

MECKLENBURG - UNION TECHNICAL COORDINATING COMMITTEE
Summary Meeting Minutes
Charlotte-Mecklenburg Government Center
Room 267
August 1, 2013

Voting Members: *TCC Chair* – Danny Pleasant (CDOT), *TCC Vice-Chair* – Joe Lesch (Union County), David Meachum (Charlotte Engineering & Property Management), Debra Campbell (C-M Planning), Eric Moore (LUESA-Air Quality), David McDonald (CATS), Louis Mitchell (NCDOT-Div. 10), Anil Panicker (NCDOT-TPB), Andrew Grant (Cornelius), Bill Coxe (Huntersville), Adam McLamb – alt for Scott Kaufhold (Indian Trail), Dana Clukey (Mint Hill), Shannon Martel (Stallings), Greg Mahar (Waxhaw), Jordan Cook (Weddington)

Staff: Robert Cook (MUMPO), Nick Landa (MUMPO), Stuart Basham (MUMPO), Andy Grzynski (CDOT), Norm Steinman (CDOT), John Rose (CATS), Jonathan Wells (C-M Planning), Elinor Hiltz (Iredell County), Matthew Todd (Iredell County), Neil Burke (Mooresville), Phil Collins (Statesville), Scott Cole (NCDOT), Pate Butler (NCDOT), David Keilson (NCDOT)

Guests: Bill Thunberg (LNTC), Todd Steiss (PB), Steve Blakley (Kimley-Horn), Page Hunter (HNTB), David Wiggins (Steele Creek Resident’s Association)

Danny Pleasant opened the meeting at 10:00 AM.

1. Adoption of the Agenda

Mr. Pleasant asked if any changes to the agenda are necessary. Hearing none, he asked for a motion to adopt the August TCC agenda. David Meachum made a motion to adopt the agenda. Bill Coxe seconded the motion. Upon being put to a vote, the motion passed unanimously.

2. Consideration of July Meeting Minutes

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

3. Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendments

Presenter: Robert Cook

Summary/Action Requested:

Mr. Cook informed the TCC that two TIP amendments are being requested, as outlined [here](#). He noted that one of the amendments, to construct a roundabout at the intersection of Shopton and Beam roads (C-5533), is recommended to be delayed due to a lack of information. Upon discussion of the second proposed amendment – to construct a roundabout at the intersection of NC 51 and Matthews-Mint Hill Road – there was confusion about the intent of the amendment, so it was proposed that it also be delayed. No action was taken.

4. TIP Financial Plan

Presenter: Robert Cook

Summary/FYI:

Mr. Cook provided the TCC with an overview of the purpose and need for the TIP financial plan – notably that the State used to assist MPO's with the preparation of this plan, but that it will now be a MPO responsibility. He stated that the development of the plan will require the involvement of the MPO, CATS and NCDOT. Mr. Cook also noted that the plan is a federal requirement, so it is important to complete it as soon as possible. He indicated that there are some outstanding issues that will have to be dealt with, including how the plan will be impacted by the Strategic Mobility Formula, and determining whether the plan needs to cover the 4-year Federal TIP or the 7-year State TIP. Mr. Coxe asked if there is a deadline for plan completion, to which Mr. Cook responded that he is not aware of an official deadline but that the Federal Highway Administration had anticipated that it would be finished by now.

5. MPO Census-Related Activities

a. Planning Area Boundary Expansion – MOU Subcommittee

Presenter: Robert Cook

Summary/FYI:

Mr. Cook provided an update on the progress of the revised Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), informing the TCC that the MPO endorsed the MOU at its July meeting and set an effective date for the new MPO of October 1, 2013. He noted that there is a change to the population calculations in Iredell County which will need to be reflected in the MOU. It was also stated that several town boards have already scheduled the item to approve the MOU and become members of the MPO. Finally, Mr. Cook noted that staff will be available to provide presentations and answer questions, as necessary. Mr. Pleasant noted that some minor editing of the document is still necessary, which Mr. Coxe suggested could be a point of clarification to the town boards when the item is presented. Mr. Cook indicated that one of the next steps, following approval of the MOU, is to update the TCC Bylaws.

6. Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) Process

Presenter: Robert Cook

Summary/FYI:

Mr. Cook reminded the TCC that Scott Lane, one of the MPO's on-call consultants, has been asked to evaluate the MPO's UPWP process and look for ways to improve it, including formalizing the process. He stated that there is not a lot of new information to report on this initiative, but he did briefly review the purpose and need of the initiative. Mr. Cook also indicated that he would like the TCC to recommend membership for a UPWP development workgroup at its September meeting.

