

**CRTPO TECHNICAL COORDINATING COMMITTEE**  
**Summary Meeting Minutes**  
**Charlotte-Mecklenburg Government Center**  
**Room 267**  
**August 7, 2014**

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**Voting Members:** *Chair* - Danny Pleasant (CDOT), *Vice-Chair* – Joe Lesch (Union County), Jonathan Wells - alt for Debra Campbell (C-M Planning), Bill Coxe (Huntersville), Andrew Grant (Cornelius), Adam McLamb – alt for Scott Kaufhold (Indian Trail), Andrew Ventresca (Iredell County), Erika Martin (Troutman), Ralph Messera (Matthews), David McDonald (CATS), Jim Loyd – alt for Lisa Stiwinter (Monroe), Kelsie Anderson ( Mooresville), Megan Green (Mecklenburg County – LUESA Air Quality), Scott Cole – alt for Louis Mitchell (NCDOT – Div. 10) David Keilson – alt for Reuben Chandler (NCDOT-Div. 12), Anil Panicker (NCDOT-TPB), Sherry Ashley – alt for Phil Collins (Statesville), Fern Shubert (Marshville), Julian Burton (Weddington), Travis Johnson (Davidson), Ken Tippet (Bicycle Focus Area Representative), Dick Winters (Public Health Focus Area Representative), Scott Curry (Pedestrian Focus Area Representative), Gwen Cook (Greenway Focus Area Representative)

**Staff:** Robert Cook (CRTPO), Curtis Bridges (CRTPO), Neil Burke (CRTPO), Loretta Barren (FHWA), Stuart Basham (NCDOT – Div. 10), Brett Canipe (NCDOT – Div. 10), James Lim (NCDOT-Public Transportation), Michelle Nance (Centralina COG), Sushil Nepal (Centralina COG), Norm Steinman (CDOT), Tim Gibbs (CDOT), Andy Grzymiski (CDOT), Jeff Derwort (Monroe), Jeff Sloop (NCDOT)

**Guests:** Lynn Purnell (PB), Todd Steiss (PB), Bill Thunberg (LNTC), David Wiggins (Steele Creek Residents Association), Meg Fencil (Sustain Charlotte), Steve Blakely (Kimley Horn), Paige Hunter (HNTB)

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Danny Pleasant opened the meeting at 10:00 AM. TCC members and guests introduced themselves.

**1. Adoption of the Agenda**

Mr. Pleasant asked if any changes to the agenda were necessary. Hearing none, the August agenda was adopted by acclamation.

**2. Consideration of Consent Agenda**

Mr. Pleasant explained that the consent agenda contains the minutes from the July meeting as well as four TIP amendments for CMAQ projects requested by the project sponsors. Since there were no requested modifications to these items, he asked for a motion to approve the consent agenda. Joe Lesch made a motion to approve the consent agenda. Anil Panicker seconded the motion. Upon being put to a vote, the motion passed unanimously.

**TCC BUSINESS ITEMS**

**3a. CRTPO NCDOT Prioritization 3.0 Local Input Points Allocation**

Presenter: Neil Burke

Summary/Action Requested:

Mr. Burke provided information to the TCC via a Power Point presentation, the contents of which are incorporated into the minutes [here](#). The presentation covered the following points:

- Following several months of developing draft lists of projects proposed for local input points, coordination with the NCDOT Divisions and adjacent MPOs; and a 30-day public comment period, the TCC was requested to take action on the lists and the public involvement process.
- In total, 37 public comment submittals were received during the 30-day public comment period from June 19 through July 21. Generally, the public comments received were supportive of the projects that CRTPO was proposing for local input points assignment.
- The local input points allocation subcommittee collaborated with staff to develop responses to the commenters, and it was determined that none of the comments necessitated amendments to the recommended project lists.
- Mr. Burke reviewed the Regional Impact projects proposed for local input points indicating that there are 18 highway projects and one rail project proposed within Region E (Mecklenburg and Union Counties), and seven highway projects proposed for assignment in Region F (Iredell County).
- Mr. Burke reviewed the Division Needs projects proposed for local input points indicating that there are 16 highway projects and five non-highway projects proposed within Division 10 (Mecklenburg and Union Counties), and five highway projects proposed for assignment in Division 12 (Iredell County).

