

CHARLOTTE REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLANNING ORGANIZATION
Charlotte-Mecklenburg Government Center, Room 267
January 29, 2018 Meeting
Summary Minutes

Members Attending:

Greg Phipps (Charlotte), Michael Miltich (Cornelius), Jane Campbell (Davidson), Brian Hines (Huntersville), Jerry Morse (Indian Trail), James Mallory (Iredell County), Norma Carpenter (Marshville), Paul Bailey (Matthews), Pat Cotham (Mecklenburg County), Frederick Becker (Mineral Springs), Eddie Dinger (Mooresville), Michael Johnson (Statesville), Richard Helms (Union County), Steve Maher (Waxhaw), Scott Buzzard (Weddington), Brad Horvath (Wesley Chapel), Tracy Dodson (NCBOT-Division 10), John Pope (NCBOT-Division 12)

Non-Voting Members Attending:

Victoria Nwasike (Charlotte-Mecklenburg Planning Commission), Jim Walker (NC Turnpike Authority), Russell Wing (Union County Planning Board)

NOTE: This meeting was originally scheduled for Wednesday, January 17, but was rescheduled due to inclement weather.

1. Call to Order

Vice-Chairman Michael Johnson called the January 2018 CRTPO meeting to order at 6:03 PM. Board members were asked to introduce themselves.

2. Election of Officers

Vice-Chairman Johnson opened the floor for nominations for 2017 CRTPO board chair. John Pope nominated Vice-Chairman Johnson. Additional nominations were requested, however, no additional nominations were put forth. Brad Horvath made a motion to close the nominations; Eddie Dinger seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously. Upon being put to a vote, Vice-Chairman Johnson was unanimously elected chairman for 2018.

Chairman Johnson then asked for nominations for CRTPO board vice-chair. Tracy Dodson nominated Paul Bailey. Brian Hines nominated Michael Miltich. No additional nominations were put forth. Upon being put to a vote, Mayor Bailey was elected vice-chairman for 2018.

3. Adoption of the Agenda

Summary:

Chairman Johnson asked if any changes to the agenda were necessary. No changes were identified.

Motion:

Jane Campbell made a motion to adopt the agenda as presented. Vice-Chairman Bailey seconded the motion. Upon being put to a vote, the motion to adopt the agenda as presented was approved unanimously.

4. Public Comment Period

There were no public comments.

5. Ethics Awareness & Conflict of Interest Reminder

Mr. Cook read the ethics awareness and conflict of interest reminder. No conflicts were identified.

6. Approval of Minutes

Summary:

Chairman Johnson requested action on the November 2017 meeting minutes.

Motion:

Dr. Miltich made a motion to approve the November 2017 meeting minutes as presented. Mayor Becker seconded the motion. Upon being put to a vote, the November 2017 meeting minutes were unanimously approved.

7. 2018 Meeting Calendar

Presenters:

Robert Cook

Summary:

Mr. Cook stated that the Board's bylaws require that its monthly meetings be held on the third Wednesday of each month. The third Wednesday of November is the day before Thanksgiving. He indicated that Wednesday, November 14 and Wednesday, November 28 are options for rescheduling the meeting.

Motion:

Ms. Campbell made a motion to move the November 2018 meeting to Wednesday, November 28. Brian Hines seconded the motion. Upon being put to a vote, the motion was unanimously approved.

8. Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendments

a. Mecklenburg County Greenway CMAQ Funding Reallocation

Presenter:

Gwen Cook

Summary:

Ms. Cook provided information to the Board via a Power Point presentation, the contents of which are incorporated into the minutes. The presentation's purpose was to obtain the Board's approval of a reallocation of \$1,383,870 in Congestion Mitigation & Air Quality (CMAQ) funds from the Walker Branch Greenway to the Barton Creek Greenway, and to amend the TIP accordingly. Both greenway projects were reviewed. Allocating funds to the Barton Creek project will fill a funding gap that will allow an important link in the greenway system to be completed. The project will connect the Mallard Creek Greenway to University Place and the J.W. Clay Boulevard LYNX Blue Line station. Mecklenburg County is unable to provide the local match on the Walker Branch project due to increased project cost estimates. The Project Oversight Committee and TCC both reviewed the proposal and unanimously recommended that the Board approve the reallocation and TIP amendment. The POC and TCC findings were detailed in a memorandum in the agenda packet.

Motion:

Mayor Becker made a motion to approve the request to shift the funds and amend the TIP as requested. Ms. Campbell seconded the motion. Upon being put to a vote, the motion was unanimously approved.

b. Miscellaneous Amendments

Presenter:

Neil Burke

Summary:

The presentation's purpose was to seek the Board's approval of changes to two projects: Belk Greenway Connector, Phase 1 and the Mallard Creek Church Road Multi-Use Path. Mr. Burke explained that the City of Charlotte is the sponsor of both projects and is seeking to accelerate preliminary engineering on the Belk Greenway project from FY 2019 to FY 2018, and to reallocate \$110,000 in Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) funding and \$27,000 in local funds from the preliminary engineering phase to the right-of-way acquisition phase. The TCC unanimously recommended that the Board approve the amendments.

