

CRTPO TECHNICAL COORDINATING COMMITTEE
Summary Meeting Minutes
Combined Meeting with Joint Use Task Force
Charlotte-Mecklenburg Government Center
Room 267
July 6, 2017

Voting Members: *Chair* - Danny Pleasant (CDOT), *Vice-Chair* - Bill Coxe (Huntersville), David McDonald (CATS), Becky Chambers – Alt for Dan Leaver (Charlotte E&PM), Amber Leathers – alt for Lauren Scott (C-D International Airport), Jonathan Wells – alt for Ed McKinney (C-M Planning), Wayne Herron – alt for Andrew Grant (Cornelius), Travis Johnson (Davidson), Patrick Sadek (Indian Trail), Barry Whitesides – alt for Matthew Todd (Iredell County), Susan Habina Woolard (Matthews), Megan Green (Mecklenburg County – LUESA), Chris Breedlove (Mint Hill), Cami Weckerly – alt for Allison Kraft (Mooresville), Jim Loyd – alt for Lisa Stiwinter (Monroe), Louis Mitchell (NCDOT – Div. 10), Anil Panicker – alt for Mark Stafford (NCDOT – Div. 12), Andy Bailey (NCDOT-TPB), Travis Morgan (Pineville), Kevin Parker – alt for Chris Easterly (Stallings), Andrew Ventresca -- alt for Sherry Ashley (Statesville), Erika Martin (Troutman), Bjorn Hansen (Union County), Dennis Rorie (Waxhaw), Will Washam (Bicycle Focus Area Representative), Gwen Cook (Greenway Focus 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), Erin Kinne (CRTPO), Candice Rorie (CRTPO), Liz Babson (CDOT), Andy Grzymiski (CDOT), JC Weaver (C-D International Airport), John Muth (CATS), Jason Lawrence (CATS), Tina Votaw (CATS), Loretta Barren (FHWA), Scott Cole (NCDOT – Div. 10), Stuart Basham (NCDOT- Div. 10), Wendy Taylor (NCDOT – Div. 10), Lee Ainsworth (NCDOT – Div. 10), Steve Bridges (NCDOT – Div. 12), Terry Arellano (NCDOT), Heather Hildebrandt (NCDOT)

Joint Use Task Force: Kevin Brickman (Mecklenburg County Park & Rec), Hanna Bromberger (City Real Estate), Micah Burgess (City Water), Vivian Coleman (CDOT), Kathy Cornett (C-M Planning), Alberto Gonzalez (C-M Planning), Amber Grzymiski (Mecklenburg County Solid Waste), Mike Hoy (Charlotte E+PM), Jason Hunt (Stormwater), Peter Jareo (Charlotte-Mecklenburg Library), Greg Long (CPCC), Tim O’Brien (Charlotte E&PM), Warren Wooten (Housing and Neighborhood Services), Capt. Jim Wright (CMPD)

Guests: Steve Blakley (Kimley-Horn), Yolanda DeLong (Parsons), Nick Landa (RS&H), Michelle Nance (CCOG) Radha Swayampakala (RS&H), Bill Thunberg (LNTC), Jason Wager (Centralina COG)

1. Introductions and Overview

Danny Pleasant opened the combined meeting at 10:00 a.m. TCC, Joint Use Task Force (JUTF) members and guests introduced themselves.

Mr. Pleasant provided an overview of the TCC’s roles and responsibilities.

Jonathan Wells provided an overview of the JUTF roles and responsibilities, explaining that this group was established to evaluate the feasibility of joint opportunities to pursue capital projects throughout Mecklenburg County. Mr. Wells explained that it is important for the TCC and JUTF to understand the long-term transportation and land use implications of decisions throughout the region.

Combined TCC/JUTF Agenda

2.1. CATS 2030 Transit System Plan Refresh

Presenter: Jason Lawrence, CATS

Summary:

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

- Mr. Lawrence began his presentation by providing the context for the 2030 transit system plan update by explaining that the region's growth has exceeded projections throughout the past several decades.
- He explained that the study should take approximately 18 months with an anticipated completion date of December of 2018.
- Mr. Lawrence provided a status update of the north, southeast, and airport transit corridors and explained that that this study will help to define costs and implementation strategies to build out the remainder of the regions transit system.
- He stated that this study will re-analyze options to identify an alternative alignment to Norfolk Southern's "O" Line and will identify a integration strategy within the I-277 loop of Uptown Charlotte to enhance mobility between different transit technologies.

