

**CRTPO TECHNICAL COORDINATING COMMITTEE**  
**Summary Meeting Minutes**  
**Charlotte-Mecklenburg Government Center**  
**Room 267**  
**September 7, 2017**

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**Voting Members:** *Chair* - Danny Pleasant (City Manager's Office), *Vice-Chair* - Bill Coxe (Huntersville), John Rose – alt for David McDonald (CATS), Jonathan Wells – alt for Ed McKinney (C-M Planning), Andrew Grant (Cornelius), Travis Johnson (Davidson), Barry Whitesides – alt for Matthew Todd (Iredell County), Susan Habina Woolard (Matthews), Steve Frey (Mint Hill), Stuart Basham – alt for Scott Cole (NCDOT – Div. 10), Anil Panicker – alt for Mark Stafford (NCDOT – Div. 12), Andy Bailey (NCDOT-TPB), Kevin Parker – alt for Chris Easterly (Stallings), Sherry Ashley (Statesville), Erika Martin (Troutman), Bjorn Hansen (Union County), Dennis Rorie (Waxhaw), Will Washam (Bicycle 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), Liz Babson (CDOT), Andy Grzymiski (CDOT), Anna Gallup (CDOT), Norm Steinman (CDOT), Jon Young ( Mooresville), Wendy Taylor (NCDOT – Div. 10), Lee Ainsworth (NCDOT – Div. 10), Steve Bridges (NCDOT – Div. 12)

**Guests:** Bill Thunberg (LNTC), Joe Lesch (Gresham Smith), Radha Swayampakala (RS&H), Nick Landa (RS&H), Todd Steiss (WSP), Tyler Laben (HDR), Roger Diedrich (Sierra Club)

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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 3 TCC meeting minutes and a series of TIP amendments to program STBG-DA funding to seven small roadway (intersection) projects that were approved by the MPO in June.

Motion:

Sherry Ashley made a motion to adopt the consent agenda. Travis Johnson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**TCC BUSINESS ITEMS**

**3.1 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 approve the 2045 MTP revised fiscally constrained roadway project list.
- He explained that the TCC approved a delay in the recommendation for the MPO to approve the fiscally constrained roadway project list from the 2045 MTP until the September TCC meeting to allow for the Roadway Ranking Review Committee (RRRC) to meet again to reconsider its recommendation within the 2045 horizon year of Region E.
  - This recommendation was initiated by the Town of Cornelius in reference to the NC 115 project between Washam Potts Road and Potts Street.
  - Both the US 21 (Sunset Road-Harris Blvd) (MTP ID 3065) and the NC 115 project in Cornelius (Washam Potts Road – Potts St) (MTP ID 3008) received the same MTP score of 90.
  - The Roadway Ranking Review Committee had initially expressed concerns with the ability to deliver this project given the corridors proximity to the Norfolk Southern “O” Line and potential impacts to historically-eligible properties along the west side of the corridor.
  - A revision to the cost estimate was supported by the RRRC based upon an ongoing UPWP-funded corridor study along the NC 115 corridor. The revised cost of the project is \$12.5 million based upon the assumption that a narrower cross-section can be assumed for this project.
- Mr. Burke explained that the RRRC met again in August and made a recommendation to include the NC 115 project in Cornelius based upon the assumption that a portion of the residual Division Needs funds can be used to fund this Regional Impact project within the 2045 horizon year of the MTP.
- Mr. Burke then summarized the revised fiscally constrained project list for the 2045 MTP by indicating that there are 69 projects being recommended for inclusion in the 2035 and 2045 horizon years.
- He explained that there are a total of 146 projects in the highway, bicycle and pedestrian and transit modes within the draft 2045 MTP fiscally constrained project lists when the existing and committed projects are included in the 2025 horizon year.
- Mr. Burke explained that CRTPO received 257 written comments on the projects within the fiscally constrained plan from the interactive mapping website and via e-mail. There were over 1,000 resident interactions when project “likes” were included.
- He summarized comment submissions received by Sustain Charlotte, the American Heart and Stroke Association, and the Sierra Club.
- He reviewed the MTP development schedule by explaining that action is needed by the TCC and MPO in September to remain on track for the air quality conformity process and the submission of highway projects from the draft plan to NCDOT for the development of the 2020-2029 TIP (P5.0).

Andrew Grant thanked the TCC for their flexibility in considering the inclusion of the NC 115 project within the 2045 horizon year of the draft plan.

