

CRTPO TECHNICAL COORDINATING COMMITTEE
Summary Meeting Minutes
Charlotte-Mecklenburg Government Center
Room 267
July 12, 2018

Voting Members: *Chair* – Sherry Ashley (Statesville), *Vice-Chair* – Wayne Herron (Cornelius), John Rose – alt for David McDonald (CATS), Liz Babson (CDOT), Taiwo Jaiyeoba (C-M Planning), Amber Leathers – alt for Lauren Scott (Charlotte-Douglas Airport) Becky Chambers – alt for Dan Leaver (Charlotte E&PM), Travis Johnson (Davidson), Bill Coxe (Huntersville), Matthew Todd (Iredell County), CJ O’Neill – alt for Susan Habina Woolard (Matthews), Megan Green (Mecklenburg County – LUESA Air Quality), Nathan Farber – alt for Steve Frey (Mint Hill), Lisa Stiwinter (Monroe), Cami Wecklerly (Mooresville), Scott Cole (NCDOT – Div. 10), Anil Panicker – alt for Mark Stafford (NCDOT-Div. 12), Andy Bailey (NCDOT-TPD), Kevin Parker – alt for Chris Easterly (Stallings), Erika Martin (Troutman), Bjorn Hansen (Union County), Alexandra Beesting (Waxhaw), Katie Lloyd – alt for Gwen Cook (Greenway Focus Area Representative), David Harrison – alt for Scott Correll (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), Theo Thomson (CRTPO) Alyson Craig (C-M Planning), Andy Grzymiski (CDOT), Anna Gallup (CDOT), Loretta Barren (FHWA), Stuart Basham (NCDOT-Div. 10), Wendy Taylor (NCDOT – Div. 10), Lee Ainsworth (NCDOT – Div. 10), Van Argabright (NCDOT), Rodger Rochelle (NCTA), Warren Cooksey (NCTA), Jim Loyd (Monroe)

Guests: Todd Steiss (WSP), Nick Landa (RS&H), Steve Blakley (Kimley Horn)

Sherry Ashley opened the meeting at 10:00 a.m. TCC members, staff, and guests introduced themselves.

Taiwo Jaiyeoba provided an overview of a series of changes that have occurred within the lead planning agency (Charlotte-Mecklenburg Planning). He explained that the CRTPO is a new division within department and Robert Cook has been promoted to the position of Assistant Planning Director over the CRTPO Division. Mr. Jaiyeoba explained that the department is now known as the Charlotte Department of Planning, Design, and Development. He explained that Mr. Cook’s former position; the transportation program manager will be advertised within the next few weeks and a new public engagement planner position will also be advertised soon.

1. Adoption of the Agenda

Ms. Ashley explained that a modification to today’s agenda was requested to present the Kensington Drive STBG-DA Fund Allocation as an information report rather than an action item to allow the Project Oversight Committee to investigate the amount of available STBG-DA funding during this afternoons meeting. This item will be placed on the August 2 TCC agenda as an action item.

The revised agenda was adopted by acclamation.

2. Consideration of Consent Agenda

Ms. Ashley stated that the consent agenda for the July meeting contained the approval of the June 7, 2018 TCC Minutes, and a recommendation to the CRTPO Board to approve a 2018-2027 TIP amendment to exchange \$2,550,000 of the Bonus Allocation (BA) funds programmed to the Fairview Flyover project in Mooresville, with \$2,550,000 of STBG-DA funds approved for the Bethlehem Road relocation project adjacent to the Statesville Regional Airport.

Motion:

Erika Martin made a motion to adopt the consent agenda. Wayne Herron seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

TCC BUSINESS ITEMS

3.1. Election of TCC Vice-Chair

Presenter: Sherry Ashley

Summary/Action Requested:

Ms. Ashley explained that Dennis Rorie has accepted another position, and thus has resigned as TCC Vice-Chair. The action requested is to elect a TCC Vice-Chair to serve out the remainder of the 2018 calendar year.

Bill Coxe nominated Wayne Herron for Vice-Chair of the TCC for the remainder of the 2018 calendar year. No other nominations were put forth.

Motion:

Mr. Coxe made a motion to close the nominations; John Rose seconded the motion.