2.2. Regional Transit Engagement Study

Presenter: Michelle Nance and Jason Wager, Centralina COG

Summary:

Ms. Nance stated that the Regional Transit Engagement Study is a continuation of the CONNECT Our Future dialogue around transit. This series is designed to provide an opportunity to have focused conversations with local governments and stakeholders about regional transit to identify long-term goals and priorities.

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

- Mr. Wager began his presentation by stating the following goals of the study:
 - Identify the key stakeholder values and interests related to regional transit;
 - Develop and strengthen regional relationships;
 - Engage the stakeholders in surrounding counties that may be most impacted by a growing region and transportation network; and,
 - Develop consensus-based next steps.
- The engagement area for this project includes Cabarrus, Gaston, Iredell, Lincoln, Mecklenburg, and Union counties and the urbanized areas of Lancaster and York counties in South Carolina.
- Mr. Wager explained that the first phase of engagement consisted of county-level meetings with local government staff throughout March and April of 2017.
- The second phase of this study include a follow-up round of county-level meetings with local, state, and federal elected officials, economic development and private sector stakeholders, leaders of institutions, and residents from throughout the region.
- He explained that the outcome of the two-phase engagement process will inform the recommendations for administering regional transit across county lines and regional growth and multi-county commuting patterns.

- Mr. Wager concluded his presentation by stating that a phase one summary will be presented to the MTC during its august meeting and there will be continued coordination amongst the MPOs within the region as the study progresses.

2.3 Charlotte Gateway Station Update

Presenter: Tina Votaw, CATS

Summary:

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

- Ms. Votaw began her presentation by explaining the scope of the Charlotte Gateway Station (CGS) project.
- She provided the context of the proposed location for the CGS along West Trade Street.
- She recognized the partnership of the NCDOT-Rail Division for purchasing property to be redeveloped for the CGS transit-oriented development project.
- Ms. Votaw provided a detailed overview of the CGS project phases:
 - Phase 1: The track, structures, and signals phase will separate passenger trains from freight operations. This project is funded with a combination of TIGER funds, STI funds (P4.0), and STBG-DA funding that was allocated to this project by CRTPO in 2016.
 - Design on phase 1 is scheduled to be complete this fall. Construction is scheduled to begin in the second quarter of 2018.
 - Phase 2: City/CATS plans to launch a public-private partnership to seek private development partners to design and construct the permanent passenger/multi-modal station as a component of the transit-oriented development.
 - City/CATS to release the request for qualifications for station and Joint Development in Spring 2018
- She explained that CATS is partnering on a station area study with NCDOT, Mecklenburg County, Charlotte City Partners, Amtrak and FRA/USDOT as stakeholders.
- Ms. Votaw concluded her presentation by mentioning a related project known as the Charlotte Junction (wye) project west of uptown. This project to construct a connection track will eliminate time consuming and inefficient movements for freight trains travelling from Norfolk Southern R-Line to Intermodal Facility at the Charlotte-Douglas Airport.

Mr. Pleasant explained that the Gateway Station would be physically located in Uptown Charlotte, but it will facilitate transit and rail connectivity and mobility for the Charlotte Region.

3.3. 2017 Transportation Planning Benchmark Events

Presenter: Neil Burke

Summary:

Mr. Burke provided the following summary for the JUTF and TCC of the CRTPO's major milestones throughout 2017:

- The CRTPO and NCDOT have adopted a comprehensive transportation plan for the planning area in the spring of 2017.
- Work continues in earnest on the development of the 2045 MTP. The CRTPO board will take action later in July to open a public comment period on a fiscally constrained project list.
- The CRTPO will consider adopting its 2018-2027 TIP in September and will also recommend a list of projects to be evaluated by NCDOT-SPOT office to develop the 2020-2029 TIP.

- He concluded his presentation by stating that the CRTPO has approved over \$47 million in federal discretionary funding (STBG-DA, CMAQ, TAP) for locally administered projects throughout the planning area to date in 2017.

