

**CRTPO TECHNICAL COORDINATING COMMITTEE**  
**Summary Meeting Minutes**  
**Charlotte-Mecklenburg Government Center**  
**Room 267**  
**November 3, 2016**

---

**Voting Members:** *Chair* - Danny Pleasant (CDOT), *Vice-Chair* - Bill Coxe (Huntersville), 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), Susan Habina Woolard (Matthews), Chris Breedlove – alt for Steve Frey (Mint Hill), Lisa Stiwinter (Monroe), Allison Kraft ( Mooresville), Scott Cole – alt for Louis Mitchell (NCDOT – Div. 10), Anil Panicker – alt for Mark Stafford (NCDOT-Div. 12), Linda Dosse (NCDOT-TPB), Kevin Parker – alt for Chris Easterly (Stallings), Sherry Ashley (Statesville), Erika Martin (Troutman), Dick Black (Union County), Dennis Rorie (Waxhaw; Weddington by proxy), Will Washam (Bicycle Focus Area Representative), Gwen Cook (Greenway Area Representative), Scott Curry (Pedestrian Focus Area Representative)

**Staff:** Robert Cook (CRTPO), Curtis Bridges (CRTPO), Neil Burke (CRTPO), Candice Rorie (CRTPO), Norm Steinman (CDOT), Andy Grzymiski (CDOT), Kelsie Anderson (CDOT), Kory Hedrick (CDOT), Jason Lawrence (CATS), Loretta Barren (FHWA), Warren Cooksey (NCDOT-Div. 10), Wendy Taylor (NCDOT – Div. 10), Lee Ainsworth (NCDOT- Div. 10), Andy Bailey (NCDOT-TPB)

**Guests:** Bill Thunberg (LNTC), Steve Blakley (Kimley Horn), Joe Lesch (Gresham Smith), Sean Flaherty (Gresham Smith), Yolanda DeLong (Parsons), Nick Landa (RS&H), Todd Steiss (WSP/PB)

---

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

**1. Adoption of the Agenda**

Mr. Pleasant explained that there were two high-priority action items that were identified following the distribution of the agenda packet. He deferred to Neil Burke for an explanation.

Mr. Burke requested that the TCC consider adding a TIP amendment to modify the plan of finance for the Monroe Expressway and another TIP amendment to add additional express bus service along the I-77 corridor within the Express Lanes work zone.

The TCC adopted the modified October agenda by acclamation.

**2. Consideration of Consent Agenda**

Mr. Pleasant explained that the consent agenda for the October meeting contained the October 6 TCC Meeting Minutes.

Motion:

Bill Coxe made a motion to adopt the consent agenda. Sherry Ashley seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**TCC BUSINESS ITEMS**

### **3.1. Monroe Expressway (R-3329) TIP Amendment**

Presenter: Neil Burke

#### Summary/Action Requested:

Mr. Burke explained that NCDOT has requested that CRTPO take action as soon as possible to amend the TIP to modify the project funding to reflect the updated plan of finance for the Monroe Expressway (R-3329). The Garvee bonds for this project have been assigned to other NCDOT projects throughout the state and the remaining debt needs to be refinanced with TIFIA loans. He explained that the updated plan of finance includes \$114 million in revenue bonds and \$166.5 million in TIFIA loans. Mr. Burke concluded his presentation by stating that a CRTPO TIP amendment is required for NCDOT to achieve financial close on the TIFIA loan and keep the project on schedule.

#### Motion:

Mr. Coxe made a motion to recommend to the MPO that it approve a TIP amendment to modify project funding to \$114 million in revenue bonds and \$166.5 million in TIFIA loans for the Monroe Expressway project. Linda Dosse seconded the motion. Upon being put to a vote, the motion passed unanimously.

### **3.2. I-77 I-5405 TIP Amendments**

Presenter: David McDonald

#### Summary/Action Requested:

Mr. McDonald 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. McDonald explained that NCDOT and CATS have worked closely on a plan to increase transit service during the I-77 construction to mitigate traffic delays and provide an alternative to the construction congestion.
- He explained that a TIP amendment is necessary to move forward with enhanced transit service and service marketing for this project.
- Mr. McDonald stated that NCDOT will fund 15 additional peak transit trips on the 53X, 48X & 77X express buses. This would result in increased frequency.
- He then reviewed the TIP amendment and explained that funding will be assigned in fiscal years 2017 through 2019 for operating service to CATS and funding to CATS for marketing services and public outreach.

Scott Cole explained that the source of funding is federal highway funds and the FHWA is in agreement with the use of these funds for the stated purpose. Mr. Coxe inquired about the required 20% local match for the use of the federal funds and Mr. Cole indicated that NCDOT would fund the local match with state funds.

Travis Johnson asked about how the enhanced bus schedules would work. Mr. Cole explained that CATS increase the service frequency during peak times to help mitigate congestion along I-77.

Mr. Coxe stated that this is an excellent opportunity to begin to increase the customer base for transit service within this corridor. He added that CATS is currently undertaking a study to increase express bus service to take advantage of the I-77 Express Lanes once they open in 2018.