Mr. Wayne Herron was elected Vice-Chair of the TCC for 2018 by acclamation.

3.2 2020-2029 TIP Development Local Input Point Allocation

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 action requested was to recommend to the CRTPO Board that it approve the final list of Regional Impact projects proposed for CRTPO's allocation of local input points for NCDOT Prioritization 5.0, and to affirm that the CRTPO's public involvement procedures and the local input point methodology have been followed.
- He then provided a summary of the public comment period for the projects recommended for Regional Impact local input point assignment. The CRTPO received a total of 202 public comments.
 - 100 comments were received regarding the US 521 project in Charlotte, with the majority of the submittals expressing support for the project.
 - 95 responses were received expressing concern with the Collins Road/CSX Grade Separation and Rail Siding project in Union County.
 - The remainder of the comments expressed support for other projects in the region.

- Mr. Burke explained that the NCDOT-Rail Division has offered to relocate the rail siding and grade separation to Helms Road, west of Waxhaw. No improvements would be completed at Collins Road.
 - He explained that this proposal was discussed during the June 27 Transportation Staff Meeting and no concerns were raised.
- Mr. Burke then provided an overview of the recommended local input point assignments for highway and non-highway projects.
- Mr. Burke reminded the TCC that local contribution letters for Regional Impact projects are due to CRTPO staff by Tuesday, July 17.
- He concluded his presentation by explaining that action is requested for the CRTPO Board to approve the local input point assignments during the July 18 meeting, and all Regional Impact local input points must be submitted to NCDOT by July 27.

Motion:

Lisa Stiwinter made a motion to recommend to the CRTPO Board that that it approve the final list of Regional Impact projects proposed for CRTPO’s allocation of local input points for NCDOT Prioritization 5.0, and to affirm that the CRTPO’s public involvement procedures and the local input point methodology have been followed. Mr. Coxe seconded the motion. Upon being put to a vote, the motion passed unanimously.

3.3 Request to Open Comment Period

Presenter: Robert Cook

Summary/Action Requested:

Mr. Cook began his presentation by explaining that the action requested was to recommend to the CRTPO Board that it open a comment period to receive public input on the following two topics:

1. Air quality conformity determination on the 2045 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP), necessitated by the South Coast Air Quality Management District vs. EPA court decision.
 2. Amendments to the 2045 MTP to incorporate performance measure targets.
- Mr. Cook explained that it is unusual for the CRTPO to combine public comment periods, however this is being recommended to ease confusion for residents in the region. The other adjacent MPOs are pursuing a similar approach for public engagement on these topics.
 - He then provided background on the need for the air quality conformity determination by explaining that the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia issued a decision on February 16, 2018 in a case known as South Coast Air Quality Management District v. EPA. The court’s decision vacated portion of a 2015 final rule that established procedures for transitioning from the 1997 National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS) for ozone to the stricter 2008 NAAQS.
 - Mr. Cook explained that the CRTPO will take action to determine transportation conformity with the 1997 ozone standard on the 2045 MTP and 2018-2027 TIP, including amendments associated with the projects listed below. Further, the conformity determination will also cover the 2008 NAAQS.

MTP Amendment				
TIP	Project	Project Limits	Amendment Type	Reason
U-6028	Mallard Creek Rd Widening	Mallard Creek Ch. Rd - Breezewood Ln.	Move project to 2035 horizon year	Project will not be let until FY 2024, therefore will not be open to traffic at the beginning of 2025.
TBD	New Southend Station	N/A	Add to 2035 horizon year	New station construction
TIP Amendments				
TIP	Project	Project Limits	Amendment Type	Reason
U-4913	Idlewild Rd Widening	I-485 - Stevens Mill Rd	Modify Scope of project and Project Limits	Modify western project limit from I-485 to Stallings Road. Traffic Forecast has indicated that roundabouts are necessary at the two intersections with the I-485 ramps, and at the intersection with Idlewild Road and Stallings Road.
U-5764	US 74 Widening	Hanover Dr. - Rocky River Rd.	Modify Project Limits	The current limits of U-5764 are Rocky River Road to Hanover Drive. The eastern limits will need to be extended from Hanover Drive to Dickerson Boulevard.
U-6032	Odell School Rd Widening	I-485 to Concord Mills Bl.	Modify Scope of project in TIP Description	Design year traffic forecast AADT of 60,000. This will require a widening to a six-lane median divided roadway. The Cities of Charlotte and Concord are in agreement with the proposed six-lane cross-section.
U-3467	NC 84 (Rea Road Ext)	NC 16	Waxhaw-Indian Trail Road	Cost increase exceeding \$2M and 25% thresholds

