

CRTPO TECHNICAL COORDINATING COMMITTEE
Summary Meeting Minutes
Charlotte-Mecklenburg Government Center
Room 267
July 7, 2016

Voting Members: Danny Pleasant (CDOT), David McDonald (CATS), Jonathan Wells – alt for Ed McKinney (C-M Planning), Andrew Grant (Cornelius), Travis Johnson (Davidson), Sushil Nepal – alt for Bill Coxe (Huntersville), Barry Whitesides – alt for Matthew Todd (Iredell County), Fern Shubert (Marshville), Susan Habina Woolard (Matthews), Megan Green (Mecklenburg County-LUESA), Chris Breedlove – alt for Steve Frey (Mint Hill), Jim Loyd – alt for Lisa Stiwinter (Monroe), Stuart Basham – alt for Scott Cole (NCDOT – Div. 10), Anil Panicker – alt for Mark Stafford (NCDOT- Div. 12), Linda Dosse (NCDOT-TPB), Travis Morgan (Pineville), Kevin Parker – alt for Chris Easterly (Stallings), Sherry Ashley (Statesville), Erika Martin (Troutman), 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), Dick Winters (Public Health Focus Area Representative)

Staff: Robert Cook (CRTPO), Curtis Bridges (CRTPO), Neil Burke (CRTPO), Candice Leonard (CRTPO), Norm Steinman (CDOT), Andy Grzymski (CDOT), Anna Gallup (CDOT), Brian Nadolny (CATS), Wendy Taylor (NCDOT-Div. 10), Pate Butler (NCDOT), Loretta Barren (FHWA)

Guests: Todd Steiss (WSP/PB), Radha Swayampakala (RS&H), Tony Tagliaferri (VHB), Eric Seckinger (HNTB), Paige Hunter (HNTB), Jason Wager (Centralina COG), Emily Parker (Centralina COG), Brett Canipe (AMT Engineering)

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

1. Adoption of the Agenda

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

2. Consideration of Consent Agenda

Mr. Pleasant explained that the consent agenda for the July meeting contained the June 2 TCC Meeting Minutes and four TIP amendments for TAP projects.

Motion:

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

TCC BUSINESS ITEMS

3a. Recommended STP-DA Project List

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 stated that action is being requested today to recommend a STP-DA project list to the MPO for approval.
- 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.
- 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, following the release of the DRAFT 2018-2027 STIP.

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

Travis Morgan recommended that the TCC consider recommending the allocation of the entirety of STP-DA funds (\$51.4 million) to projects received from the Spring 2016 call because of the chance that an unfunded STI project may consume most if not all of the remaining STP-DA funds.

Mr. Lesch stated that these funds should be allocated to projects that address a small operations need rather than appropriated to fund a few expensive STI projects. He recommended that geographic dispersion of the funds could be achieved by going further down the list of projects received during the Spring 2016 call. In addition, Mr. Lesch stated that several Union County MPO board members had expressed concern to him regarding the amount of funding (\$15 million) being recommended for the Charlotte Gateway Station track and structures project.

Mr. Burke responded to explain that appropriating a portion of the STP-DA funds at this time would enable CRTPO to address funding shortfalls from P4.0 once the DRAFT STIP is released as well as provide other member jurisdictions with an opportunity to apply for STP-DA funds in a subsequent call for projects. In addition, he explained that the POC had thoroughly vetted the recommended projects and identified these projects as imminent needs where an opportunity may be lost to complete these projects if funding is not appropriated soon.

Mr. McDonald explained that the POC has been tasked with reviewing the STP-DA criteria and framework to see if improvements can be made prior to a second call for projects. He stated that this can be the opportunity to further account for geographic equity and emphasis on small operational projects. He added that it is not typical procedure to present a TCC recommendation to the MPO as an information report and materially modify the content of the recommendation prior to MPO approval in the following month.

Dennis Rorie questioned the fairness of modifying the criteria between the two STP-DA project calls, and in turn expressed support for allocating all of the STP-DA funds. Mr. Burke responded to indicate that he doesn't anticipate that the POC will recommend significant modifications to the criteria. Rather, he expects the POC to consider making small modifications to the criteria scoring where all projects

received the same sub-score for a particular variable. Mr. Burke recognized that it is the responsibility of the POC to recommend modifications to the criteria.

Julian Burton stated that the assumption was only a few member jurisdictions would apply for the STP-DA funds because they had imminent needs. However, a significant number of applications were received with the total costs equaling roughly the amount of funding available. For this reason, he questioned the need for a second call for projects, and recommended that all of the available funding should be allocated at this time.

