

**CHARLOTTE REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLANNING ORGANIZATION**  
**Charlotte-Mecklenburg Government Center, Room 267**  
**July 18, 2018 Meeting**  
**Summary Minutes**

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**Members Attending:**

Greg Phipps (Charlotte), Michael Miltich (Cornelius), Jane Campbell (Davidson), Marcus McIntyre (Indian Trail), Jeff McNeely (Iredell County), Norma Carpenter (Marshville), Chris Melton (Matthews), Frederick Becker (Mineral Springs), Jack Edwards (Pineville), Michael Johnson (Statesville), Richard Helms (Union County), Steve Maher (Waxhaw), Scott Buzzard (Weddington), Brad Horvath (Wesley Chapel)

**Non-Voting Members Attending:**

Victoria Nwasike (Charlotte-Mecklenburg Planning Commission), James Walker (NC Turnpike Authority)

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**1. Call to Order**

Chairman Michael Johnson called the June 2018 CRTPO meeting to order at 6:00 PM. Marcus McIntyre was welcomed as Indian Trail's new alternate, and Chris Melton was welcomed as Matthews' alternate. Chairman Johnson announced that NC Transportation Secretary Trogdon will attend the August meeting to provide an I-77 update. The matter of the lack of a quorum at the June meeting was raised. Greg Phipps apologized for Charlotte not being represented at the meeting and stated that Mayor Lyles will appoint him as Charlotte's delegate, along with a second alternate.

**2. Adoption of the Agenda**

Summary:

Chairman Johnson stated that James Walker had asked to play a video about the I-485 express lanes produced by the NC Turnpike Authority. He asked if additional changes to the agenda were necessary. No additional changes were identified.

Motion:

Mr. Phipps made a motion to adopt the agenda and to include the I-485 express lanes video. Jane Campbell seconded the motion. Upon being put to a vote, the motion to adopt the agenda was approved unanimously.

**3. Public Comment Period**

There were no public comments.

**4. Ethics Awareness & Conflict of Interest Reminder**

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

**5. Consent Agenda**

Summary:

Chairman Johnson requested action on the three consent items: June 2018 minutes; Hornets Nest Park CMAQ project TIP amendment; Bonus Allocation and STBG-DA funding exchange TIP amendment.

Motion:

Mayor Becker made a motion to approve the three consent agenda items. Ms. Campbell seconded the motion. Upon being put to a vote, the three consent agenda items were unanimously approved.

**6. Lead Planning Agency Organizational Changes**

Presenter:

Taiwo Jaiyeoba, Director, Charlotte Planning, Development & Design

Summary:

Charlotte Planning, Development & Design (formerly Charlotte-Mecklenburg Planning Department) is the CRTPO's lead planning agency. Taiwo Jaiyeoba was appointed the department's director earlier this year. He

announced that as part of changes he has implemented, the CRTPO is now a separate division in the department and that, as a result, Mr. Cook has been promoted to assistant planning director. Chairman Johnson thanked Mr. Jaiyeoba for his leadership and for the recognition of the important role of the CRTPO.

## **7. Request to Open Comment Period**

### Presenter:

Robert Cook

### Summary:

Mr. Cook stated that the request before the Board was to obtain approval to open a single comment period to receive public input on an air quality conformity determination on the 2045 MTP and the 2018-2027 TIP, as well as on amendments to the 2045 MTP to incorporate performance measure targets. The Board members were referred to the memorandum in the agenda packet explaining why the comment period is necessary. A recent US Court of Appeals decision triggered the need for the air quality conformity determination, and the implementation of performance-based planning requirements mandates that performance measures and targets be incorporated into MTPs. The ten performance measures and potential targets were included in the memorandum, as were TIP and MTP amendments associated with the air quality conformity determination. The TCC unanimously recommended that the Board approve the opening of the comment period.

### Motion:

Michael Miltich made a motion to open a comment period. Mayor Maher seconded the motion. Upon being put to a vote, the motion was unanimously approved.

## **8. Transportation Improvement Program Development a. 2020-2029 TIP Development Local Input Points Allocation**

### Presenter:

Neil Burke

### Summary:

Mr. Burke 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

- Approve the final list of Regional Impact projects proposed for CRTPO's allocation of local input points in the P5.0 process; and
- Affirm that CRTPO's public involvement procedures and local input methodology have been followed and points allocated to those Regional Impact projects scored in the P5.0 process.

A summary of the public comment period was provided. 204 comments were received. 101 pertained to a proposal to allocate local input points to a widening of US 521 in Charlotte from Ballantyne Commons Parkway to the South Carolina state line; 83 of the comments were in favor of the proposed points allocation. Mr. Phipps asked why there was opposition to the project. Mr. Burke replied that there was a wide variety of sentiments expressed with no unifying reason being presented. 95 comments were submitted regarding a proposal to allocate local input points to a CSX Railroad siding in Union County; all comments were in opposition to the proposal. The remaining comments concerned a variety of topics. Mr. Burke then discussed the Union County railroad siding. The NCDOT Rail Division and the NCDOT Strategic Office of Transportation (SPOT) amended the project scope to relocate the siding west of Waxhaw near Helms Road. No grade separation or any other improvements are proposed at Collins Road (near the original proposed location of the CSX siding). Mr. Phipps asked if those who provided comments on the proposal had been notified of the change. Mayor Maher stated they had been notified. Mayor Becker stated Mineral Springs residents had been informed. Chairman Johnson thanked all for developing a solution to the issue. Richard Helms thanked Union County transportation planner Bjorn Hansen for his work to develop the solution. The TCC unanimously recommended that the Board take the two requested actions.

