

CRTPO TECHNICAL COORDINATING COMMITTEE
Summary Meeting Minutes
Charlotte-Mecklenburg Government Center
Room 267
June 2, 2016

Voting Members: *Vice-Chair* - Bill Coxe (Huntersville), Norm Steinman – alt for Danny Pleasant (CDOT), David McDonald (CATS), Dan Leaver (Charlotte E+PM), Jonathan Wells – alt for Ed McKinney (C-M Planning), Andrew Grant (Cornelius), Travis Johnson (Davidson), Barry Whitesides – alt for Matthew Todd (Iredell County), CJ O’Neill (Matthews), Megan Green (Mecklenburg County-LUESA), Steve Frey (Mint Hill), Allison Kraft (Mooresville), Stuart Basham – alt for Scott Cole (NCDOT – Div. 10), Anil Panicker – alt for Mark Stafford (NCDOT- Div. 12), Linda Dosse (NCDOT-TPB), Chris Easterly (Stallings), Sherry Ashley (Statesville), Joe Lesch (Union County), Dennis Rorie (Waxhaw), Julian Burton (Weddington), Scott Correll – alt for Scott Curry (Pedestrian Focus Area Representative), Gwen Cook (Greenway Area Representative)

Staff: Robert Cook (CRTPO), Curtis Bridges (CRTPO), Neil Burke (CRTPO), Candice Leonard (CRTPO), Brian Horton (CATS), Brian Nadolny (CATS), Ben Miller (CDOT), Susan Habina Woolard (Matthews), Wendy Taylor (NCDOT-Div. 10), Lee Ainsworth (NCDOT-Div. 10), Loretta Barren (FHWA) - phone

Guests: Bill Thunberg (LNTC), Todd Steiss (WSP/PB), Travis Pollack (AECOM), Brady Finklea (Kimley-Horn), Jeff Hess (HNTB), Yolanda DeLong (Parsons), Dave Wiggins (Steele Creek Residents Association), Roger Diedrich (Sierra Club)

In absence of the Chairman, Vice-Chair Bill Coxe opened the meeting at 10:00 a.m. TCC members and guests introduced themselves.

1. Adoption of the Agenda

Mr. Coxe asked if any changes to the agenda are necessary. Hearing none, the June agenda was adopted by acclamation.

2. Consideration of Consent Agenda

Mr. Coxe explained that the consent agenda for the June meeting contained the May 5 TCC Meeting Minutes.

Motion:

David McDonald made a motion to adopt the consent agenda. Joe Lesch seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

TCC BUSINESS ITEMS

3a. Coordinated Human Services Transportation Plan

Presenter: Brian Horton, CATS

Summary/Action Requested:

Mr. Horton 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:

- Mr. Horton explained that the action requested was for the TCC to recommend to the MPO that it endorse the Coordinated Human Services Transportation Plan. The plan has been presented as an information report during the May TCC and MPO meetings.
- He stated that a meeting is scheduled with the NCDOT Division offices to receive their final comments on the plan on Monday, June 6.
- A link to the draft plan and additional information can be found [here](#).
- Mr. Horton explained that this plan provides guidance and focus for short-term capital projects, operating assistance, and operating strategies related to fixed-route and paratransit services for low-income households, seniors and individuals living with disabilities.
- The Federal Transit Administration (FTA) requires a locally developed, coordinated plan to distribute the Section 5310 program funds.
- The recommendations from the draft plan are focused on new technologies in mobility management, and emerging strategies in ridesharing.
- Mr. Horton explained the public involvement efforts which have included open houses, issue surveys, and stakeholder meetings. The public outreach effort was combined with an update to the countywide fixed route plan update.

Mr. Horton concluded his presentation, and TCC members asked questions.

Norm Steinman inquired about the availability of funds for special transit services relative to an increasing elderly population within a rapidly growing urban area. Mr. Horton explained that funding has remained relatively flat at approximately \$750,000 per year, however; the need for these services has grown. This is offset by allocating a geographic proportional share to the sub recipients in each county.

Jonathan Wells inquired about the operational strategies that will need to be advanced once the plan is adopted. Mr. Horton explained that the Centralina COG has applied for a Mobility Management grant that will provide strategies for the Charlotte urbanized area as well as the outer counties. In addition, Mecklenburg Transit System will apply for grant funding to upgrade its Special Transportation Services (STS) fleet.