Mr. Pleasant explained that each MPO has the latitude to create a methodology to allocating its STP-DA funds. He cautioned the TCC that developing an overly-quantitative criterion for allocating these funds may result in shortcomings in terms of being able to supplement shortfalls for unfunded STI projects, and be able to react quickly to critical transportation needs. He added that geographical dispersion is difficult to quantify and can change with the economy and political environment. Mr. Pleasant recommended that the TCC stay the course with the current project list, and evaluate the allocation of the remaining STP-DA funds following the release of the draft STIP.

Motions:

- (1) Mr. Lesch made a motion for the TCC recommend to the MPO that it approve funding the entire allocation of STP-DA funds (\$51.4 million) by continuing down the project list until funds run out. Mr. Morgan seconded the motion. The motion died due to a substitute motion that was approved.
- (2) Andrew Grant made a substitute motion for the TCC to recommend to the MPO that it approve a portion of the STP-DA funds (\$23.4 million) for the eight projects that were determined to have an imminent need, and maintain the goal of holding an additional call for STP-DA projects in the fall of 2016. Sushil Nepal seconded the motion. Upon being put to a vote, the motion passed by a margin of 16 (for) to 4 (against), with the Monroe, Union County, Waxhaw, and Weddington TCC representatives voting in opposition. The Pineville and Marshville TCC representatives also voted in opposition, however; these representatives were ineligible to vote due to TCC bylaw attendance policies. Due to the approval of the substitute motion, the original motion was extinguished.

3b. Recommended CMAQ Project List

Presenter: Robert Cook

Summary/Action Requested:

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. Cook explained that the requested action is to recommend to the MPO that it endorse the six CMAQ projects, and that it amend the 2016-2025 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) to include the projects in fiscal year 2017.
- He reviewed the six projects totaling \$6.94 million in 2016 and 2017 CMAQ dollars.

Motion:

Mr. McDonald made a motion to recommend to the MPO that it endorse the six CMAQ projects, and that it amend the 2016-2025 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) to include the projects in fiscal year 2017. Sherry Ashley seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

TCC Information Reports

4a. Metrolina Regional Model - County Control Totals

Presenter: Curtis Bridges

Summary:

Mr. Bridges 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. Bridges explained that CRTPO must approve County Control Totals for ultimate use in the Metrolina Regional Model (MRM). Action will be requested for the August meetings.
- He stated that the control totals guide the distribution of socio-economic growth projections using the region's new CommunityViz land use and scenario planning model. This is an integral data point in the upcoming 2045 MTP project ranking process.
- Mr. Bridges explained that the control totals for population, employment, and school enrollment must be adopted for each of CRTPO's counties.
- Control totals will be adopted for years 2025, 2035, and 2045 by each of the MPOs and RPOs.
- The county-level control totals can be viewed [here](#).

4b. Regional MPO Agreements

Presenter: Robert Cook

Summary:

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:

- Mr. Cook began his presentation by stating that the CRTPO is the designated MPO for the Charlotte urbanized area (UZA), and the UZA extends into areas under the jurisdiction of neighboring MPOs.
- He explained that an agreement must be executed describing how the metropolitan transportation planning processes will be coordinated when there is more than one MPO within an urbanized area.
- Mr. Cook stated that agreements must be executed with the Cabarrus-Rowan, Gaston, Cleveland, Lincoln, and Greater Hickory MPOs in North Carolina, and the Rock Hill-Ft. Mill Area Transportation Study (RFATS) in South Carolina.
- He expects that the agreements with the adjacent MPOs should be finalized within the next several months.

4c. Prioritization 4.0 Update

Presenter: Neil Burke

Summary:

Mr. Burke provided the following update on CRTPO's involvement in the NCDOT Prioritization 4.0 process:

- He explained that the MPO approved the assignment of local input points to Regional Impact projects at the June meeting.

- NCDOT will release the list of Regional Impact projects that have been programmed for funding in the 2018-2027 DRAFT STIP at the end of August. This will determine the unfunded Regional Impact projects that will be eligible for Division Needs local input point assignment.
- Mr. Burke reviewed a local input point allocation schedule for the Division Needs tier, which can be viewed by clicking [here](#). Important dates for the TCC have been noted below:
 - August 4: Action requested by the TCC to recommend a draft list of projects proposed for local input point assignment for a 37-day public comment period.
 - August 17: Public meeting on draft Division Needs local input point assignment prior to the MPO meeting.
 - August 18-September 23: 37-day public comment period on draft Division Needs local input point assignment list.
 - October 6: Recommend the final list of Division Needs projects for local input point assignment based upon public comments received.

