

CRTPO TECHNICAL COORDINATING COMMITTEE
Summary Meeting Minutes
Charlotte-Mecklenburg Government Center
Room 267
February 2, 2017

Voting Members: *Chair* - Danny Pleasant (CDOT), *Vice-Chair* - Bill Coxe (Huntersville), David McDonald (CATS), Dan Leaver (Charlotte E&PM), Jonathan Wells – alt for Ed McKinney (C-M Planning), Wayne Herron – Alt for Andrew Grant (Cornelius), Travis Johnson (Davidson), Patrick Sadek (Indian Trail), Matthew Todd (Iredell County), Susan Habina Woolard (Matthews), Megan Green (Mecklenburg County – LUESA), Chris Breedlove – alt for Steve Frey (Mint Hill), Lisa Stiwinter (Monroe), Allison Kraft (Mooresville), Anil Panicker – alt for Mark Stafford (NCDOT-Div. 12), Andy Bailey (NCDOT-TPB), Travis Morgan (Pineville), Kevin Parker – alt for Chris Easterly (Stallings), Sherry Ashley (Statesville), Erika Martin (Troutman), Bjorn Hansen (Union County), Dennis Rorie (Waxhaw), Lisa Thompson (Weddington), Will Washam (Bicycle Focus Area Representative), Gwen Cook (Greenway Focus Area Representative), Scott Correll – alt for Scott Curry (Pedestrian Focus Area Representative), Dick Winters (Public Health Focus Area Representative)

Staff: Robert Cook (CRTPO), Curtis Bridges (CRTPO), Neil Burke (CRTPO), Erin Kinne (CRTPO), Candice Rorie (CRTPO), Norm Steinman (CDOT), Anna Gallup (CDOT), Andy Grzyski (CDOT), Loretta Barren (FHWA), Scott Cole (NCDOT- Div. 10) Stuart Basham (NCDOT-Div. 10), Warren Cooksey (NCDOT – Div. 10), Wendy Taylor (NCDOT – Div. 10), Lee Ainsworth (NCDOT- Div. 10), Brian Wert (NCDOT-TPB), Andrew Ventresca (Statesville), Jim Loyd (Monroe), Jessica Hill (Centralina COG), Cami Weckerly (Mooresville)

Guests: Bill Thunberg (LNTC), Joe Lesch (Gresham Smith), Nick Landa (RS&H), Todd Steiss (WSP/PB), Roger Diedrich (Sierra Club), Paige Hunter (HNTB)

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 February agenda was adopted by acclamation.

2. Consideration of Consent Agenda

Mr. Pleasant explained that the consent agenda for the February meeting contained the January 5 TCC meeting minutes, and TIP amendments to reallocate \$879,000 in STP-DA funding from the Irvins Creek Greenway project to the McDowell Creek Greenway project.

Mecklenburg County Park and Recreation staff identified the need for the amendment and the Project Oversight Committee recommended that it be placed on the TCC agenda.

Motion:

Sherry Ashley made a motion to adopt the consent agenda. Erika Martin seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

TCC BUSINESS ITEMS

3.1 R-211EC Conformity Determination & U-4714AB Modification

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 his presentation by explaining that the public comment periods are being combined for the I-485/Weddington Road interchange conformity determination and the MTP/TIP modification for the I-485 and John Street interchange (U-4714AB) due to their association with the I-485 Express Lane project (I-5507).
- Mr. Burke recommended that the TCC consider these items separately in terms of recommended actions.

a. I-485/Weddington Road (R-211EC) Conformity Determination

- NCDOT has determined that the construction of the I-485/Weddington Road interchange (R-211EC) will affect the operations of the travel lanes on I-485 between this interchange and the I-485/John Street interchange.
- The addition of one additional lane in each direction between the two interchanges will alleviate the problem.
- The addition of the lanes will result in the need for an air quality conformity determination.

Motion:

David McDonald made a motion to recommend to the MPO that it release a draft conformity determination for a 30-day public comment period. Lisa Stiwinter seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

b. John Street/Old Monroe Road (U-4714) 2040 MTP and TIP Amendment

- The I-485/John Street Interchange currently operates at capacity during the weekday peak hours.
- The initial scope of the John Street widening project (U-4714) did not include interchange improvements at I-485.
- The NC Board of Transportation has amended the STIP in January to segment the U-4714 project to allow the construction of loop ramps at the interchange to be let with the I-485 I-5507 project as a congestion-relief measure.

Motion:

David McDonald made a motion to recommend to the MPO that it open a 30-day public comment period on amendments to the 2040 MTP and 2016-2025 TIP to segment the I-485/John Street interchange from the U-4714 project to allow the construction of loop ramps at the interchange to be let with the I-485 I-5507 project. Bill Coxe seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

3.2. 2045 Metropolitan Transportation Plan

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 he was seeking TCC recommendations on the goals and objectives for the 2045 MTP and the proposed roadway ranking criteria changes. He added that he will provide a general update on other ongoing MTP activities.
- He stated that a public comment period on the goals and objectives will end on February 10, and he did not anticipate many comments to be submitted.
- Mr. Cook reviewed the accessibility to employment recommended changes within the roadway ranking criteria. The recommendation is to utilize CONNECT data to identify employment centers as opposed to using socioeconomic data as was done in the 2040 MTP.
- He then provided an overview of the ongoing public outreach effort for the 2045 MTP. He indicated that there are seven upcoming presentations at small group meetings and two upcoming pop-up events.
- Mr. Cook explained that a candidate project submission process workshop will be held for TCC members this afternoon.
- He concluded his presentation by explaining that the main topic on the February 7 Advisory Committee will be the financial assumptions for the roadway ranking process. He added that these assumptions will need to be approved by the TCC and MPO in May.