Mr. Burke indicated that the public comment summary and the final list of projects proposed for local input points assignment would be presented to the MPO for adoption at their meeting on August 20, and August 29 is the last day to submit local input points to NCDOT.

Bill Coxe complimented the TCC members and CRTPO staff involved with the Prioritization 3.0 process to assign local input points to projects. In the development of Prioritization 4.0, He recommended that consideration should be given to the submission of transit projects, measures to determine anticipated economic development benefits for proposed projects, and further guidance on assignment of CRTPO's local input points to projects that have a primary benefit to private companies (i.e. rail projects).

Sherry Ashley stated that the City of Statesville will vote to recommend approval of projects proposed for CRTPO's allocation of local input points; however, the City is disappointed with the effect that the STI corridor cap limits the completion of Phase B of the I-40 and I-77 interchange project (I-3819). Ms. Ashley indicated that STI has made it nearly impossible for Phase B to become a funded project.

Motion:

David McDonald made a motion to recommend to the MPO that it approve the final list of projects proposed for CRTPO's allocation of local input points for Prioritization 3.0 and that the MPO affirm that CRTPO's public involvement procedures and local input points methodology conditionally approved by NCDOT have been followed and points allocated to those projects scored in the P3.0 process. Andrew Grant seconded the motion. Upon being put to a vote, the motion passed unanimously.

**3b. CRTPO Bicycle and Pedestrian Subcommittee**

Presenter: Curtis Bridges

Summary/Action Requested:

Mr. Bridges provided information to the TCC via a Power Point presentation, the contents of which are incorporated into the minutes [here](#). His presentation covered the following points:

- Staff has researched Bicycle and Pedestrian Work Group membership, committee tasks, organization, and experiences in peer MPOs throughout North Carolina;
- Staff has consulted with local staff, peer MPOs, and NCDOT Bike-Ped Division in developing possible Work Group tasks;
- Informal group of potential committee members have met several times to discuss regional needs and Work Group tasks;
- Bicycle & Pedestrian Work Group would function as advisory committee to the TCC;

Following the summary of the purpose and need for the Work Group, Mr. Bridges reviewed the mission statement and potential work group member composition. He stated that the Work Group has decided to remove the advocacy position from the roster at this time, and the need for this position can be re-evaluated at a date pending further discussion.

Jonathan Wells inquired about the inclusion of school district employees on this Work Group. Mr. Bridges explained that initially the Work Group will be comprised of TCC members that are familiar with the issues and opportunities associated with bicycle and pedestrian transportation in this region, and school district representatives will be considered within a two to four year timeframe.

Mr. Pleasant suggested that this Work Group should be comprised of TCC members, but steering committee members that represent bicycle and pedestrian advocacy in this region can provide advice and direction on key issues.

Loretta Barren asked if the bicycle and pedestrian Work Group will address ADA requirements. Mr. Bridges explained that ADA requirements have been briefly discussed, and it is an issue that the Work Group will address in the future with possible involvement from ADA experts.

Motion:

Mr. Coxe made a motion to recommend to the MPO that it endorse the formation of the Bicycle and Pedestrian Work Group, endorse the initial composition of the Work Group with additional members to be considered as appropriate, and encourage the involvement of advocacy groups to serve as stakeholders at the discretion of this Work Group. Mr. Panicker seconded the motion. Upon being put to a vote, the motion passed unanimously.

**3c. Regional Freight Mobility Plan Steering Committee**

Presenter: Sushil Nepal, Centralina COG

Summary/Action Requested:

Mr. Nepal explained that Centralina COG is beginning the process to identify stakeholders for the Regional Freight Mobility Plan. He indicated that one representative from each of the area transportation planning organizations' technical and policy-level boards will be requested to serve on the steering committee. Centralina COG will find out the results of the TIGER grant in September, and the planning effort would begin at the beginning of 2015.

Mr. Pleasant emphasized that it is important that CRTPO's representative is a current TCC member. He reminded the TCC that the Charlotte region is a significant node for the transportation and logistics industry, and this is an important study that will inform future regional transportation and land use decisions.

Robert Cook mentioned that an email was sent out to the TCC members, and several nominations were submitted for subcommittee members that were not TCC members. He mentioned that CRTPO will continue to accept nominations to fill this role, and staff can fill in until a permanent appointment from the TCC is made. Mr. Nepal responded to indicate that action was not necessary at this meeting since the subcommittee has not officially been formed.

