

CRTPO TECHNICAL COORDINATING COMMITTEE
Summary Meeting Minutes
Charlotte-Mecklenburg Government Center
Room 267
September 1, 2016

Voting Members: *Chair* - Danny Pleasant (CDOT), *Vice-Chair* - Bill Coxe (Huntersville), David McDonald (CATS), Becky Chambers – Alt for Dan Leaver (Charlotte E&PM), Jonathan Wells – alt for Ed McKinney (C-M Planning), Andrew Grant (Cornelius), Travis Johnson (Davidson), Adam McLamb – alt for Scott Kaufhold (Indian Trail), Barry Whitesides – alt for Matthew Todd (Iredell County), Fern Shubert (Marshville), Susan Habina Woolard (Matthews), Megan Green (Mecklenburg County-LUESA), Steve Frey (Mint Hill), Allison Kraft (Mooresville), Louis Mitchell (NCDOT – Div. 10), Anil Panicker – alt for Mark Stafford (NCDOT-Div. 12), Kevin Parker – alt for Chris Easterly (Stallings), Sherry Ashley (Statesville), Erika Martin (Troutman), Dick Black (Union County), Dennis Rorie (Waxhaw), Will Washam (Bicycle Focus Area Representative), Joyce Figueroa – alt for Gwen Cook (Greenway Area Representative), Scott Curry (Pedestrian Focus Area Representative), Dick Winters (Public Health Focus Area Representative)

Staff: Robert Cook (CRTPO), Curtis Bridges (CRTPO), Neil Burke (CRTPO), Candice Rorie (CRTPO), Norm Steinman (CDOT), Anna Gallup (CDOT), Scott Cole (NCDOT – Div. 10), Stuart Basham (NCDOT – Div. 10), Lee Ainsworth (NCDOT-Div. 10), Warren Cooksey (NCDOT- Div. 10), Michelle Nance (Centralina COG)

Guests: Bill Thunberg (LNTC), Matt Noonkester (City Explained,Inc.), Yolanda DeLong (Parsons) Steve Blakley (Kimley Horn), Joe Lesch (Gresham Smith), Sean Flaherty (Gresham Smith), Todd Steiss (WSP/PB), Dave Wiggins (Steele Creek Residents Assoc.)

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

1. Adoption of the Agenda

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

2. Consideration of Consent Agenda

Mr. Pleasant explained that the consent agenda for the September meeting contained the August 4 TCC Meeting Minutes.

Motion:

Bill Coxe made a motion to adopt the consent agenda. David McDonald seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

TCC BUSINESS ITEMS

3a. Bicycle Focus Area Representative

Presenter: Neil Burke

Summary/Action Requested:

Mr. Burke explained the purpose of this agenda item was to elect a bicycle focus area representative to the TCC for the remainder of the 2016 calendar year. This position has been vacant following the retirement of Ken Tippette. He stated that elections will be held for the four focus area representatives and alternates at the January TCC meeting for the 2017 calendar year.

Mr. Burke explained that he solicited interest in the position by e-mailing the TCC last week, and the following three nominations were received:

- Ben Miller (Charlotte DOT)
- Andrew Ventresca (Statesville)
- Will Washam (Cornelius)

Mr. Pleasant requested motions from the TCC to fill the vacant Bicycle Focus Area Representative position. He added that Tim Gibbs (Charlotte DOT) would remain the alternate for the Bicycle Focus Area Representative position for the remainder of the calendar year.

Motion:

Erika Martin made a motion to recommend that Will Washam is appointed to the Bicycle Focus Area Representative position on the TCC for the remainder of the 2016 calendar year. Andrew Grant seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

3b. TAP Call for Projects

Presenter: Curtis Bridges

Summary/Action Requested:

Mr. Bridges stated that action is requested to recommend to the MPO that it open a call for Transportation Alternatives Program projects beginning on October 3 and ending on November 2. He explained that \$2.4 million is available (\$1.2 million annually) over a two-year cycle.

Mr. Pleasant stated that the Project Oversight Committee developing the framework to combine the various funding sources (STP-DA, CMAQ, TAP) into a single call for projects to be conducted annually. He explained that this is a goal to transition to this process within the next several years.

Motion:

Sherry Ashley made a motion to recommend to the MPO that it consider opening a call for TAP projects. Dick Winters seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

3c. MPO Regional Agreement-RFATS

Presenter: Robert Cook

Summary/Action Requested:

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 explained that the action requested was to recommend to the MPO that it approve the agreement between CRTPO and the Rock Hill-Fort Mill Area Transportation Study.

