to the criteria, and the revisions have been made based on those comments in order to make improvements.

Mr. Landa highlighted one change in particular, regarding points in the criteria associated with bus stops. He explained that it is recommended that bus stops that have more boardings and alightings, as well as more buses that pass by those stops, should receive more points than lower activity bus stops.

Motion:

Mr. Messera made a motion to recommend that the MPO approve the amendments to the bicycle and pedestrian ranking methodology as presented, and adopt the accompanying project application form. Mr. Pleasant seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

7. Congestion Management Process (CMP)

Presenter: Radha Swayampakala, RS&H

Summary/FYI:

Mr. Swayampakala provided information to the TCC via a Power Point presentation, the contents of which are incorporated into the minutes [here](#). After outlining what the CMP is and how it is applied, he reminded the TCC that the task force has been working on developing CMP goals, objectives and performance measures. He noted that after further discussion of the task forces, and based on comments received, the goals and objectives have been streamlined as follows:

- o Goal – Manage Congestion
- o Objectives
 - 1) Develop congestion management measures
 - 2) Reduce non-recurring congestion duration
 - 3) Consider full range of congestion management strategies
 - 4) Improve the resiliency, redundancy and reliability of the transportation network

Mr. Swayampakala also presented information about Travel Time Index (TTI), Level of Service (LOS) and crash rates. He then highlighted four congestion management strategies identified, which include Demand Management, Alternative Mode Promotion, Traffic Operations and Land Use. He stated that the MPO is anticipated to approve the CMP in March 2013, followed by a review of capacity adding MPO projects identified in the TIP and LRTP using the CMP filter(s). The CMP will also be reviewed and updated every few years as necessary, as recommended by the FHWA.

8. Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)

a. FY 2013 UPWP Amendments

Presenter: Robert Cook

Summary/FYI:

Mr. Cook noted that several amendments to the FY 2013 UPWP are necessary due to funds becoming available that will need to be reallocated to other MPO tasks. He highlighted the proposed amendments, which can be found by clicking [here](#). He concluded by stating that the proposed UPWP amendments will be on a future TCC agenda for action.

b. FY 2014 UPWP

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](#). He stated that the MPO will receive an approximate \$1.9 million

UPWP allocation for fiscal year 2014. He then noted the local planning projects that are proposed, including traffic count programs in Indian Trail and Huntersville, along with a downtown multi-modal plan proposed for Huntersville. He indicated that the next steps for getting the FY 2014 UPWP adopted include reviewing the local projects, and working with CDOT and CATS regarding funding in the UPWP associated with tasks carried out by each respective department. He concluded by stating that the approval of the UPWP is anticipated in May 2013.

9. I-277/I-77 Loop Study

Presenter: Norm Steinman, Charlotte DOT

Summary/FYI:

Mr. Steinman provided information to the TCC via a Power Point presentation, the contents of which are incorporated into the minutes [here](#). He outlined the background and reasons for conducting the loop study, including that the loop was constructed over 30 years ago and portions of the loop are not adequate for today's traffic conditions. In addition, he noted that a comprehensive study of the loop has not been accomplished in over 50 years. He also indicated that one purpose of the study is a way to identify which projects are appropriate to nominate for inclusion in the 2040 LRTP, noting that projects identified could still take 10-20 years to complete. After highlighting some proposed project locations along the loop, as well as recommendations for gateways around the loop, he concluded by reiterating that the next steps are to identify projects for inclusion in the 2040 LRTP by January 18, and to develop implementation strategies for incorporating managed lanes. He stated that more information can be found on the MUMPO and CDOT websites.

10. I-77 HOT Lanes Project

Presenter: Bill Coxe, Town of Huntersville

Summary/FYI:

Mr. Coxe provided information to the TCC via a Power Point presentation, the contents of which are incorporated into the minutes [here](#). He began with an overview of the managed lanes, public-private partnership (P3) project objectives, including that it will address current congestion while minimizing the public's financial contribution by using private financing. He also reminded the TCC that an I-77 technical team of TCC members and staff is working with NCDOT to deal with the many complexities of the proposed project. He then described the project limits, including the breakdown of the three proposed sections in the north, middle and south ends of the project limits, from the I-277 loop in Charlotte to NC 150 in Mooresville. Mr. Coxe then outlined the following aspects of the project to date:

- A 50 year financing contract with a private concessionaire, yet to be determined, is proposed;
- A P3 project allows the state to accelerate project delivery substantially, which includes a proposed construction start date of March 2014;
- One Environmental Assessment is proposed for the entirety of the project (which evaluates only mainline operations), opposed to the three Categorical Exclusions previously considered;
- Federal requirements include a long range transportation plan amendment that is found to be in conformity, which must be approved by the MPO; and
- The project will require some amount of equity dollars, the exact amount of which is not yet known.

He went on to note that several managed lanes projects are being discussed throughout the region, so it is important that the concept is embraced in order for individual managed lanes projects to be successful. He stated that an activist group based in Cornelius was recently formed to advocate for general purpose

lanes only on I-77 north. He also stated that the Lake Norman Transportation Commission is involved with the I-77 HOT lanes project by providing education, and is contemplating performing a study. Mr. Cox suggested that if a study is undertaken, the MPO would be the appropriate agency to lead the effort. He concluded by noting that the next I-77 technical team meeting will be held later in January.

11. 2040 LRTP Update

Presenter: Nicholas Landa

Summary/FYI:

Mr. Landa provided the TCC with an update of the 2040 LRTP process by highlighting the following:

- The LRTP Advisory Committee met on Monday, January 7 and continued its discussion of the proposed LRTP highway ranking criteria;
- Additional meetings of the Advisory Committee are scheduled in January and February in order to complete the process of developing an appropriate highway ranking criteria;
- A workshop will be held on Tuesday, January 15 for TCC and MPO members to introduce the highway ranking criteria and solicit feedback;
- A presentation outlining the proposed criteria will be provided to the TCC and MPO in February, and approval of the criteria is anticipated in March;
- The draft LRTP Goals & Objectives were sent to identified stakeholders for review, and their comments are due January 11; and
- The Goals & Objectives, as well as the stakeholder comments, will be discussed further by the Advisory Committee and then presented to the TCC and MPO.

12. Upcoming Issues

Mr. Panicker announced that NCDOT would be hosting a Complete Streets training workshop in Charlotte on February 13-14, 2013. Mr. Landa noted that he would forward the workshop information to the TCC via email.

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