Bill Coxe reminded the TCC that the outer horizon year (2045) of the MTP is the most uncertain because the funding amounts and the projects are subject to change. He also expressed support of the Sierra Club comments regarding the inclusion of travel demand management components within highway projects in the fiscally constrained project list.

Andy Bailey asked if the ability to flex funding between STI tiers (i.e. cascading) will be considered during future MTP development cycles. Mr. Burke explained that this option will be considered in future MTP development cycles as long as the project list can be shown to be fiscally constrained relative to the anticipated funding amounts.

Motion:

Mr. Grant made a motion to recommend that the MPO approve the fiscally constrained roadway project list. Mr. Coxe seconded the motion. Upon being put to a vote, the motion passed unanimously.

**3.2. 2018-2027 Transportation Improvement Program**

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:

- He explained that action was requested by the TCC to recommend that the MPO approve the air quality conformity determination, 2040 MTP amendments and the adoption of the 2018-2027 TIP.
- Mr. Cook explained that a total of 91 comments were received with the majority of the comments expressing support for the NC 16 widening project in Waxhaw.
  - There were 22 comments received expressing concern with the John Street widening project (U-4714A) project and its impacts on Downtown Matthews.
- He explained that FHWA requires MPOs to complete a TIP financial plan for the 2018-2021 program years. The draft plan shows that funding sources and revenue estimates cover the cost of the projects in the DRAFT TIP in 2018 through 2021 program years.
- The Air Quality Conformity Report shows that the projects within the 2018-2027TIP are within the budget for eight-hour ozone standards, and are in conformity with purpose of the Statewide Implementation Plan.
- Mr. Cook summarized the amendments to the 2040 MTP that are being recommended as a result of the 2018-2027 TIP. He explained that these amendments were needed to reflect project schedules relative to the MTP horizon years, changes in project scopes, and the addition of projects to the 2040 MTP that have been added to the TIP.

Motion:

Sherry Ashley made a motion to recommend that the MPO make an air quality conformity determination, adopt the 2040 MTP amendments, and adopt the 2018-2027 TIP. Bjorn Hansen seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**3.3. NCDOT 2020-2029 STIP Development (P5.0) Update**

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 the requested action is for the TCC to recommend to the MPO that it approve the recommended project lists of all modes for submission to NCDOT for scoring in Prioritization 5.0 (P5.0), which will develop the 2020-2029 TIP.
- He explained that the public comment period began on Thursday, August 17 and concluded on August 31, and 20 comments were received.
  - 19 comments opposed the submission of the Waxhaw Parkway project to NCDOT for P5.0. These comments were from residents of the Waxhaw Plantation Subdivision.
- He then summarized the process that the P5.0 Roadway subcommittee undertook to develop the recommended project lists by reviewing carryover, holding tank, and new projects from the 2035 and 2045 horizon years of the draft fiscally constrained project lists.
  - There are 56 total roadway projects that have been recommended for P5.0.
  - 10 of the 56 projects will be automatically submitted for P5.0 without using one of CRTPO's 46 submittal slots.
- Mr. Burke summarized the recommended project submittals for the non-highway modes.
  - 22 bicycle and pedestrian projects have been reviewed and recommended by the Bicycle and Pedestrian Work Group.
  - 9 Transit projects are being recommended by CATS and Iredell County Area Transit System.
  - 10 Rail projects are being recommended through consultation with the Charlotte DOT, and NCDOT-Rail Division.
  - 41 Aviation projects are being recommended for submittal from the Charlotte-Douglas, Charlotte-Monroe Executive, and the Statesville Regional Airports.
- Mr. Burke concluded his presentation by reviewing the upcoming schedule for P5.0 and explaining that approval is needed by the TCC and MPO in September in order to submit the projects to NCDOT's database by the deadline of September 29.

Mr. Hansen explained that Union County and Waxhaw staff met with the property owners of the Waxhaw Plantation Subdivision last week to address their concerns regarding the Waxhaw Parkway project submittal for P5.0. The current alignment as depicted in the CTP would impact this subdivision, however; staff explained that if the project gets funded, then the alignment would likely be modified to minimize any impacts to existing development. Mr. Hansen explained that Waxhaw and Union County TCC members continue to support this project submittal for P5.0.