4d. Faith Church Road Alignment Study

Presenter: Radha Swayampakala

Summary:

Mr. Swayampakala 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 began the presentation by describing the Faith Church Road alignment. This roadway has been identified in the thoroughfare plan as a proposed connection between US 74 and Potter Road in Indian Trail and Wesley Chapel.
- He explained that a recommended four-lane boulevard with 112 feet of right-of-way was recommended in the Indian Trail Comprehensive Plan (2014).
- The objective of this study is to assess the feasibility of the proposed extension and identify opportunities for other connections since this area of Union County is currently experiencing significant development.
- Mr. Swayampakala reviewed the environmental constraints, conceptual designs, and potential impacts for the three segments of this corridor.
- He summarized the recommendation to maintain the proposed extension between US 74 and Old Monroe Road in the thoroughfare plan, and delete the segments of this alignment in the thoroughfare plan between Old Monroe Road and Potter Road.
- Mr. Swayampakala stated that additional recommendations for connectivity in the study area include a widening of Wesley Chapel Road and a new proposed connection between Beulah Church Road and Tan Yard Road.
- The next steps in this project will include the Town of Indian Trail undertaking a public involvement effort on the proposed recommendations, adoption by the Town Board, and CRTPO thoroughfare plan amendments.

4e. FTA 5310 TIP Amendments

Presenter: David McDonald, CATS

Summary:

Mr. McDonald provided the following summary on two FTA 5310 TIP amendments that are to be presented as an information report in July and a recommendation during the August TCC meeting:

- Mr. McDonald explained that as part of the implementation of the Coordinated Human Services Transportation Plan (CHSTP), CATS must obligate FFY 2014 FTA 5310 funds to the 2016-2025 TIP prior to the beginning of FFY 2017. CRTPO endorsed the CHSTP in June.
- He stated that two TIP amendments have been requested by CATS to initiate projects funded under the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) 5310 funds. These funds are to be used to enhance the mobility of seniors and individuals with disabilities between program years 2016 and 2025 of the TIP.
- The two requested amendments will add a TIP project for the portion of the funds that will be spent on Operations (TQ-6957) and a separate TIP project for the Administrative Oversight (TA-7009).
- Mr. McDonald explained that FTA requires that each project type be represented in the TIP because 5310 funds can be spent on a variety of activities.

4f. Comprehensive Transportation Plan

Presenters: Robert Cook and Emily Parker, Centralina COG

- Mr. Cook explained that the first CTP open house was held last week at the University City library and sixteen residents attended.
- He also stated that a CTP webinar will be held towards the end of July.
- Ms. Parker encouraged TCC members and other regional staff to promote the upcoming open houses and help to staff these meetings.

OTHER REPORTS

5a. NCDOT Report

Mr. Basham provided the following project updates on behalf of NCDOT-Division 10:

- Hucks Road in Charlotte has been closed to through traffic as part of a bridge replacement project. The closure will be in effect for approximately six months.
- Indian Trail Road (US 74-Old Monroe Road) in Indian Trail will be closed for approximately six months as part of a bridge replacement project. South Fork Road has been posted as the detour.
- The Grier Road Bridge improvement project in Charlotte was opened last Friday. This improvement was made as part of the high-speed rail project.
- The US 29 bridge replacement project near UNCC is approximately 88% complete and work will conclude in March of 2017.
- The Independence Boulevard improvement project (U-209B) should be placed in its final traffic pattern by the end of the year with final paving to occur in the spring of 2017.
- Division 10 will hold a Prioritization 4.0 public meeting on July 12 in Albemarle.

Mr. Panicker provided the following updates on behalf of NCDOT-Division 12:

- Division 12 will hold two public meetings for the NC 150 widening project (R-2307) in August.
- A bridge replacement project along Cornelius Road in Iredell County will be let in August.

5b. Bicycle and Pedestrian Work Group Report

Curtis Bridges provided an overview of the next Bicycle and Pedestrian Work Group (BPWG) meeting to be held this afternoon. Mr. Bridges explained that the BPWG will adjust their meeting start times from

2:00 to 1:30 starting in August. He also mentioned that Chris Breedlove of Mint Hill has been appointed to the BPWG as the South Mecklenburg representative.

5c. Upcoming Issues

Mr. Cook explained that staff has begun to investigate the implications that the proposed federal rules may have on CRTPO's operations and interface with the adjacent MPOs in this area. Responses are under review by staff for RFQs for a CRTPO staffing assessment and an update to the Public Involvement Plan.

Ms. Ashley explained that approximately 90 residents attended a June 20 public workshop on the Statesville CTP.

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

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