Mr. Coxe suggested that the next MTP update in four years should analyze future congestion and forecasted employment growth to help shape future development recommendations.

Motion:

Mr. Coxe made a motion to recommend to the MPO that it approve the goals and objectives and changes to the roadway ranking criteria for the 2045 MTP. Jonathan Wells seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

3.3. FY 2017 Unified Planning Work Program Amendments

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 staff had undertaken a mid-year analysis of the FY 2017 UPWP and made the determination that amendments will be required. Action will be requested on these amendments during the meeting today.

He explained that the following task codes are currently experiencing funding shortfalls:

- V-3, Planning Work Program
- V-4, Transportation Improvement Program
- VI-9, Environmental Analysis & Pre-TIP Planning.

Mr. Cook identified the Freight Planning (IV-8) and the Corridor Protection and Special Studies (VI-10) task codes where funding could be reallocated to alleviate the shortfalls.

He explained that the air quality conformity determination fund increase is attributed to the I-485 and Weddington Road air quality conformity determination work and recent CMAQ prioritization efforts.

Bjorn Hansen asked about how the increase in local match would be handled for the member jurisdictions. Mr. Cook explained that he believed that the increase would be nominal since it will be spread over 24 jurisdictions, adding that the City of Charlotte is responsible for 60% of the local match.

Motion:

Mr. Hansen made a motion to recommend to the MPO that it approve amendments to the FY 2017 UPWP. Mr. Wells seconded the motion. Upon being put to a vote, the motion passed unanimously.

TCC INFORMATION REPORTS

4.1 DRAFT CMAQ Project List

Presenter: Robert Cook

Summary:

- Mr. Cook began his presentation by stating that NCDOT announced it would accept project proposals for the Congestion Mitigation & Air Quality (CMAQ) program in fiscal years 2018 and 2019 last fall.
- He explained that a total of \$16,720,630 is available for programming.
- Mr. Cook stated that the CRTPO issued a project call that closed on January 13.
- 15 projects were submitted for consideration.
- He explained that the Project Oversight Committee reviewed the projects at its January 26 meeting and developed a preliminary recommendation.
- Mr. Cook concluded his presentation by stating that final action on the CMAQ project list will be requested in March.

4.2. Greater Charlotte Regional Freight Mobility Plan Update

Presenter: Jessica Hill, Centralina COG

Summary:

Ms. Hill 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. Hill began her presentation by explaining that the Regional Freight Mobility Plan began in 2015 with participation from FHWA and NCDOT.
- She explained that some of the study purposes include identification of key bottlenecks for freight, prioritization of improvements to reduce barriers to efficiency, and promotion of effective land use planning in freight corridors.
- Ms. Hill explained that a set of prioritization criteria has been developed as part of this plan to prioritize future highway and rail projects that would improve freight mobility.
- She provided an overview of potential highway project types that would benefit freight mobility which include intermodal connectivity and bridge improvements.

- Potential rail projects that would benefit freight mobility include grade separations and access to industrial land uses.
- Ms. Hill concluded her presentation by explaining that the inclusion of the CRTPO freight profile into the 2045 MTP and the development of freight performance measures are two important short-term implementation recommendations.

4.3 Fixed Guideway and Bus State of Good Repair TIP Amendments

Presenter: David McDonald

Summary:

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 stated that the purpose of this information report is to provide an overview of a proposal to correct the amount the amount of prior year funding in the current TIP that will be expended in FY 2017, and to update the estimate of potential state of good repair funds beginning in FY 2018 until FY 2029.
- He explained that after seven years of operation of the LNYX blue line, FTA has started allocating state of good repair funds to assist in maintenance and operations of this service.
- Mr. McDonald explained that this will be an action item during the March TCC meeting.

OTHER REPORTS

5.1. NCDOT Report

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

- Construction of abutments for grade separations is underway in the Hemby Bridge area of the Monroe Expressway project.
- The Sharon Amity Road grade separation was opened last weekend on the Independence Boulevard project (U-209). Work continues on the ramps to connect Sharon Amity Road and Independence Boulevard at this interchange.
- The I-485/Oakdale Road interchange is complete and the project is open to traffic.
- General James Trogon was sworn in as the current Transportation Secretary on Monday, January 30.

Anil Panicker provided an update on behalf of NCDOT-Division 12:

- Division 12 is working with the City of Statesville to obtain water access for the new I-77 Rest Area north of Statesville.

Andy Bailey stated that the North Carolina Board of Transportation will consider adopting the CRTPO CTP maps at the March meeting.

5.2. Bicycle and Pedestrian Work Group Report

Mr. Bridges stated the Bicycle and Pedestrian Work Group (BPWG) has finished reviewing and scoring the 2016 TAP candidate projects. He explained that the recommended project list will be an information report during the March TCC meeting. The BPWG is currently reviewing the TAP criteria to determine if changes can be made to reduce its complexity.

5.3. Upcoming Issues

Mr. McDonald announced that CATS has issued a call for FTA 5310 funds for projects to enhance mobility of senior citizens and the disabled population. Applications are due by February 21, 2017. The total funding amount available in this solicitation is \$1,606,722.

Mr. Burke announced the following two conferences for continuing education:

- Centralina Council of Governments will host a Creative Solutions for Thriving Communities conference on Thursday, April 6 at the Charles Mack Citizen Center in Mooresville. Additional information can be found [here](#).
- The Annual North Carolina MPO Association Statewide Transportation Planning Conference will be held from April 25 through April 28 in New Bern. Additional information can be found [here](#).

6. Adjourn: Mr. Pleasant determined that the agenda had been adequately completed and adjourned the meeting at 11:20 a.m.