Mr. Coxe stated that the joint use task force and the TCC should continue to work together to ensure that transportation and land use decisions are being made collectively.

4. Adjourn Combined TCC/JUTF Meeting

Mr. Pleasant adjourned the combined meeting at 11:10 and called the TCC meeting to order.

5. Adoption of the Agenda

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

6. Consideration of Consent Agenda

Mr. Pleasant explained that the consent agenda for the July meeting contained two items. The first item was the June TCC meeting minutes, and the second item was the consideration of approval for the approval of FTA 5310 TIP Amendments that were presented to the TCC as an information report at the June meeting.

Motion:

Barry Whitesides made a motion to adopt the consent agenda. Wayne Herron seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

TCC BUSINESS ITEMS

7.1 Catawba Crossings NC Route Designation Resolution

Presenter: Robert Cook

Summary/Action Requested:

- Mr. Cook began his presentation by stating that the requested action by the TCC today is to Recommend to the MPO that it endorse a resolution that supports an NC route designation for the Catawba Crossings project.
- He explained that the NC route designation would allow the project to be assessed as a Regional Impact tier project in the Prioritization 5.0 process.
- Mr. Cook stated that the project runs from NC 279 in Gaston County to I-485 in Mecklenburg County, and its potential alignment is similar to the Garden Parkway.
- The project is included in the Highway element of the CTP and is classified as a Boulevard.
- He stated that the Gaston Cleveland Lincoln MPO (GCLMPO) requested that the CRTPO consider endorsing a resolution to support the assignment of a NC highway route designation to the Catawba Crossings project.
- He then reviewed the modifications to the resolution that were made during the July 5 Transportation Staff meeting. He explained that the intent of these revisions were for clarity.
- Specifically, Mr. Cook explained that the revised resolution now emphasizes that the proposed Catawba Crossings project will eventually be a segment in a larger corridor to connect NC 160 in Mecklenburg County to I-85 in Gaston County as identified within both the GCLMPO and CRTPO CTP highway maps.

- He added that any NC route designation that is applied to the proposed Catawba Crossings project is also designated to the remaining segment between NC 279 and I-85 in Gaston County.

Gwen Cook asked if bicycle and pedestrian accommodations would be proposed within the Catawba Crossings corridor if it is funded. Mr. Cook explained that the CTP classification for this proposed roadway is a 'boulevard' and as such bicycle and pedestrian accommodations would be included within the scope within the CRTPO portion of this project.

Mr. Pleasant stated that the TCC's endorsement does not commit this project to any type of funding or scheduling agreement.

Motion:

Bjorn Hansen made the motion to recommend to the MPO that it endorse a resolution that supports an NC route designation for entire length of the Catawba Crossings corridor from NC 160 in Charlotte to I-85 in Gaston County. Mr. Coxe seconded the motion. Upon being put to a vote, the motion passed unanimously.

7.2 Critical Urban Freight Corridor (CUFC) Designation

Presenter: Heather Hildebrandt, NCDOT-Transportation Planning Branch

Summary/Action Requested:

- Ms. Hildebrandt stated that the requested action was to recommend to the MPO that it endorse the US 74 corridor from I-485 in Mecklenburg County to US 601 in Union County as a Critical Urban Freight Corridor.
- She explained that recommended mileage assignment is a rolling designation that can be reapplied once a project along the US 74 corridor is completed.
- The purpose of assigning the CUFC status a corridor is to allow it to become eligible for National Highway Freight Program funding for their federal funding portion, and to become eligible for competitive FASTLANE grant funding.

Mr. Coxe asked if the funds that would result from the CUFC designation are eligible to the provisions specified within the STI legislation, and to confirm the source of these funds. Ms. Hildebrandt explained that the funds are eligible to the STI provisions and the funding is included within the state budget and can be programmed to projects that meet the requirements as specified within the FAST act.