Motion:

Mr. Hansen made a motion to recommend that the MPO approve the recommended project lists of all modes for submission to NCDOT for scoring in Prioritization 5.0 (P5.0), which will develop the 2020-2029 TIP. Will Washam seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**TCC INFORMATION REPORTS**

**4.1. Congestion Management Process Update**

Presenter: Nick Landa, RS&H

Summary:

Mr. Landa 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. Landa began his presentation by stating that the CMP is intended to evaluate projects prior to their consideration in the MTP and TIP development processes.
- He explained that the initial step is to define the levels of congestion for the MPO planning area by using data obtained from NCDOT and the Metrolina Regional Model.
- Mr. Landa explained that the CMP is required for MPOs that are Transportation Management Areas that contain more than 200,000 residents.
- The CMP identifies strategies to reduce congestion other than simply adding capacity. These strategies can be both long-term or short-term (interim) solutions.
- He stated that a task force has developed goals and objectives, performance measures, and strategies based upon analysis and best practices.
- The task force has identified congested corridors throughout the planning area to evaluate congestion and attempt to recommend alternative solutions to roadway widening projects.
- He mentioned that the next steps are compiling the documentation and recommendations in a report which will be available in the fall.
- Mr. Landa concluded his presentation by explaining that additional information regarding the CMP can be found on the CRTPO website by clicking [here](#).

Mr. Coxe questioned the manner in which congestion is defined and if the task force had identified what an acceptable level of congestion would be throughout the planning area. Mr. Landa responded to explain that a part of the CMP is to recommend alternative methods to a traditional widening project and this is especially appropriate in constrained areas such as downtowns. Mr. Cook added that the congested corridors do not traverse through downtown areas, which implies the understanding that these areas will always have periodic congestion.

## **OTHER REPORTS**

### **5.1. NCDOT Report**

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

- Construction of several bridge and culvert structures throughout the Monroe Expressway project area. CPCC Lane is being closed to traffic at US 74 with a cul-de-sac effective today. In addition, numerous traffic shifts continue to be implemented throughout the corridor as construction progresses.
- There is ongoing concrete island work on the Independence Boulevard project near the Sharon Forest Drive area. Work is expected to be complete by the end of October.
- Construction is underway at Waxhaw-Indian Trail Road/Beulah Church Road. The project should be open to traffic within the next 45 days.
- The NC 51 and Idlewild Road roundabout was open to traffic on August 26. The roundabout is operating well with very little queuing in the peak hour.
- Work began on June 20<sup>th</sup> 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 of 2018.
- Louis Mitchell has been promoted to Deputy Chief Engineer for the western portion of the state (Divisions 8-14), and Scott Cole has been promoted to Division Engineer for Division 10.

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

- The roundabout at US 21 south of I-40 near the new Ingles Grocery Store in Statesville will begin construction shortly.
- The new rest area north of Statesville is 80% complete.
- The planning and environmental document is underway for the US 21 widening project from Jane Sowers Road to Fort Dobbs Road in Statesville.
- Division 12 will be issuing a 2018 resurfacing contract shortly.

Andy Bailey provided updates on behalf of the TPB:

- Senate Bill 131 has changed the manner in which eight-hour ozone is calculated for areas of the state designated as maintenance in terms of air quality emissions. The change is focused on vehicles that were manufactured on or before 1996. MPO staff and MRM staff will meet this week to discuss the impact of this change.

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

Mr. Bridges stated the Bicycle and Pedestrian Work Group (BPWG) will be discussing how CTP amendments may be necessary to reflect bicycle and pedestrian connection opportunities with existing culverts and grade separations that cross highways.

### **5.3. Upcoming Issues**

Mr. Burke provided the following updates on upcoming issues:

- The USDOT has issued a TIGER call for projects. The maximum award amount is \$25 million. Additional information can be found [here](#).
- Two webinars will be held in September for TCC and MPO to review the requested actions that are scheduled for the September 20 MPO meeting.
- A public comment period is open on the Public Involvement Plan update. The public comment period will close on October 2. Additional information can be found [here](#).

Mr. Cook provided the following updates on upcoming issues:

- TCC members have received an email regarding a call for FY 2019 local projects in the forthcoming UPWP. The deadline is September 22.
- Staff will be submitting comments on the CINTRA/I-77 contract report to the NC Turnpike Authority within the next week regarding the impact of the five alternatives would have on the CRTPO's planning processes.

Candice Rorie explained that a call for projects for the CRTPO's traffic data program was opened this morning and TCC members were emailed details on how to submit an application. The call for projects will close on September 28.

**6. Adjourn:** Mr. Pleasant determined that the agenda had been adequately completed and adjourned the meeting at 11:05 a.m.