- Mr. Cook then provided background information on the 2045 MTP amendments that are necessary to incorporate the twelve measures and statewide targets adopted by NCDOT.
- He explained that the CRTPO endorsed the NCDOT-adopted CMAQ Percent of Non-Single Occupant Vehicle travel and CMAQ Annual Hours of Peak-Hour Excessive Delay per capita targets in May, 2018.
- CRTPO staff recommends that the TCC do the same with the remaining targets and endorse the NCDOT-adopted targets.
- The CMAQ targets mentioned above will be included in the targets presented for public comment because the May action did not include a MTP amendment.

Performance Measure	2 Year Target 1/1/2018 – 12/31/2019	4 Year Target 1/1/2018 – 12/31/2021
Interstate Pavement Condition (Good)		37.0 %
Interstate Pavement Condition (Poor)		2.2 %
Non-Interstate NHS Pavement Condition (Good)	27.0%	21.0%
Non-Interstate NHS Pavement Condition (Poor)	4.2%	4.7%
NHS Bridge Condition (Good)	33.0%	30.0%
NHS Bridge Condition (Poor)	8.0%	9.0%
Interstate Level of Travel Time Reliability	80.0%	75.0%
Non-Interstate NHS Level of Travel Time Reliability		70.0%
Interstate Truck Travel Time Reliability	1.65	1.70
CMAQ – Percent of Non-Single Occupant Vehicle (SOV) travel	21.0%	21.0%
CMAQ – Annual Hours of Peak-Hour Excessive Delay (PHED) per capita		34.0
CMAQ - On-Road Emission Reduction from CMAQ Projects	CO: 11.522 kg/day VOC: 0.252 kg/day NOx: 2.360 kg/day	CO: 23.044 kg/day VOC: 0.504 kg/day NOx: 4.720 kg/day

Motion: Mr. Coxie made a motion to recommend to the CRTPO Board that it open a comment period to receive public input on (1) the air quality conformity determination on the 2045 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP), necessitated by the South Coast Air Quality Management District vs. EPA court decision, and (2) Amendments to the 2045 MTP to incorporate performance measure targets. Mr. Herron seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

3.4 STBG Funds Exchange

Presenter: Van Argabright, NCDOT

Summary/Action Requested:

Mr. Argabright 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. Argabright explained that action is being requested by the TCC recommend a \$11,860,641 funds exchange between the CRTPO's STBG-DA funds and NCDOT's STBG-Flex funds.
- He explained that 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.
- If NCDOT obligates its allocation of STBG-Flex funds, then it can request for additional funding from the FHWA, which would result in the delivery of additional projects throughout the state.
- Mr. Argabright explained that NCDOT is currently swapping funds with several other MPOs in an effort to obtain additional federal funding for transportation projects.
- He explained that these funds can be exchanged because they are both variations of the Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG).
- Mr. Argabright explained that there would be no effect on project schedules.

Mr. Coxe stated that the issue is not with a lack of funding; rather CRTPO jurisdictions need to do a better job of getting projects ready for obligation of federal funds.

Mr. Winters requested additional information regarding how funds are authorized. Mr. Argabright explained that an executed municipal agreement authorizes preliminary engineering; a completed set of plans and a completed environmental document authorizes right-of-way; and the obligation of construction funds involves the acquisition of all right-of-way, relocation of utilities as well as a completed set of plans.

Motion:

Mr. Herron made a motion to recommend to the CRTPO Board that it approve an \$11,860,641 funds exchange between the CRTPO's STBG-DA funds and NCDOT's STBG-Flex funds. Mr. Coxe seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

3.5 TAP Funds Exchange

Presenter: Curtis Bridges

Summary/Action Requested:

Mr. Bridges 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. Bridges began his presentation by stating that the requested action was to recommend to the CRTPO Board that it approve the recommended exchange of TAP and STBG-DA funds, and associated TIP amendments, for identified TIP projects.