- He stated that federal regulations require the execution of an agreement between two MPOs when urbanized areas overlap into an adjacent MPO's planning area. The agreement describes how the metropolitan transportation planning processes will be coordinated.
- Mr. Cook reviewed a series of text revisions between CATS and RFATS staff that were intended to describe the process of distributing the percentage of federal transit funds between the two MPOs.
- Mr. Cook explained that this agreement is more complex because it addresses distribution of transit funds between two MPOs in different states. The boundary agreements with Gaston-Cleveland-Lincoln, Cabarrus-Rowan, and the Greater Hickory MPOs will be presented as information reports at an upcoming TCC meeting.

Motion:

Mr. Coxe made a motion to Recommend to the MPO that it approve the agreement between CRTPO and the Rock Hill-Fort Mill Transportation Study (RFATS) with the goal of reaching an agreement within 180 days of when the agreement has been signed. Fern Shubert seconded the motion. Upon being put to a vote, the motion passed unanimously.

TCC Information Reports

4a. Comprehensive Transportation Plan

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 provided a summary of public outreach activities for the CTP adoption process that in total reached over 300 residents.
- He explained that 173 comments were received throughout the CTP outreach process, with the majority of comments received via the interactive maps.
- In general, the comments expressed support for the classifications and in a few cases suggested changes or updates to the recommendations.
- Mr. Cook explained that over 30 comments were received on the Troutman Southwest Bypass. He explained that an on-call consultant is currently evaluating the impact of removing the bypass from the roadway network.
- Mr. Cook concluded his presentation by explaining that comments will be sent to relevant parties by September 23.

Mr. Pleasant suggested that a webpage counter could be added to the interactive map website for staff to determine the number of unique visitors to the site.

4b. 2045 Metropolitan Transportation Plan

Presenter: Robert Cook

Summary:

Mr. Cook provided the following summary regarding the development of the 2045 MTP:

- Staff is in the process of finalizing contracts for consultant assistance in the development of the MTP and the creation of a new cost estimating tool.
 - The cost estimating tool will have capabilities beyond the development of the MTP.
- The MTP advisory committee will finalize revisions to the goals and objectives at the meeting next week and the changes will be presented at the October TCC meeting. A public involvement period on the MTP goals and objectives will begin towards the end of 2016.

Mr. Coxe stated that CRTPO’s previous roadway ranking criteria was designed to recommend projects that would be competitive in the NCDOT Prioritization process, however; he recommends that criteria should be considered that addresses place making and roadway projects that enhance the vitality of communities.

4c. FY 2017 UPWP Amendments

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 reviewed three proposed amendments to local planning projects in Indian Trail, Mooresville and Troutman in the FY 2017 UPWP. A summary of the proposed changes are listed below:
 - Indian Trail: Reallocate \$40,000 from the Faith Church Road project to Wesley Chapel-Stouts Road study
 - Mooresville: Support the Downtown Mooresville Railroad Crossing study with \$60,000 in FY 2017 PL funds
 - Troutman: Support the Town’s request with carryover of \$85,000 in FY 16 funds to complete the US 21/NC 115 Corridor Study in FY 17.
- These requests have been reviewed by the UPWP Review Subcommittee. FHWA and NCDOT-Transportation Planning Branch staffs are members of this committee and they have found the amendments to be acceptable.
- Mr. Cook concluded his presentation by stating that action will be requested by the TCC during the October meeting.

Mr. Coxe suggested that staff contact FHWA and the NCDOT-Transportation Planning Branch to confirm that the carryover of planning funds is permitted. He stated that these agencies have not previously agreed to this option in prior years.

4d. Prioritization 4.0

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 explained that a public comment period has been open on the P4.0 Division Needs projects proposed for local input point assignment since August 18 and no comments have been submitted as of today. The public comment period will end on September 23.
 - He encouraged the TCC and others in attendance to promote this public comment period because this is one of the only opportunities to influence the projects that will be included in the 2018-2027 TIP.
- Mr. Burke explained that the NCDOT-SPOT office had released the listing of P4.0 Regional Impact projects that will be programmed into the 2018-2027 TIP on August 23. He reviewed the lists and schedules of projects.
 - Twelve Regional Impact highway projects have been included in the TIP in Mecklenburg and Union Counties (Region E) at an amount of \$310 million. Seven projects in Region E were unfunded and could be considered for Division Needs point allocation.
 - Mr. Burke noted that Division 10 does not plan to assign Division Needs points to unfunded Regional Impact projects due to funding limitations.
 - Three Regional Impact highway projects have been included in the TIP in Iredell County (Region F) at an amount of \$55 million. An additional three projects in Region F were unfunded and could be considered for Division Needs point allocation.
 - He explained that staff will coordinate with Division 12 staff on Division Needs point assignment for unfunded Regional Impact projects.
 - Four non-highway projects were funded in Region E at an amount exceeding \$30 million.
- Mr. Burke stated that the P5.0 Work Group will make a recommendation on the number of years in the 2018-2027 TIP that are considered “committed” and not subject to be re-scored in P5.0. He added that it is the preference of the NCDOT-SPOT staff to be consistent with the commitment of the first five years of projects in the upcoming TIP.