7. I-77 HOT Lanes

Presenter: Bill Coxe, Town of Huntersville

Summary/FYI:

Mr. Coxe provided an update to the TCC about the progress of the I-77 HOT lanes project, as follows:

- Two public meetings for the project's Environmental Assessment (EA) were held on July 17 in Mooresville and July 18 in Charlotte, which were well attended;
- The deadline to officially submit comments on the EA is August 9, 2013;
- There was confusion about the access points to the HOT lanes at the public meetings,

- meaning more work on clarifying the access points is necessary;
- The I-77 Tech Team of the TCC intends to complete a list of comments to be sent prior to the August 9 NCDOT deadline; and
- The ramps are not addressed in the EA, of which the Griffith Street interchange is of particular concern due to its current tight configuration.

Louis Mitchell clarified that the schedule has changed slightly, and concessionaire submittals are anticipated to be due in January 2014. Norm Steinman reiterated the concerns of the I-77 Tech Team. Mr. Coxe noted that there is a noise wall issue that has recently been brought to the attention of several municipalities through which the I-77 corridor is located, and that additional time will be needed by those municipalities in order to provide the requested information to NCDOT. Mr. Mitchell announced that there is a meeting scheduled for tonight, August 1, to discuss the noise wall issues.

8. Strategic Mobility Formula (SMF)

Presenter: Nick Landa

Summary/FYI:

Mr. Landa provided information to the TCC via a Power Point presentation, the contents of which are incorporated into the minutes [here](#). He noted that this item will be taken with the next item on the agenda, regarding the 2040 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) development, since the SMF is linked to the revenue assumptions in the MTP. The following highlights Mr. Landa's talking points:

- The importance of completing specific tasks in the next couple of months was emphasized, because it will be necessary to stay on track to meet subsequent deadlines next year;
- An overview of the SMF was presented, outlining the three categories of projects eligible for funding, including the quantitative and local input criteria proposed to evaluate those projects;
- It was noted that the MPO will need to consider some policy decisions in order to use certain funds efficiently, specifically with regard to STP-Direct Attributable (DA) and Transportation Alternatives (TA) funding;
- A discussion followed about how the SMF will impact the MTP revenue assumptions, notably that the revenue assumptions endorsed by the MPO in May 2013 are based on the old transportation legislation and is based on historic trends from information provided by NCDOT;
- It was suggested that the MPO could continue to develop the MTP using the already endorsed assumptions, or it could consider the SMF and modify its assumptions, keeping in mind that there are still many unknowns associated with the new legislation;
- The potential funds available based on the SMF were provided;
- It was noted that the SMF applies to all eligible modes of transportation, not just roadways;
- A time line of next steps and key dates was provided, including that the MPO will be asked to either confirm or modify its 2040 MTP revenue assumptions at its August 21 meeting, and a workshop of the MPO and TCC is proposed for September 5 to further discuss the draft fiscally constrained project list for the 2040 MTP;
- Tasks completed related to the 2040 MTP candidate project ranking process were also provided, including that final project scoring is nearing completion, and that a series of transportation staff meetings will be held to present information and receive feedback; and
- It was again emphasized that the federal requirement for producing a final 2040 MTP, approved by the MPO, is March 2014 and that in order to meet that deadline project ranking needs to be complete by September 2013.

Mr. Lesch asked for clarification about revising the MTP revenue assumptions. Mr. Landa responded that even though revenue assumptions have already been endorsed for the MTP, a discussion is warranted about how the SMF could impact the previously endorsed MTP revenue assumptions now that it is officially the new transportation legislation for the State. Mr. Coxe reminded the TCC that the MTP is updated every four years, and by the time the next plan update is undertaken a lot more will be known about the impacts of the SMF. He also suggested that a discussion about how to allocate DA dollars could be part of the August 14 staff meeting discussion. Mr. Mitchell indicated that there has been some discussion at the Division and State level about how to allocate DA dollars, since they are exempt from the Regional Impacts category but not from the Division Needs category – which could have different implications for how those funds are allocated.

Mr. Landa concluded by noting that the action requested is to move the September TCC meeting from September 5 to September 12, in order to accommodate the proposed workshop.

Motion:

Mr. Coxe made a motion to move the regularly scheduled September TCC meeting back one week to Thursday, September 12, 2013. Mr. Lesch seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

9. 2040 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP)

Presenter: Nick Landa

Summary/FYI:

This item was taken with agenda item 8, due to the relationship between the two topics.

10. Upcoming Issues

No upcoming issues were announced.

11. Adjourn: The meeting was adjourned at 11:30 AM.