- He explained that the current transportation legislation has prescribed that FHWA rescind any unobligated Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) funds that are not authorized for preliminary engineering, right-of-way or construction by September 30, 2019.
- Mr. Bridges explained that the modifications will not require NCDOT Board action; STIP Unit can process administratively.
- Mr. Bridges then reviewed the recommended exchange of TAP and STBG-DA funds totaling \$5,315,000.
- He explained that this request was reviewed during the June 28 Project Oversight Committee and no concerns were raised.

Mr. Coxe stated that the municipal agreements for the identified projects will need to be modified to reference the updated funding sources.

Loretta Barren explained that FHWA is planning on rescinding \$7 billion of funds in July of 2020, divided equally amongst the fifty states. She could not guarantee that the exchange of the TAP funds would protect this source from recession.

Motion:

Mr. Coxe made a motion to recommend to the CRTPO Board that it approve a series of funding exchanges to allocate CRTPO's STBG-DA funds on TAP-funded projects to avoid a federal rescission. Erika Martin seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

TCC INFORMATION REPORTS

4.1 Kensington Drive STBG-DA Fund Allocation

Presenter: Bill Coxe

Summary:

- Mr. Coxe began his presentation by stating that action was initially requested, however; an error in the amount of available STBG-DA funds from the 2017 call for projects was discovered.
- Due to a series of funding adjustments, it was determined that \$921,702 was available for reprogramming to the Kensington Drive widening project in Waxhaw.
- Mr. Coxe stated that the project has a \$2.5 million cost estimate and the Town has committed to funding the difference. The Town had initially requested \$1,895,700 in STBG-DA funding.
- He explained that the \$921,702 in STBG-DA funds are available for programming because the Monroe City Council voted on March 6, 2018 to refuse the DA funding that was approved for the NC 200 and Old Charlotte Highway project.
- Following the distribution of the TCC agenda for today's meeting, it was discovered that there is an additional \$880,745 in 2017 STBG-DA funding because NCDOT-Division 10 refused the STBG-DA funds from the New Town Road & Waxhaw-Indian Trail Road roundabout once they received safety funds for this project.
- Mr. Coxe stated that he has reached out to the Town of Waxhaw and they would be willing to accept the greater amount of \$1,802,447 in STBG-DA funds.
- He concluded his presentation by explaining that the Project Oversight Committee would review the updated request at its meeting today, and this item will be on the August 2 TCC meeting agenda for action.

4.2. CMAQ Funding Review

Presenter: Erin Kinne

Summary:

- Ms. Kinne began her presentation by stating that staff has recently been made aware that Congestion Mitigation Air Quality (CMAQ) funds may also be subject to rescission if they are unobligated beyond September 30, 2019.
- She explained that staff is in the process of contacting project managers to ensure that the CMAQ funds on these projects are on target to be obligated prior to September 30, 2019.
- Similar to the TAP rescission issue, Ms. Kinne explained that staff is developing plans to exchange funding sources in several cases in order to obligate these funds sooner.
- Ms. Kinne explained that the POC will review the initial recommendations this afternoon; this issue will be on the August TCC agenda for information and action requested during the September TCC meeting.

4.3 I-485 and US 74 Express Lanes Projects

Presenter: Rodger Rochelle, NC Turnpike Authority

Summary:

Mr. Rochelle 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. Rochelle began his presentation by stating that he would provide an update on the I-485 and the two US 74 Express Lanes projects (I-277 to Albemarle Rd Bus Lane Conversion; Conference Drive to I-485) and he would also discuss tolling scenarios for these projects as a follow up to his presentation to the TCC in March of 2018.
- He provided an overview of the scopes of the three express lane projects under development, including access points and new interchanges.
- Mr. Rochelle provided an update on the level 2 traffic and revenue studies for the projects along I-485 and US 74.
 - The previously presented data indicated a \$20 million shortfall over 16 years for the pre-registration scenario.
 - The current (level 2) data depicts a \$6 million shortfall over seven years or the pre-registration scenario.
 - The level 2 data is more robust than the initial screening level study.
 - This is one step short of an investment grade traffic and revenue study.
 - Capital costs are recovered in a shorter time period in the level 2 study.
- He then provided an overview of the CRTPO Toll Operations Advisory Committee. The first meeting of this group is on July 16, 2018.
- Mr. Rochelle provided a summary of the public engagement activities that the NCTA has undertaken over the past several months.
- Mr. Rochelle reviewed a website that has been designed for the I-485 and US 74 projects public engagement efforts. The website can be accessed by clicking [here](#).
- He then reviewed a video that is being used for the public engagement for the three projects. The video can be accessed by clicking [here](#).