4e. Bonus Allocation Assessment

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 explained that staff requested the Centralina Council of Governments to undertake an assessment of the process to allocate bonus allocation funds associated with the I-77 express lanes project in the fall of 2015.
- He stated that the assessment’s purpose was to learn from the bonus allocation process in order to help improve other CRTPO processes.
- Mr. Cook distributed copies of the draft report to the TCC and summarized the report by describing the components that included interviews, analysis of feedback received, and the development of recommendations.
- He concluded his presentation by stating that the next step is request the Project Oversight Committee prioritize the recommendations and recommend them to the MPO for their consideration.

Mr. Pleasant explained that this item will be on an upcoming agenda after the TCC has had time to review the draft report.

4f. Metrolina Region CommunityViz Initiative Update

Presenter: Curtis Bridges and Matt Noonkester, City Explained, Inc.

Summary:

Mr. Bridges provided an introduction by stating that Matt Noonkester had been retained to develop a framework to use the CommunityViz software to calculate socioeconomic projects for the Metrolina Regional Model (MRM) area.

Mr. Noonkester 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. Noonkester began his presentation by summarizing the geography of the MRM and explaining how this initiative was conducted.
- He explained that the planning process was a “bottom up” approach that considered development status, land suitability and buildout estimates in the use of CommunityViz to allocate growth within grid cells.
- In addition to the use of the CommunityViz model for socioeconomic data updates, he explained that it will also be used in the development of the 2045 MTP, the City of Charlotte UDO, and the Congestion Management Process (CMP).
- Mr. Noonkester emphasized that each step of this initiative was vetted through local, county staff as well as the region’s MPOs and project steering committee.
- He concluded his presentation by summarizing the steps to complete the project which include the packaging of final socioeconomic datasets for the MRM and updating the MTP and CTP.

Jonathan Wells inquired about how the data and this model can be accessed by a wider audience. Mr. Noonkester explained that the Wake County schools are currently using the model developed in the Raleigh-area to calculate school projections. He also cited the ability for local and regional staffs to utilize this resource within their planning processes.

4g. Annual Traffic Count Program

Presenter: Candice Rorie

Summary:

Ms. Rorie 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:

- Ms. Rorie explained that CRTPO has historically funded individual local project requests by member jurisdictions for traffic data collection.
 - CRTPO is launched the MPO Traffic Data Program earlier this year and did not receive any submittals from member jurisdictions.
- She stated that there is \$100,000 in the FY 2017 UPWP to fund the traffic count program.
- She explained that this program will provide member jurisdictions with needed traffic data to be used to support the transportation planning and research efforts that will advance initiatives and planning projects throughout the MPO planning area. The program can be used to conduct counts for all modes of transportation.
- Ms. Rorie announced that a call for projects will begin in October. More information on the CRTPO’s Traffic Counting Program can be found [here](#).

OTHER REPORTS

5a. NCDOT Report

Stuart Basham provided an update on behalf of NCDOT-Division 10:

- The Monroe Expressway construction is slightly ahead of schedule with the project to be completed by the end of 2018.
- The Independence Boulevard project (U-209) overpasses at Sharon Amity and Idlewild Roads will be completed in October of 2016. Traffic will be placed in its final pattern by the end of the year with the final paving to occur in the spring of 2017.
- The Graham Street/Mallard Creek Road project (U-2507) was stopped last year but will begin again later in September.
- The I-485 and Oakdale Road interchange is 42% complete and will open in April of 2017.
- The Indian Trail Road Bridge Replacement is anticipated to be complete by the end of November.
- He provided information on a series of upcoming public meetings:
 - Thursday, September 1: I-77 & Gilead Road interchange improvements at the Huntersville Town Hall
 - John Street/Old Monroe Road Widening (U-4714): Local officials meeting on October 3 and public workshop on October 11 at Stallings United Methodist Church

Anil Panicker stated that two public meetings were held for the NC 150 widening project (R-2307) in Catawba and Iredell Counties and approximately 500 residents attended the two meetings held on August 22 and 23.

5b. Bicycle and Pedestrian Work Group Report

Mr. Bridges provided an overview of the next Bicycle and Pedestrian Work Group (BPWG) meeting to be held this afternoon. He announced that he has copies of the completed Bicycle Suitability Maps.

5c. Upcoming Issues

Adam McLamb announced that the Town of Indian Trail will hold a public meeting for the Faith Church Road study on September 6.

6. Adjourn: Mr. Pleasant determined that the agenda had been adequately completed and adjourned the meeting at 12:06 p.m.