

CHARLOTTE REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLANNING ORGANIZATION
Charlotte-Mecklenburg Government Center, Room 280
February 13, 2019 Meeting
Summary Minutes

Members Attending:

Greg Phipps (Charlotte), Michael Miltich (Cornelius), Jane Campbell (Davidson), Jerry Morse (Indian Trail), Jeff McNeely (Iredell County), Norma Carpenter (Marshville), Paul Bailey (Matthews), George Dunlap (Mecklenburg County), Frederick Becker (Mineral Springs), Lynda Paxton (Stallings), Michael Johnson (Statesville), Steve Maher (Waxhaw), Scott Buzzard (Weddington), Brad Horvath (Wesley Chapel), Sam Bowles (NCBOT-Division 10)

Non-Voting Members Attending:

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

1. Call to Order

Chairman Michael Johnson called the February 2019 CRTPO meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

2. Adoption of the Agenda

Summary:

Chairman Johnson requested to move the Draft 2020-2029 STIP information report to agenda item 6. No objections were made.

Motion:

Michael Miltich made a motion to adopt the revised agenda. Mayor Becker seconded the motion. Upon being put to a vote, the motion to adopt the revised agenda was approved unanimously.

3. Public Comment Period

There were no public comments.

4. Ethics Awareness & Conflict of Interest Reminder

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

5. Consent Agenda

Summary:

Chairman Johnson requested action on the following three consent agenda items:

- a. January 2019 minutes
- b. 2019 performance-based safety targets
- c. Four amendments to the 2018-2027 TIP:
 1. Approve amendment to remove the interim station phase (BC) from the Charlotte Gateway Station project (P-5705) within the TIP. An interim station is no longer being pursued for the project, as CATS is pursuing construction of a permanent station as part of the ultimate project.
 2. Approve TIP amendment to account for Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Transit Oriented Development planning grant along the proposed Lynx Silver Line light rail.
 3. Approve TIP amendment to purchase 12 replacement buses for CATS with FTA section 5339 funds CATS received through a competitive grant award and matched with local capital funds.
 4. Approve TIP amendment to de-obligate \$246,000 in STBG-DA funds programmed to the NC 115 sidewalk and bicycle lane modernization project in Cornelius (EB-5776).

Motion:

Dr. Miltich made a motion to approve the consent agenda items. Jane Campbell seconded the motion. Upon being put to a vote, the consent agenda item was unanimously approved.

6. Draft 2020-2029 STIP

Presenter:

David Wasserman, NCDOT

Summary:

Mr. Wasserman 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 an update to the Board regarding the release of the 2020-2029 STIP and the implications for the CRTPO. He provided background information regarding the source of state and federal funds to develop the STIP as prescribed by the STI legislation. Mr. Wasserman then provided an overview of the process that NCDOT utilizes to determine its expenditures and revenues. He provided an overview of the number of projects funded in the draft STIP and the total estimated cost. Mr. Wasserman addressed the issue of schedule adjustments to legacy projects that were funded in previous TIP development rounds. The main reason for the schedule adjustments for these projects throughout the state can be attributed to project cost increases and scope changes. NCDOT is improving the accuracy of its cost estimates within the STIP development process by conducting express designs, hiring additional staff to develop the estimates, and requiring addition information from MPOs and Divisions regarding scopes when projects are submitted in NCDOT Prioritization. Mr. Wasserman concluded his presentation by stating that the Board of Transportation will adopt the 2020-2029 STIP in June of 2019.

7. CRTPO Draft Discretionary Policy

Presenter:

Erin Kinne

Summary:

Ms. Kinne stated that the action before Board was to adopt the discretionary policy and annual discretionary program schedule. She explained that staff has worked throughout the past year to develop the draft policy and the document was well-received during a joint Board and TCC workshop held on December 18. Ms. Kinne reviewed the revisions to the policy that were recommended by the Project Oversight Committee following the workshop in December. Ms. Kinne concluded her presentation by stating that the TCC unanimously recommended to the CRTPO board that it adopt the discretionary policy and annual program schedule.