Mr. Pleasant explained that the precise source of federal funds needs to be clearly identified within the next two weeks prior to the November 16 MPO meeting.

Motion:

Mr. Coxe made a motion to recommend to the MPO that it approve TIP amendments to add funds for enhanced transit service and service marketing during the I-77 express lanes construction project pending the source of federal funds. Ms. Dosse seconded the motion. Upon being put to a vote, the motion passed unanimously.

**3.3 FTA 5307 TIP Amendments**

Presenter: David McDonald

Summary/Action Requested:

Mr. McDonald 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. McDonald explained that the federal funds within the 2016 through 2020 program years are known. He then reviewed the TIP amendment with the TCC.
- He explained that a TIP amendment to the FTA 5307 TIP project for Iredell County Area Transit System (ICATS) operating assistance is necessary to reflect a 50% federal/50% local match.
- Mr. McDonald explained that CATS is the designated recipient of federal transit funds for the Charlotte urbanized area. Other transit providers within the Charlotte urbanized area can access these funds as a sub-recipient to CATS. As a result, their share of 5307 funds will come through CATS grant process.
- He explained that the current TIP does not currently reflect the 50% local match share.

Motion:

Mr. McDonald made a motion to recommend to the MPO that it consider approving the amendments to the 2016-2025 Transportation Improvement Program to modify the local share of the FTA 5307 project (TO-5149) for Iredell County to reflect a 50% federal/50% local match. Allison Kraft seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**3.4. MPO Regional Agreements**

Presenter: Robert Cook

Summary/Action Requested:

Mr. Cook began his presentation by stating that the requested action today was to recommend to the MPO that it approve regional agreements with the Greater Hickory MPO (GHMPO) and the Gaston-Cleveland-Lincoln MPO (GCLMPO). He indicated that this requested action is similar to the request during the October TCC meeting for the agreement between CRTPO and the Rock Hill-Fort Mill Transportation Study.

Mr. Cook explained 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 to the regional agreements between CRTPO, GCLMPO, and GHMPO.

In particular, he identified an error in the text of the GCLMPO agreement where it was stated that CRTPO (not CATS) would coordinate with the Gastonia Transit. Mr. Cook will work with GCLMPO staff to correct this error.

Mr. Cook explained that CRTPO continues to coordinate on revisions to the regional agreement with the Cabarrus Rowan MPO. He anticipates that this agreement will be presented to the TCC and MPO within the next several months.

Motion:

Mr. Coxe made a motion to recommend to the MPO that it approve regional agreements with the identified revisions between CRTPO and the Gaston-Cleveland-Lincoln MPO and the Greater Hickory MPO. Mr. McDonald seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**TCC Information Reports**

**4.1. 2045 Metropolitan 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 began his presentation by reviewing a series of minor changes to the goals and objectives that have been recommended by the advisory committee.
  - He explained that advisory committee has recommended that the outreach for the goals and objectives will be combined with the general MTP outreach effort that will begin in January of 2017.
  - Mr. Cook requested that the TCC review the goals and objectives and provide comments to him by December 5 in order to provide feedback at the December 6 Advisory Committee meeting.
- Mr. Cook summarized the review of the roadway ranking methodology. He explained that there were no major comments received from the advisory committee.
  - He explained that the bulk of the changes will be focused on revising CRTPO's criteria to better align with some of the changes to the NCDOT SPOT criteria made prior to P4.0.
  - Other potential changes to the criteria include the use of CommunityViz instead of the MRM for the accessibility to employment criteria, and the consideration of awarding positive points to roadway projects that may enhance environmental justice factors.
  - Mr. Cook explained that the CommunityViz software will also be used to conduct scenario planning on the fiscally constrained project lists.
- Mr. Cook concluded his presentation by explaining that the consultants are working on branding concepts for the plan as well as a project website.

Mr. Coxe stated that there is a disconnect between the goals and objectives and the criteria to develop the fiscally constrained project list. He added that there is minimal attempt to create a desirable community within the project ranking criteria. Mr. Pleasant agreed with Mr. Coxe's statement and added that there should be a linkage between the day to day decision making to the goals and objectives, rather than allowing the project ranking criteria to mirror NCDOT's prioritization criteria.

## **4.2. 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 began his presentation by reviewing a series of recommended issues and revisions recommended following the close of the CTP public engagement period.
  - He encouraged the TCC to identify and define any obstacles to adopting the CTP maps (highway, bicycle, pedestrian, transit/rail) during the January meetings.
- Mr. Cook indicated that the Southwest Troutman Bypass is the most critical issue to address prior to the adoption of the CTP maps.
  - Over 30 comments were received by Troutman-area residents requesting the deletion of this alignment.
  - He explained that an on-call consultant completed a planning-level analysis with the outcome that a parallel facility will be needed to relieve traffic along the US 21/NC 115 corridor based upon 2040 projected volumes.
  - Staff recommends that the Southwest Bypass alignment remain on the CTP highway map until a study identifying an alternate means to relieve traffic volumes along the US 21/NC 115 corridor is identified.
- He concluded his presentation by reviewing a schedule of CTP map adoption. He explained that future phases of the adoption process will include identification of right-of-way reservation policies and local ordinance revisions.