Motion:

David McDonald made a motion to recommend to the MPO that it endorse the US 74 corridor from I-485 in Mecklenburg County to US 601 in Union County as a Critical Urban Freight Corridor. Wayne Herron seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

7.3 2045 Metropolitan Transportation Plan

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 stating that action is being requested to recommend that the MPO release the 2045 MTP draft fiscally constrained roadway project list for public comment.
- If approved, a two-week public comment period on the 2045 MTP draft fiscally constrained project list would begin on Thursday, July 20 and conclude on Thursday, August 3.
- Mr. Burke reviewed the 2045 MTP development schedule highlighting the adoption of the roadway ranking methodology during the February 2017 MPO meeting and the roadway financial assumptions during the April 2017 MPO meeting.
- He explained that the roadway ranking review committee assisted in the process to apply fiscal constraint by programming projects into horizon years. The fiscally constrained project lists can be viewed on the 2045 MTP website by clicking [here](#).
 - 280 candidate roadway Projects were submitted by CRTPO member jurisdictions
 - 131 projects advanced to Tier 2; and,
 - 65 projects were included in the fiscally constrained project list within the 2035 and 2045 horizon years.
- Mr. Burke stated that the addition of new projects and accelerated project schedules within the revised 2018-2027 STIP that was released last week by NCDOT may necessitate horizon year adjustments within the draft 2045 MTP fiscally constrained project list.
- He then reviewed the fiscally constrained project funding summaries by STI tier showing the number of recommended projects within each horizon year and the total amount of funding recommended within these tiers.

Mr. Pleasant left the meeting at 11:30 and Mr. Coxe presided over the remainder of the meeting.

Mr. Hansen expressed concern with the project cost inflation rates that limited the ability to program only three projects within the 2045 horizon year of the Division Needs tiers. Mr. Burke explained that the four percent annual escalation rate compounds to make the 2045 horizon year projects increasingly expensive.

Mr. Coxe stated that the STI provision that removes the MPO discretionary top of the Division Needs tier limits the ability to program projects in the outermost horizon year.

Motion:

Mr. Hansen made a motion to that the MPO release the 2045 MTP draft fiscally constrained roadway project list for public comment. Ms. Cook seconded motion. The motion passed unanimously.

TCC Information Reports

8.1 Transportation Improvement Program

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:

a. 2018-2027 TIP Adoption Process Update

- Mr. Burke began his presentation by explaining that NCDOT has released a revised 2018-2027 STIP on June 28 with a series of project accelerations and several new projects.

- As a result, the NC Board of Transportation has delayed the adoption of the revised STIP from June until August.
- He announced that the CRTPO will delay the adoption of its 2018-2027 TIP, 2040 MTP amendments and air quality conformity determination from August until September.
- Mr. Burke reviewed the changes within CRTPO as a result of the release of the revised STIP.
 - There were two new roadway projects and one new rail project included in the revised document.
 - There were sixteen project schedule accelerations compared to the initial 2018-2027 TIP that was released in January of 2017.
 - Two projects moved from the developmental program to the committed project list and will not be subject to reprioritization in Prioritization 5.0.
- He concluded his presentation by explaining that a public comment period on the 2018-2027 TIP, 2040 MTP amendments and air quality conformity determination on Monday, July 10 and will conclude on Wednesday, August 16.

b. 2018-2027 TIP Adoption Process Update

- Mr. Burke began his presentation by reviewing a schedule of upcoming 2020-2029 TIP development tasks with a focus on the project submission phase that will continue throughout the summer.
- The Board of Transportation's delay in the adoption of the 2018-2027 STIP has extended the P5.0 project submittal window until the end of September. Therefore action on the final project lists is scheduled for the September meetings instead of August.
- Mr. Burke provided an update on the ongoing coordination to develop recommended P5.0 project lists for each mode.
 - A subcommittee of TCC members from throughout the planning area will be convened in July to develop recommendations on existing roadway projects in the NCDOT database for resubmission in P5.0, and to recommend new roadway projects from the draft 2045 MTP fiscally constrained project list that should be submitted for P5.0.
 - The bicycle and pedestrian work group will finalize a draft list of P5.0 projects during their meeting this afternoon.
 - CATS staff is assembling a list of potential transit projects and coordinating with other transit agencies in the planning area to determine if they would like to have projects submitted for P5.0.
 - Meetings have been scheduled with the airports within the planning area to discuss potential P5.0 project submissions.
 - A meeting has been held with NCDOT-Rail Division, CATS and CDOT to discuss potential P5.0 projects.
- Mr. Burke concluded his presentation by reviewing a schedule of upcoming decision points for the P5.0 project submittal process.
 - Draft project lists will be reviewed during the August TCC and MPO meetings with the requested action to open a public comment period.
 - The public comment period on the proposed P5.0 project lists is scheduled to begin on August 17 and conclude on August 31.
 - Final action on the P5.0 project lists will be scheduled for the P5.0 project lists during the September TCC and MPO meetings.