Mr. Coxe requested that Mr. Horton communicate any comments received from next Monday's NCDOT Division coordination meeting to the appropriate CATS and ICATS personnel, and he directed these staff members to authorize any significant changes on behalf of the TCC.

Motion:

Mr. McDonald made a motion to recommend to the MPO that it endorse the Coordinated Human Services Transportation Plan. Allison Kraft seconded the motion. Upon being put to a vote, the motion passed unanimously.

3b. CATS CMAQ TIP Amendment

Presenter: David McDonald, CATS

Summary/Action Requested:

Mr. McDonald explained that the request for action is to recommend to the MPO that it consider approving three CMAQ TIP amendments. The requested TIP amendments were described as follows:

- A 2010 call for CMAQ projects did not flex the final payment from FTA to NCDOT in the amount of \$2.128 million. The TIP would need to be amended to add this installment of CMAQ funding.
- A 2012 call for CMAQ projects included \$7.7 million in CMAQ funds over two years. This funding was erroneously omitted from the adoption of the 2016-2025 TIP in August of 2015. The TIP would need to be amended to add this installment of CMAQ funding.
- The third request is an administrative modification to the TIP to move the CMAQ funding programmed to fund operational assistance for the Lynx Blue Line Extension from FY 2015-2016 to FY 2018-2019. The total cost of the CMAQ funds associated with this project is \$7 million over two years.

Motion:

Mr. Wells made a motion to recommend to the MPO that it consider three TIP amendments for CATS CMAQ projects. Dan Leaver seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

3c. Prioritization 4.0 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:

- Mr. Burke began the presentation by stating the requested action is to recommend to the MPO that it approve the final list of projects proposed for CRTPO's allocation of local input points for Prioritization 4.0. In addition, the TCC is being asked to affirm to the MPO that CRTPO's public involvement procedures and the local input methodology conditionally authorized by NCDOT have been followed and points allocated to those Regional Impact projects scored in the P4.0 process.
- He summarized the results of the public comment period by indicating 24 comments were received on the NC 160 widening project from the South Carolina State Line to South Tryon Street. The only comment opposing the assignment of local input points was submitted by the Sierra Club, indicating that the improvement of this facility may contribute to additional environmental impacts in terms of CO2. The comments were also reviewed during the June 1 Transportation Staff meeting.
- He explained that the P4.0 Subcommittee met on April 20 and April 27 to develop the draft local input point assignment as developed for highway, rail and transit projects based upon CRTPO's adopted local input point methodology. In addition, P4.0 coordination has continued to occur with the NCDOT Divisions at Transportation Staff meetings and other opportunities.
- Mr. Burke explained that the P4.0 subcommittee has not recommended the assignment of local input points to expensive unfunded Statewide Mobility projects such as the I-77 South project or the I-77 general purpose lane widening in Northern Mecklenburg and Southern Iredell County.
 - He explained that the subcommittee could not support the assignment of points to these projects as it would consume a large portion of Regional Impact funds that were intended to improve important regional connections (i.e. NC 73, US 21, NC 150, NC 16).

In addition, the NCDOT Divisions are unlikely to assign points to the expensive unfunded Statewide Mobility projects.

- He then reviewed the draft Regional Impact local input points assignment for highway projects and he noted that there were three projects out of 22 where the NCDOT Divisions have not agreed to a mutual assignment of local input points.
 - He explained that the priority for assigning local input points as approved in the adopted CRTPO methodology was based upon the MTP horizon year, MTP score, and P4.0 score if the project was not included in the MTP.
 - Mr. Burke indicated that Division 10 has removed an allocation of 100 points from the I-77 and Sunset Road Interchange due to a calculation error.
 - He also explained that Division 10 has donated 55 points to Division 12 for assignment to the NC 73 widening project between Vance Road Extension and Business NC 16 in Lincoln County.
- Mr. Burke explained that the subcommittee has recommended an allocation of 280 local input points to three non-highway projects (two rail and one transit project). The University City-Concord Mills Bus Route was capped at 80 local input points because 20% of this project is within the Cabarrus-Rowan MPO, and they also plan on assigning points to this project.

Mr. Burke concluded his presentation, and TCC members asked questions and provided comments.

Anil Panicker stated that Division 12 did not have any eligible projects for the P4.0 Regional Impact tier in the non-highway modes.