- He concluded his presentation by providing a delivery schedule for the three managed lanes projects along I-485 and US 74.

Ms. Ashley asked if a funding source to address the \$6 million shortfall was identified, if the express lanes could then operate as HOT 3+ lanes where users with a transponder and three or more passengers would not pay a toll. Mr. Rochelle explained that the shortfall is significantly larger within the HOT 3+ scenario. He estimated the shortfall was in the range of \$20-30 million over 17 years. Mr. Rochelle stated that he could provide a summary of the HOT 3+ tolling scenario during the July 16, 2018 Toll Operations Advisory Committee meeting.

Mr. Coxe asked if there would be an investment-grade traffic and revenue study conducted for the three projects, and if they would be funded with bond revenues. Mr. Rochelle explained that the projects are fully funded and do not currently assume any bond revenue funding.

OTHER REPORTS

5.1. NCDOT Report

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

- Significant construction is ongoing within the western portion of Monroe Expressway project. Traffic shifts continue to be implemented as needed in the Indian Trail - Stallings area as construction progresses.
- Work continues at night to convert four major intersections along US 74 in Indian Trail to superstreets. Those intersections are Sardis Church/Wesley Chapel Stouts Road, Faith Church Road, Unionville-Indian Trail Road, and Indian Trail-Fairview Road.
- Work on the widening project has begun along South Trade Street (U-5804B) in Matthews. The project's estimated completion date is by the end of September.
- Work will begin this month to convert the intersection of Brookshire Boulevard (NC 16) and Mt. Holly-Huntersville Road intersection to North Carolina's first continuous flow intersection (U-6084). The project is estimated to be completed in December.
- NCDOT recently let a contract to construct a pair of roundabouts along New Town Road at the intersections of Marvin School Road and Waxhaw-Marvin Road. Each intersection will need to be closed for approximately six weeks to construct the roundabout.
- NCDOT will host a public meeting on July 31st for the widening of NC 51 between Monroe Road and Sardis Road in Matthews. The meeting will be held from 4-7 pm in the Community Life Center at Christ Covenant Church located at 800 Fullwood Lane in Matthews.
- NCDOT held a public meeting for three proposed roundabouts along NC 218 in Union County at the NC 200, NC 205, and Millgrove Road intersections. The construction time periods for these projects would be the summer of 2019 and 2020.
- NCDOT held a public meeting for a roundabout project at NC 200 and Porter Road near Waxhaw last night.

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

- A public meeting will be held for the Fairview Road Extension project (U-5817) on Tuesday, July 31 at Fairview United Methodist Church in Mooresville from 4:00-7:00 p.m.
- A public meeting will be held this fall for the Williamson Road widening project (R-5100A) from Brawley School Road to NC 150. The environmental document should be complete by the end of 2018.

Andy Bailey announced that NCDOT is temporarily stopping work on the US 74 Corridor Study while the scope, structure and use of the plan are evaluated. NCDOT will evaluate its strategies for conducting corridor studies to ensure that they are as actionable as possible.

5.2. Bicycle and Pedestrian Work Group Report

Mr. Bridges announced that there will not be a Bicycle and Pedestrian Work Group meeting this afternoon. The next meeting will be held on August 2.

5.3. Upcoming Issues

Candice Rorie made the following two announcements:

- The I-77 Corridor Study RFQ was released on July 2. The RFQ closes on August 7 at 2:00 p.m. and is listed on the City of Charlotte’s contract website.
- CRTPO has retained Centralina COG to assist in the development of a research report on the implementation of the Comprehensive Transportation Plan (CTP). TCC members will receive an email request to complete a survey as to how the jurisdiction uses the CTP to reserve right-of-way for future transportation improvements.

6. Adjourn: Ms. Ashley determined that the agenda had been adequately completed and adjourned the meeting at 11:52 a.m.