Motion:

Dr. Miltich made a motion to approve the amendments as presented. Vice-Chairman Bailey seconded the motion. Upon being put to a vote, the motion was unanimously approved.

c. CRTPO Discretionary Projects Amendments

Presenter:

Bill Coxe

Summary:

Mr. Coxe provided information to the Board via a Power Point presentation, the contents of which are incorporated into the minutes. The presentation's purpose was to seek the Board's approval of the following:

1. Approve the reallocation of \$7.5 million in available Bonus Allocation (BA) funds as detailed in the table below.
2. Move \$2,759,411 of 2021 STBG-DA funds from TIP project U-5906 to U-5908 and the same amount of Bonus Allocation funds from U-5908 to U-5906.
3. Remove TIP project U-5904 from the TIP
4. Amend the 2018-27 TIP to include these changes

TIP ID	Project	Current BA Funding	Recommended Additional BA Funding 11/15/17	Total BA funds after amendment
U-5767	US 21 (Statesville Rd) Widening Project	0	\$500,000	\$500,000
U-5905	Lakeview Rd Upgrade (Reames Rd to NC 115)	\$7,000,000	\$2,000,000	\$9,000,000
C-5613H	Lakeview Rd Roundabout Intersection Upgrade	0	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000
U-5907	Potts-Sloan-Beatty Connector	\$2,050,000	\$1,700,000	\$3,750,000
U-5908	NC 115 Two-Way Pair (Main St Upgrade)	\$4,000,000	\$2,300,000	\$6,300,000
Total			\$7,500,000	

Details for each request were provided. The sources of the available BA funds were explained. It was noted that if BA funds are not obligated by June 2020, they will no longer be available for projects. Mr. Coxe stated that the agenda included an error by stating that the TCC's recommendation was unanimous; the Town of Cornelius cast a dissenting vote when this matter was brought before the TCC.

The Board discussed the matter after Mr. Coxe's presentation. Dr. Miltich contested the process used to prepare the funds' reallocation recommendation and requested that the matter be sent back to the Project Oversight Committee and TCC for reconsideration. Dr. Miltich made a motion to that effect which was seconded by Richard Helms. Questions and discussion followed. Mr. Coxe discussed the process used by the POC and TCC to prepare the recommendation. He discussed the quarterly update process where project sponsors are asked to report on their projects' statuses. Projects known to need additional funds were selected to receive additional funds; the Northcross Drive Extension project in Cornelius was not known to have a funding shortfall at the time the recommendation was first made. When shortfall information about the Northcross Drive Extension was provided, the POC revisited the issue but still decided to proceed with the original recommendation. Greg Phipps asked about the additional reviews and asked what was to be gained if the issue had already been reviewed twice. Mr. Hines addressed Huntersville's support for the NC 115 Two-Way Pair project.

Motion:

Chairman Johnson called for a vote on Dr. Miltich's motion to send the matter back to the Project Oversight Committee and TCC for reconsideration. Upon being put to a vote, seven votes were cast in favor of the motion and 51 votes were cast in opposition-the motion failed.

A motion was made by Ms. Campbell and seconded by Mr. Hines to approve the reallocation of \$7.5 million in available Bonus Allocation (BA) funds as detailed in the table above (item 1). Upon being put to a vote, 51 votes were cast in favor of the motion and seven votes were cast in opposition-the motion was adopted.

Ms. Campbell made a motion to approve the requests outlined in items 2-4 listed above. Eddie Dingler seconded the motion. Upon being put to a vote, the motion passed. The Town of Weddington voted in opposition.

9. Draft 2019 Unified Planning Work Program

Presenter:

Robert Cook

Summary:

Mr. Cook provided information to the Board via a Power Point presentation, the contents of which are incorporated into the minutes. The presentation's purpose was to update the Board on the preparation of the FY 2019 UPWP. He stated that action was not being requested, but that consensus was being sought on draft funding allocations. An overview of the UPWP was provided. The UPWP is the CRTPO's budget. Funding levels were reviewed. Mr. Cook stated that he had very recently received a letter from NCDOT stating that, due to the lack of an approved federal budget, the amount of Planning (PL) funds available was still at the estimate stage. The CRTPO has an unobligated balance of previous years' PL funds of only \$19,713. In past years, unobligated balances have been the funding source for local transportation planning projects. Unless there is a substantial unobligated balance of STBG-DA funds, the CRTPO will not be able to fund the five proposed local projects. Potential allocations were reviewed. No concerns were identified by the Board.

10. 2045 Metropolitan Transportation Plan

Presenter:

Robert Cook

Summary:

The presentation's purpose was to update the Board on the MTP's status. The public comment period began on January 16 and will end on February 16. Several comments had already been received and dealt with a variety of issues, including several expressing concern with projects not being funded until the 2045 horizon year. All comments will be presented to the board for review at the February meeting. Staff's public outreach efforts were reviewed. Adoption is scheduled for the March meeting.

11. Upcoming Agenda Items & Revised Agenda Format

Presenter:

Robert Cook

Summary:

The February agenda will likely include at least one TIP amendment. Comments received during the 2045 MTP comment period will be reviewed. Mr. Cook also stated that the staffing assessment recommended in the 2016 certification review will get underway next month. A steering committee meeting will be held on February 21.

Chairman Johnson thanked staff for the work on the 2018 orientation.

12. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 7:03 PM.