Mr. McDonald suggested shifting 25 local input points from the NC 115 widening project (NC 73 to Washam Potts Road) to the US 601 project (Existing US 74 to Monroe Expressway). The NC 115 widening project has a draft allocation of 100 points from CRTPO, but does not currently have a point allocation from Division 10. The US 601 project has a higher P4.0 score, and the additional 25 points would help improve this projects chances of being funded in the TIP.

Andrew Grant questioned Division 10's ability to allocate local input points to the NC 115 project, and he reminded the TCC that 100 points had already been removed from another NC 115 project between Washam Potts Road and Potts Street.

Stuart Basham explained that the NC 115 project (NC 73 to Washam Potts Road) is ranked eight projects below the last project that received Division 10 local input points per the its methodology. Mr. Basham does not anticipate that Division 10 will assign points to this project. However, he expects to receive local input point assignment information from Division 8 within the next several weeks which will enable him to conduct financial projections for Region E.

Mr. McDonald recommended that the Regional Impact local input point assignments should be considered as presented today, and the 25 points could be shifted to the US 601 project only if this allocation of points would get the US 601 project funded in the TIP. Mr. Coxe confirmed that the point assignment list could be amended during the July meetings.

Motion:

Mr. 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 4.0 with the caveat to allow a

reallocation of 25 local input points at the July 7 TCC meeting from the NC 115 widening project (NC 73 to Washam Potts Road) to the US 601 project (Existing US 74 to Monroe Expressway) if it is determined by the Division 10 financial projections that the 25 points would not be sufficient to program the NC 115 project in the upcoming TIP. Mr. Steinman seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

TCC Information Reports

4a. Call for New STP-DA Projects Update

Presenter: Neil Burke

Summary:

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:

- He explained that a 32-day call for new STP-DA projects ended on Monday, May 9, and 29 project submittals were received at a total requested amount of approximately \$55 million.
- The Project Oversight Committee (POC) has met on May 26 and June 1 to develop the draft list of recommended STP-DA projects.
- Mr. Burke explained that the POC developed the recommended list of STP-DA projects based upon the following parameters:
 - Criteria score
 - Lost opportunity
 - Modal distribution
 - Reserve funding for a future winter call for projects.
- He then reviewed recommended list of STP-DA projects from the POC for consideration by the TCC and MPO.
- Mr. Burke explained that from the \$51.4 million in available, \$23.4 million was recommended by the POC for programming to projects from the spring 2016 call, with the remaining \$27.9 million to be made available during a winter call for projects.

Mr. Burke concluded his presentation, and TCC members asked questions and provided comments.

Mr. Coxe explained to the TCC that the POC has discussed the possibility of beginning a second call for projects in November of 2016, with the call ending in January of 2017 concurrent with the release of the draft 2018-2027 TIP.

Mr. Lesch expressed concern regarding the amount of STP-DA funding (\$15 million) recommended for the Charlotte Gateway Station track and structures project. He added Union County has not always received its fair share of funding in the past. He suggested that if additional STP-DA funds are appropriated now above the \$23.4 million, then additional geographical dispersion could occur.

Mr. Grant asked Mr. McDonald if he anticipates any additional project proposals from CATS during a winter call for projects. Mr. McDonald responded to indicate that he does not believe CATS would be ready to submit another project during the winter call.

4b. CRTPO Bicycle Suitability Map

Presenter: Curtis Bridges, Robert Patten and Eli Glazier, Toole Design Group

Summary:

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

- Mr. Bridges provided an introduction on this project and he indicated that adoption of the maps was not necessary by the TCC since the document is intended to be used as a resource.
- Mr. Patten explained that the previous version of the Bicycle Suitability Map was completed in 1998. He explained an update was necessary to incorporate the expanded MPO planning area.
- He explained that the scope of this work effort is to conduct a technical suitability analysis, gather public input using an online interactive map, and conduct public meetings.
- Mr. Glazier stated that the suitability analysis methodology considers the vehicular ADT, number of travel lanes, speed limit, and presence of four-foot shoulder or bicycle lanes.
- He explained that public meetings have been held this week in each of the three CRTPO counties, and approximately 45 citizens have attended the meetings.
- Mr. Glazier stated that each morning before the public meetings, an on-road suitability evaluation was conducted where the project team would record a bike ride in the particular county, and subsequently rate the suitability of the ride. The team then asked for the public meeting attendee comment on the video and suitability rating.
- He reviewed the functionality of the on-line interactive map, and he explained that the website will go live this month. In addition, there will be 15,000 printed copies of the maps available by the end of June.