Motion:

Dr. Miltich made a motion to adopt the discretionary policy and annual discretionary program schedule. Ms. Campbell seconded the motion. Upon being put to a vote, the consent agenda item was unanimously approved.

8. Draft 2020 Unified Planning Work Program

Presenter:

Robert Cook

Summary:

Mr. Cook provided information to the Board via a memorandum, the contents of which are incorporated into the minutes. The presentation's purpose was to update the Board on the preparation of the FY 2020 UPWP. Mr. Cook stated that he had received a letter from NCDOT in January stating that, MPOs are no longer permitted to maintain unobligated balances, and any unused funding will be returned to NCDOT. The result is a substantial increase in funding from \$1,687,588 in FY 2019 to \$2,244,661 in FY 2020. The UPWP Review Subcommittee

met on January 25, 2019 to prepare a recommendation on how to allocate FY 20 funding. The Subcommittee determined that it would recommend the following:

1. Do not substantially increase the cost share for member jurisdictions.
2. Program all available PL funds in FY 20.
3. Use past years' STBG-DA funds before programming FY 20 DA funds.
4. Program past years' STBG-DA funds in an amount equal to what is necessary to fund the FY 20 UPWP at a level equal to FY 19 amounts. (The programming of all available PL funds as stated in #2 will result in a slight (\$15K) increase from FY 19.)
5. The remainder of past years STBG-DA funds will be used to support local transportation planning projects that will be selected through the discretionary projects process.

The final UPWP will be presented for adoption in March.

9. CATS Rapid Transit System Updates

Presenter:

Jason Lawrence, CATS

Summary:

Mr. Lawrence 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 review an update to the LYNX system plan which includes detailed planning for modes and alignments for the north and west transit corridors. The outreach for the system plan update included 19 public workshops that were attended by over 600 residents. In addition, there were 3,200 survey participants, 2,800 facebook video views, and 70 stakeholder, civic, and neighborhood meetings. Mr. Lawrence stated that the recommended short-term strategy for the north corridor was to enhance the I-77 managed lanes corridor to allow for bus rapid transit within the next 5-10 years. A longer-term strategy would be to continue to engage Norfolk Southern to allow for commuter rail along the O line between Mooresville and Charlotte.

Mr. Lawrence provided an overview of the planning for the west corridor, which has been recommended as an extension of the silver line beginning in Uptown and ending in Belmont, Gaston County. The recommended alignment will utilize the Wilkinson Boulevard corridor and cross the Catawba River adjacent to the Wilkinson Boulevard bridge. Light rail is the recommended transit mode and there are 13 stations proposed between Uptown and Belmont.

Mr. Lawrence concluded his presentation by stating that the next steps were to present the LYNX System Update Staff Recommendations as an action item at the February 27, 2019 MTC Meeting. Action will be requested by the CRTPO to amend its Comprehensive Transportation Plan to add the silver line extension along Wilkinson Boulevard and to account for enhancements to the transportation network along the I-77 corridor to allow for bus rapid transit.

10. Upcoming Agenda Items

Presenter:

Neil Burke

Summary:

An overview of the March agenda was provided. Action will be requested for the Board to adopt the FY 20 UPWP.

A joint meeting between the Gaston-Cleveland-Lincoln MPO and CRTPO Boards will be held on March 13. The location of the meeting will be at the Gastonia Conference Center.

Planning is progressing on a retreat for CRTPO delegates and alternates to be held on either March 28-29 or April 4-5. The purpose would be to help set a strategic direction for the organization. The reasons for making the recommendation included following up on the staffing assessment (which included a recommendation that the

CRTPO prepare a strategic plan), the need to soon begin work in the 2050 MTP, and the lead planning agency organizational changes that resulted in the CRTPO being established as a division within the Planning Dept.

Registration for the 2019 NC Association of MPO's annual conference in Charlotte has opened. The date of the conference is April 24-26 at the Charlotte Convention Center. To date, over 180 staff and elected officials have registered throughout the state.

Beau Memory has left the North Carolina Turnpike Authority. Chris Werner has assumed the role as interim executive director.

The Board viewed a video that summarized the outcomes of the North Carolina Transportation Summit, which was held January 9-10 in Raleigh.

16. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.