### **3d. Tolled Corridors Advisory Team**

Presenter: Bill Coxe

#### Summary/Action Requested:

Mr. Coxe stated that the group had voted to change its name to the Managed Corridors Advisory Team, since tolling is one of many aspects of managed freeway facilities. He mentioned that action items to endorse the framework and committee membership for this team will be presented at an upcoming TCC meeting.

### **3e. Tolled Facility Bonus Allocation Subcommittee**

Presenter: Bill Coxe

#### Summary/Action Requested:

Mr. Pleasant explained that this item has been pulled from the agenda because additional discussion is needed with NCDOT before action can be taken to endorse the general principles and the interpretation of the bonus allocation legislation.

Andrew Grant inquired if the TCC would take action on this item at the September meeting. Mr. Coxe indicated that action would be likely at the September TCC meeting because the framework needs to be established to receive the bonus allocation revenues anticipated from the I-77 HOT Lanes project.

Mr. Pleasant explained to the TCC that the interpretation of the bonus allocation legislation limit will likely limit the appropriation of these funds to highway projects with the majority of the funds to be spent on Statewide Mobility tier projects. The legislation indicates that a small amount of funding can be allocated to projects within the Regional Impact and Division Needs tiers. In addition, he indicated that there are questions raised by MPO members regarding the development of another new prioritization process for bonus allocation projects when there are existing processes imbedded within the 2040 MTP.

Mr. Grant asked if the subcommittee has conducted any test runs to determine which projects would receive bonus allocation funding. He also reminded the TCC that the intent of this appropriation of funding in the legislation is to provide an incentive to the communities within the project extents that have accepted the tolled corridors concept. Mr. Grant explained that there needs to be an attempt to provide geographic equity to the distribution of bonus allocation funding to the municipalities along the I-77 HOT lane corridor.

### **3f. MPO Bylaws**

Presenter: Robert Cook

#### Summary/Action Requested:

Mr. Cook explained that the MPO has received a letter from the chairman of the Metropolitan Transit Commission (MTC) requesting an amendment to the MPO bylaws to allow a non-elected member of the MTC to be appointed to the MPO. He explained that the MPO bylaws require the MTC representative to be an elected official, but the MOU does not have this requirement. Mr. Cook explained that the MPO requests that the TCC make recommendations on a variety of technical and policy issues.

This topic was discussed at the Transportation Staff Meeting on July 30, and there was consensus that the TCC should recommend that the MPO amend its bylaws provided that the MTC member is not also a TCC member.

Mr. Wells expressed concern that a precedent would be established to allow non-elected officials to serve on the MPO and that this would be a specific clause only applicable to one member of the MPO. Mr. Cook agreed with Mr. Wells concerns and added that the amendment would not permit municipal or county staff to serve on the MPO, adding that this clause is limited to the MTC member of the MPO. Mr. Cook also added that this will be a discussion item on the August MPO agenda, with action likely at the September MP meeting.

Mr. Pleasant stated that other MPO boards throughout the country have allowed non-elected official representation at the policy board level and this revision would not violate any known FHWA policies for member participation.

#### Motion:

For the reason that the MTC MOU allow for non-elected members to serve on its board, Mr. Coxe made a motion to recommend an amendment to the MPO bylaws to allow a non-elected member of the MTC to serve on the MPO if this is the choice of the MPO and provided that member is not already a TCC member. Mr. Lesch seconded the motion. Upon being put to a vote, the motion passed unanimously.

## **TCC INFORMATION REPORTS**

### **4a. Resolution Endorsing Regional Statewide Projects**

Presenter: Robert Cook

#### Summary:

Mr. Cook stated that a resolution to support Statewide Mobility Tier projects evaluated through Prioritization 3.0 originated at the CRAFT Technical Committee meeting in May. He indicated that this resolution would support both fully and partially funded projects at the Statewide Mobility tier. A modification was recommended at the August 6 Transportation Staff Meeting to remove the specific names of the corridors, and simply reference the Statewide Mobility tier projects in the Charlotte region within the “now, therefore be it resolved” section of the resolution. This amendment will allow

the resolution to express support for all Statewide Mobility projects in the region. This item will be considered for action by the TCC and MPO at their September meetings.