4c. CMAQ Update

Presenter: Robert Cook

Mr. Cook 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:

- In 2012, CRTPO approved a list seven of CMAQ projects for the FY 2016-17 fiscal years at an amount of \$20 million.
- Mr. Cook explained that NCDOT stopped the CMAQ project process after 2012, and projects did not advance into the TIP.
- He then described the CMAQ assessment process where a consultant verified that the seven approved projects are still needed, determining if any of the 21 projects not recommended for funding are needed, and lastly determining if any of the previously approved projects require additional funds.
- There were \$5.2 million in CMAQ funding that are recommended to be applied to four 2012 projects, and one unfunded project from a 2010 call for projects.
- Mr. Cook explained that action will be requested by the TCC in July to endorse the project lists. This is a requirement of the NCDOT-Transportation Planning Branch due to the delay in the programming of the CMAQ funds.

Mr. Cook concluded his presentation, and TCC members asked questions and provided comments.

Mr. Grant explained that there is a municipal agreement in place for the US 21 and Catawba Avenue roundabout project and the CMAQ and Bonus Allocation funds are both needed to complete the project. Mr. Cook explained that he will investigate this issue to determine if the CMAQ funds were statewide or local funds. Mr. Coxe suggested that this issue ~~is~~be discussed at an upcoming Project Oversight Committee meeting.

4d. Comprehensive Transportation Plan

Presenter: Robert Cook

Summary:

Mr. Cook began his presentation by reviewing the recent modifications to the CRTPO website to highlight the CTP public involvement period. He explained that the key features will be the interactive maps and the frequently asked questions.

Mr. Cook provided a summary of upcoming CTP outreach presentations which include TCC member training sessions, chambers of commerce, and appointed boards. In addition, a series of public meetings are in the process of being scheduled in the three counties. Centralina COG staff is assisting in the coordination of the public outreach effort, and the county meetings will be scheduled during weekday mornings since COG staff has experienced success in attendance during these times.

Mr. Cook concluded his presentation by explaining that the CTP work group will be developing policy recommendations for right-of-way reservation and amendment protocol in upcoming meetings.

OTHER REPORTS

5a. NCDOT Report

Mr. Basham stated that the Independence Boulevard project (U-209B) should be placed in its final pattern by the end of the year with final paving to occur in the spring of 2017.

He explained that Roanoke Church Road will be closed as part of work on the Monroe Expressway project between US 601 and Poplin Road beginning on July 13 until the end of 2016. A bridge replacement project will close Indian Trail Road between Old Monroe Road and US 74. South Fork Road will become the detour route.

Mr. Basham stated that the I-485 and Oakdale Road interchange is 20% complete and scheduled for completion in April of 2017.

Mr. Basham explained the delays associated with the Mallard Creek Road and Graham Street Extension projects (U-2507). Utility relocation issues have delayed this project for six months. The Division 10 P4.0 Public Meeting will be held on July 12 at Stanley Commons in Albemarle. The public comment period will run from June 20 until July 15.

Mr. Panicker stated that Division 12 was unable to allocate local input points to the NC 73 widening project from Vance Road Extension to Business NC 16 in Denver, however; Division 10 has donated 55 points to this project to ensure that it receives the maximum of 100 points from both Divisions.

5b. Bicycle and Pedestrian Work Group Report

Curtis Bridges provided an overview of the next Bicycle and Pedestrian Work Group meeting to be held this afternoon.

5c. Upcoming Issues

Candice Leonard announced that CRTPO has started a Facebook page. CRTPO's Facebook page will be used to post updates regarding public involvement periods, plan updates, and meeting results. The page can be accessed by clicking [here](#).

Mr. Coxe explained that House Bill 954 was passed this morning to cancel the I-77 Express Lane project. Next, the North Carolina Senate will consider this legislation. Stipulations within the legislation would potentially cancel interchange projects along I-77 at NC 73 and Gilead Road, as well as widening projects along NC 73 and US 21. The funding from these cancelled projects may be used to pay the penalty from breaking the contract with I-77 Mobility Partners.

6. Adjourn: Mr. Coxe determined that the agenda had been adequately completed and adjourned the meeting at 12:08 p.m.