### Motion:

Dr. Miltich made a motion to approve the final list of Regional Impact tier projects proposed for the allocation of local input points and to affirm that CRTPO's public involvement procedures and the local input methodology

conditionally authorized by NCDOT have been followed and points allocated to those Regional Impact projects scored in the P5.0 process. Mayor Becker seconded the motion. Upon being put to a vote, the motion was unanimously approved.

#### **b. STBG-DA Funds Exchange**

Presenter:

Van Argabright, NCDOT

Summary:

Mr. Argabright 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 approval of a request to exchange \$11,860,641 of the CRTPO's Surface Transportation Block Grant-Direct Attributable (STBG-DA) funds for an equal amount of STBG-Flex funds. The STBG-DA funds would be used by NCDOT to make bond payments for four projects: R-2123CE, Charlotte Outer Loop; I-3819A, R-2248E, Charlotte Outer Loop; U-209B, Independence Blvd. In turn, the STBG-Flex funds would be used to fund two CRTPO projects currently funded with STBG-DA funds: U-5108, Northcross Drive Extension; U-5874, North University Research Park I-85 overpass. There would be no effect on project schedules. The TCC unanimously recommended that the Board approve the exchange.

Motion:

Dr. Miltich made a motion to approve the \$11,860,641 exchange between the CRTPO's STBG-DA funds and NCDOT's STBG-Flex funds. Mayor Maher seconded the motion. Upon being put to a vote, the motion was unanimously approved.

#### **c. Transportation Alternatives Program Funds Exchange**

Presenter:

Curtis Bridges

Summary:

Mr. Bridges 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 provide information to the Board on efforts to avoid a federal rescission of Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) funds, and if the Board felt it appropriate to do so, to approve a recommended exchange of TAP and STBG-DA funds and the associated TIP amendments. This was the first time the Board was presented with this issue. It was explained that staff and the TCC had only recently learned of the rescission that is scheduled to occur on September 30, 2019, and is working diligently with local project sponsors and NCDOT to avoid losing funds. The effort involves a funding exchange between TAP and STBG-DA in the amount of \$5,315,000. The affected projects were reviewed. Mr. Bridges noted that the funding exchange will not result in material impacts to any of the affected TAP or STBG-DA projects. The TCC reviewed this issue and it was discussed at Transportation Staff meetings, thus the TCC voted unanimously to recommend that the Board approve the exchange and associated TIP amendments.

Motion:

Dr. Miltich made a motion to approve funding exchanges and the necessary TIP amendments to place STBG-DA funds on Transportation Alternative Program to avoid a federal rescission. Ms. Campbell seconded the motion. Upon being put to a vote, the motion was unanimously approved.

#### **d. Congestion Mitigation & Air Quality Program Funds Exchange**

Presenter:

Erin Kinne

Summary:

Ms. Kinne 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 provide information to the Board on efforts to avoid a federal rescission of Congestion Mitigation & Air Quality (CMAQ) funds. This issue is similar to the TAP issue, however, staff was informed about CMAQ later than TAP, thus details were still being worked out

and no action was requested. Strategies being pursued to avoid rescission included shifting CMAQ funds to earlier project phases or exchanging them with funds on another project that has a more accelerated timeline. Staff hopes to finalize a recommendation in time for TCC action in August and a request to the Board to follow on August 15.

**e. Kensington Drive STBG-DA Fund Allocation**

Presenter:

Bill Coxe, Project Oversight Committee Vice-Chair

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 provide information to the Board about an upcoming request to consider allocating \$1,800,000 in STBG-DA funds to an improvement to Kensington Drive in Waxhaw. It was explained that the funds are available due to all other projects from the June 2017 project call being funded or deemed not eligible for funding, and the Kensington Drive project is the only remaining eligible roadway project. The TCC will be requested to make a recommendation on this topic in August and that recommendation will be presented to the Board on August 15.

**9. Upcoming Agenda Items**

Presenter:

Robert Cook

Summary:

Mr. Cook stated that the August agenda will include requests for action on the CMAQ and Kensington Drive matters, as well as some other minor TIP amendments. An update on the TIP development/Prioritization process will be provided. Candice Rorie then provided an update on the I-77 corridor study. She announced that a request for qualifications had been issued, and that the deadline for submitting proposals was August 7. Mr. Phipps asked how long it will take for the study to be completed. Ms. Rorie replied that due to its scope (north of the I-77/I-40 interchange in Statesville to Rock Hill) it will take approximately two years to complete.

The I-485 video was viewed following the discussion of upcoming agenda items.

**10. Adjourn**

The meeting adjourned at 7:17 PM.