8.2 Independence Pointe Parkway CTP Alignment Modification

Presenter: Kathi Ingrish, Matthews

Summary:

Ms. Ingrish 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. Ingrish began her presentation by reviewing the alignment alternatives that have been developed in consultation with CRTPO and Division 10 staff members.
- The alignment that was adopted by the Town of Matthews (blue route) begins at Matthews-Mint Hill Road and would traverse near the County Sportsplex, the CPCC Levine Campus, and a future residential subdivision before ending at the future McKee Road Extension.
- Ms. Ingrish explained that the old alignment travelled through the sportsplex and would have separated two of the fields from the remainder of the facility.
- She summarized the comments received during the public comment period.
 - There was significant opposition to the red and black alignments from citizens within two residential subdivisions.
 - The blue alignment may impact the ability for CPCC and County Solid Waste to effectively use their property.
- Ms. Ingrish concluded her presentation by reviewing a schedule that identified the dates for the public comment period (May 18 through June 16), and consideration of approving the CTP amendment at the July TCC and MPO meetings.

Mr. McDonald recommended that the alignment conceptual drawings should be revised to show the proposed routing of the Lynx Silver Line light rail project.

Gwen Cook stated that she would follow up with Lee Jones from Mecklenburg County Capital Planning Division in regards to the impact of the blue route of the county property in this area.

Mr. Coxe inquired about the urgency to take action on the alignment modification. Ms. Ingrish explained that the alignment needs to be modified within the CRTPO CTP maps to allow for the planning work to continue to move forward associated with the US 74 Managed Lane project (U-2509). She also referenced a recent rezoning case where a proposed development may impact the preferred alignment. The CTP alignment amendment would allow the town to request that the developer reserve the right-of-way.

Mr. Coxe recommended that this agenda item is reviewed during a Transportation Staff Meeting in July to ensure that the issues with the CPCC property and the county solid waste site have been addressed with the preferred alignment (blue route) before action is pursued by the TCC and MPO in August.

OTHER REPORTS

9.1. NCDOT Report

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

- Construction of several bridge and culvert structures is underway in the Lake Park and Hemby Bridge areas of the Monroe Expressway project.

- There is ongoing paving and drainage work on the Independence Boulevard project near the Sharon Forest Drive area. Work is expected to be complete by the end of August or September.
- The The NC 51/Idlewild Road intersection was closed to traffic on June 23rd to construct a multi-lane roundabout in this location. The intersection will be closed until August 18 and will be open to traffic before school resumes.
- Work began on June 20 to convert four major intersections along US 74 in Indian Trail to superstreets. Those intersections are located at Wesley Chapel Stouts/Sardis Church Road, Faith Church Road, Unionville-Indian Trail Road, and Indian Trail-Fairview Road. That project is scheduled for completion in November, 2018.

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

- A public meeting will be scheduled before the end of the summer for the Brawley School Road widening project between Talbert Road and US 21.

9.2. Bicycle and Pedestrian Work Group Report

Mr. Bridges stated that the Work Group will finalize its recommended list of bicycle and pedestrian projects to submit for P5.0 this afternoon. The work group will also begin work to identify potential bicycle and pedestrian performance measures during today's meeting.

9.3. Upcoming Issues

Mr. Burke made the following announcements:

- Andy Grzymiski will serve as Danny Pleasant's TCC alternate for the Charlotte Department of Transportation following the retirement of Norm Steinman in June.
- Action will be requested during the August TCC meeting to open a 45-day public comment period on the draft update to the Public Involvement Plan.

10. Adjourn: Mr. Coxe determined that the agenda had been adequately completed and adjourned the meeting at 12:10 p.m.