Mr. Pleasant encouraged the TCC to conduct a detailed review of the CTP maps prior to the adoption process.

Erika Martin stated that the failure to delete the Southwest Bypass would likely be an obstacle for adoption for the Town of Troutman. She explained that the Troutman Planning Board has requested that the Town Board recommend to CRTPO that the Southwest Bypass be removed from the CTP.

Ms. Martin explained that the results of the consultant study indicated that US 21/NC 115 will be over capacity in 2040, but did not specifically recommend that the bypass be preserved on the CTP highway map. Staff will continue to work with Troutman staff to identify a solution to this issue prior to the map adoption process.

## **4.3. Project Oversight Committee 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:

- Mr. Burke began his presentation by explaining that the purpose was to provide an update to the TCC regarding a set of working recommendations from the Project Oversight Committee (POC) regarding process and criteria recommendations to the STP-DA criteria.

- The revisions were recommended by both TCC and MPO members to make the process more quantitative, and increase variance between project scores.
- Mr. Burke reviewed a series of proposed process recommendations made by the POC that covered funding targets by mode, small roadway projects, and project submittal requirements.
- He then reviewed a series of proposed criteria recommendations made by the POC that would make the problem statement a pass/fail requirement, and a set of quantitative measures to prioritize highway and transit system benefit criteria.
- Mr. Burke concluded his presentation by reviewing a proposed schedule for adoption of the STP-DA criteria, which includes a joint MPO/TCC workshop on the recommended changes on Wednesday, December 7.

Mr. Pleasant suggested that weighting should be applied to the safety criteria to allocate additional points based upon crash severity. Mr. Burke explained that the POC would consider this recommendation.

#### **4.4. LYNX Silver Line/Southeast Corridor Transit Study**

Presenter: Jason Lawrence, CATS

##### Summary:

Mr. Lawrence 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. Lawrence stated that CATS has completed a rail alternative analysis and transit study for the LYNX Silver Line and Southeast Corridor.
- He explained that action will be requested to adopt the transit study and alignment during the November 16 Metropolitan Transit Committee meeting. Future action will be required by the TCC and MPO to modify the alignment within the CTP.
- Mr. Lawrence stated that this is a long range plan, and it is critical to identify an alignment and protect it against future development until implementation can occur.
- Mr. Lawrence explained that the 13.5-mile Silver Line between Uptown Charlotte and Matthews is one of five transit corridors identified in the 2025 Transit and Land Use Plan.
- He stated that a series of studies undertaken throughout the past decade focused fixed guideway transit away from the US 74 corridor, and thus created the need to undertake a new study to identify a preferred alignment and determine the appropriate transit technology for the future corridor.
- Mr. Lawrence explained that the current recommended light rail alignment would traverse along the east side of Independence Boulevard and within the Monroe Road corridor. There are 13 stations proposed with 8-10 Park and Ride facilities recommended along the light rail corridor.
- CATS will provide an operations plan for all bus routes in the Southeast Corridor with a focus on the US 74 Express route.
- He explained that the alignment of the Southeast corridor in the uptown area will be combined into a future study of the west corridor to the Charlotte-Douglas Airport.

## **OTHER REPORTS**

### **5.1. NCDOT Report**

Scott Cole provided an update on behalf of NCDOT-Division 10:

- Right-of-way acquisition is complete for the western half of the Monroe Expressway.
- The Independence Boulevard project (U-209) interchange at Sharon Amity Road will be completed in December of 2016.
- The estimated completion date for the I-485/Oakdale Road interchange is April of 2017. Traffic is anticipated to be in the final pattern by the end of 2016.
- There is a detour posted for a bridge replacement along Back Creek Church Road to complete the double tracking project for the North Carolina Railroad. The detour will be in place for approximately six weeks until the project is open to traffic on December 19.
- Utility relocation is nearly complete on the Graham Street/Mallard Creek Road project (U-2507) and construction will resume on this project in the near future.

### **5.2. Bicycle and Pedestrian Work Group Report**

Mr. Bridges stated the Bicycle and Pedestrian Work Group hosted a successful cost estimation workshop that was attended by approximately 30 regional staff members on October 18. He explained that 14 TAP applications have been received to date. Mr. Bridges anticipates that the Bicycle and Pedestrian Work Group will be in a position to present a recommended TAP project list in the first quarter of 2017.

### **5.3. Upcoming Issues**

Mr. Cook explained that CRTPO will be hosting a Charlotte Regional Alliance for Transportation (CRAFT) meeting on Tuesday November 29 at the Government Center. CRAFT agendas and minutes can be viewed [here](#).

Mr. Cook announced that Erin Kinne will start work on Monday, November 7 as the new Administrative Officer 2 for CRTPO.

Candice Rorie announced that a call for projects for the Traffic Count Program will open on November 11. Additional information on CRTPO's traffic count program can be found [here](#).

**6. Adjourn:** Mr. Pleasant determined that the agenda had been adequately completed and adjourned the meeting at 11:42 a.m.