#### **4b. Regional Planning Agreements**

Presenter: Robert Cook

##### Summary:

Mr. Cook explained that progress has been made in modifying the Regional Planning Agreements and an action to approve these agreements with the adjacent MPOs may be considered by the TCC at the September meeting. An example agreement between CRTPO and the Gaston-Cleveland-Lincoln MPO (GCLMPO) was included in the agenda packet, and NCDOT and FHWA are in agreement with the language.

Mr. Cook explained that the sample agreement was reviewed at the August 6 Transportation Staff Meeting, and an additional clause was recommended to strongly emphasize the appropriate level of collaboration and communication amongst MPOs in developing plans, and recommending amendments that could have an effect on corridors within the adjacent MPO. The additional text will be prepared and reviewed at a Transportation Staff Meeting before the revised agreements are presented to the TCC for action at the September TCC meeting.

Mr. Coxe inquired if the regional agreements between MPOs absolve the encroaching MPOs obligation to oversee planning to the other MPO. Ms. Barren responded to state that this does not absolve the encroaching MPO but the execution of regional agreements gives the encroaching MPOs the right to review the work of the adjoining MPO to ensure that it has been adequately completed.

Mr. Pleasant emphasized that communication amongst adjacent MPOs must be heightened when there is a corridor amendment to a plan that traverses into an adjacent MPO as this has an impact on right-of-way reservation, development of residential subdivisions and other planning activities.

#### **4e. CONNECT Update**

Presenter: Michelle Nance, Centralina COG

##### Summary:

Ms. Nance provided information to the TCC via a Power Point presentation, the contents of which are incorporated into the minutes [here](#). The presentation covered the following points:

- On July 29<sup>th</sup>, the CONNECT Consortium policy board approved the regions first preferred growth concept map. Ms. Nance indicated that this is not a regulatory map; rather it is a manifestation of the preferred types of growth that this region desires. The preferred growth scenario maps can be viewed [here](#).
- Ms. Nance noted that the majority of the top priorities from the CONNECT study were related to transportation planning; such as, providing transportation choices, improved air quality, work closer to home, and cost of my commute.
- Ms. Nance summarized the preferred growth priorities for the counties within CRTPO and they can be viewed [here](#).
- The MAP-21 legislation has stated that MPOs may use scenario planning to inform decision makers about implications of various investments on transportation system condition during

the development of their MTP. This may become a future requirement of MPOs to incorporate scenario planning in the development of their MTP.

- Ms. Nance reviewed the property value per acre maps, indicated that the land values are the highest in areas with the greatest density and favorable access to transit.
- Ms. Nance indicated that the CONNECT study will conclude by the end of 2014; however, the Program and Policy forums will continue to advance key recommendations from the planning effort.

Mr. Wells is hopeful that an outcome from the CONNECT study is a transportation infrastructure affordability tool that can identify funding since it is anticipated that funds from STI will address only 25% of the infrastructure needs throughout North Carolina. Ms. Nance recognized the diminishing amount of infrastructure funding available from the traditional sources, and noted that an outcome of this study is the development of a menu of alternative transportation funding sources.

Mr. Coxe inquired if the CONNECT process identified a community building measure, as opposed to the traditional practice of measuring traffic congestion. Ms. Nance explained that increasingly health impacts are identified as a method to identify the foundations of a viable community referencing the work that the Nashville MPO has completed on this effort.

#### **5a. NCDOT Report**

Mr. Cole provided an update of the impact that the reduction in the NCDOT Division Maintenance funds have had on the Regional Incident Management Assistance Patrols (IMAP). A spreadsheet depicting the projected operations reductions to the IMAP service can be viewed [here](#).

David Keilson indicated three new ramps on the I-40 and I-77 interchange project have recently been open to traffic. He stated that the ramp from I-77 northbound to I-40 westbound will open in 2015, and the first phase of this project will be complete by the end of 2016.

Mr. Panicker gave an update on the development of the CTP by summarizing a meeting that was held in Statesville last week to coordinate the inclusion of the Iredell County CTPs into the CRTPO plan.

#### **5b. Upcoming Issues**

Mr. Burke announced that the first of a quarterly locally administered projects workshop will be held on Tuesday, August 26 from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. at the Cornelius Town Hall.

**6. Adjourn:** Mr. Pleasant determined that the agenda had been adequately completed and adjourned the meeting at 12:00 p.m.