

CRTPO TECHNICAL COORDINATING COMMITTEE
Summary Meeting Minutes
Charlotte-Mecklenburg Government Center
Room 267
February 7, 2019

Voting Members: *Chair* – Sherry Ashley (Statesville), *Vice-Chair* - Wayne Herron (Cornelius), David McDonald (CATS), Liz Babson (CDOT), Dan Leaver (Charlotte E&PM), Gareth Johnson – alt for Taiwo Jaiyeoba (Charlotte P,D & D), Travis Johnson (Davidson), Bill Coxe (Huntersville), Todd Huntsinger (Indian Trail), Richard Hoffman (Iredell County), Dana Stoogenke (Matthews), Megan Green (Mecklenburg County – LUESA Air Quality), Nathan Farber – alt for Steve Frey (Mint Hill), Erika Martin (Mooresville), Brett Canipe – alt for Scott Cole (NCDOT – Div. 10), Anil Panicker alt for Mark Stafford (NCDOT- Div 12), Dominique Boyd (NCDOT-TPD), Travis Morgan (Pineville), Chris Easterly (Stallings), Bjorn Hansen (Union County), Alexandra Beesting (Waxhaw), Will Washam (Bicycle Focus Area Representative), Gwen Cook (Greenway Focus Area Representative), Jennifer Stafford (Pedestrian Focus Area Representative), Laura Thomason (Public Health Focus Area Representative)

Staff: Curtis Bridges (CRTPO), Neil Burke (CRTPO), Robert Cook (CRTPO), Erin Kinne (CRTPO), Theo Thomson (CRTPO), Jason Lawrence (CATS), Susan Habina-Woolard (Matthews), Dave Hill (Huntersville), Loretta Barren (FHWA), Warren Cooksey (NCTA), John Howard (CATS), John Rose (CATS), Sara Familian (CDOT), Anna Gallup (CDOT), Andy Grzymiski (CDOT), Stuart Basham (NCDOT-Div. 10), Lee Ainsworth (NCDOT-Div. 10), Wendy Taylor (NCDOT-Div. 10), John Cook (NCDOT-Div 12), Cami Weckerly (Mooresville)

Guests: David Harris (HNTB), Erin Musiol (RS&H), Bill Thunberg (LNTC), Todd Steiss (WSP), Kevin Walsh (HDR), Yolanda DeLong (Parsons)

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

1. Adoption of the Agenda

Ms. Ashley asked if any changes to the agenda are necessary.

Motion:

Bill Coxe made a motion to remove the following 2018-2027 TIP Amendment item from the consent agenda and place it on the regular agenda for further discussion:

- Recommend approval of amendment to remove Interim Building for the Charlotte Gateway Station project (P-5705BC) from the TIP. An interim station is no longer being pursued for the project.

Wayne Herron seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

2. Consideration of Consent Agenda

Ms. Ashley stated that the consent agenda for the February meeting now contained the following items:

- 2.1** Approval of the January 3, 2019 TCC Minutes;
- 2.2** Recommend that the CRTPO Board approve the 2019 Performance-Based Planning Safety Targets;
- 2.3** Recommend that the CRTPO Board approve three 2018-2027 TIP Amendments:

- Recommend approval of amendment to account for Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Transit Oriented Development planning grant along the proposed Lynx Silver Line light rail (TP-5159).
- Recommend approval of 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 (TA-6176).
- Recommend approval of amendment to return \$246,000 in STBG-DA funds programmed to the NC 115 Sidewalk & Bike Lane Modernization project in Cornelius (EB-5776).

Motion:

Wayne Herron made a motion to approve the consent agenda. David McDonald seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Discussion of Item Removed from Consent Agenda

2.3 Mr. Coxe requested clarification on whether the amendment to the TIP seeks to end plans for an interim station building and instead construct permanent structure at station location. Mr. Coxe expressed concern about a lack of a structure at the location.

Mr. McDonald provided confirmation that the permanent structure will be included in the RFQ, along with the other construction elements for the Gateway Station. He stated that the timing of the construction, proposed for 2022, would mean that an interim structure would be demolished and replaced almost immediately following its completion. For this reason, the decision was made to remove the plan for the interim structure. He added that, should the scope in the RFQ change, the interim structure would be added back into the project.

Motion:

Mr. Coxe made a motion to approve this item. Mr. McDonald seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

ACTION ITEMS

3.1 CRTPO Draft Discretionary Policy

Presenter: Erin Kinne

Summary/Action Requested:

Ms. Kinne began her presentation by stating that action is requested to recommend to the CRTPO Board that it adopt the CRTPO discretionary projects policy document and annual discretionary program schedule.

- Ms. Kinne summarized the content of the information reports that the TCC and Board received in December and January
- She described the three revisions to the document that have been proposed since the December Workshop, and which were recommended for approval by the Project Oversight Committee (POC) at their January 24 meeting:
 - Change section name from “Scoring Principles” to “Funding Principles,” on page 9.
 - Remove requirement that a “sealed” estimate be submitted with application, on page 9.
 - Reduce highest contingency percentage from 45% to 40% in budget calculation, on page 10.

- She concluded her presentation by stating that the next step in the timeline is to bring the policy document and annual schedule before the Board for adoption at the February Board meeting.

Mr. Coxe pointed out that the first call for shortfall funds requests will take place shortly after the adoption of the document takes place, and he requested confirmation that CRTPO staff and members of the POC are comfortable with implementing this part of the annual schedule.

Mr. Herron confirmed that he is comfortable with the POC's ability to prepare for this.

Ms. Kinne concurred that the POC will undertake this task during their next few meetings. The policy document does not specifically describe certain details of how each call for projects shall be implemented, and it is the responsibility of the POC to make several decisions regarding the spring 2019 call.

Motion:

Mr. Herron made a motion to recommend that the CRTPO Board adopt the CRTPO discretionary projects policy document and annual discretionary program schedule. Erika Martin seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

INFORMATION ITEMS

4.1. Draft 2020-2029 State Transportation Improvement Program

Presenter: Neil Burke

Summary:

Mr. Burke began his presentation by stating that the draft 2020-2029 STIP was released by NCDOT on January 9, 2019.

- He stated that this is an ongoing process and CRTPO staff will review and finalize the project lists and schedules.
- Mr. Burke provided an overview of the 484 projects within the draft STIP, identified through the Prioritization 5.0 process, as well as schedule changes.
 - There are 42 new projects in the CRTPO planning area and 70 legacy projects from previous rounds of prioritization, representing nearly \$1 billion in funds programmed for use over the ten years of the STIP.
 - The 2020-2029 Draft STIP highway project list can be viewed [here](#).
 - The 2020-2029 Draft STIP non-highway project list can be viewed [here](#).
 - The list of legacy project schedule changes can be viewed [here](#).
- The prioritization work group recommends committing the funds that are programmed in the first **six** years of the 2020-2029 STIP. Previously, the first **five** years of the STIP had been considered committed.
- Twenty-five legacy highway projects in the draft 2020-2029 STIP are expected to experience at least a one-year delay due to availability of funding.
- A public comment period on the draft 2020-2029 TIP is expected to open in June 2019 and action will be requested to adopt TIP from the Board in August.

4.2. Draft FY 2020 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)

Presenter: Robert Cook

Summary:

Mr. Cook began his presentation by noting that it is an update on the information report he provided at the January TCC meeting. Action will be requested in March to adopt the FY 2020 UPWP.

- Mr. Cook described the formula that NCDOT uses to determine each MPO's allocation of UPWP funds and the fact that CRTPO's allocation amount will be larger in FY 2020 than it was in FY 2019.
 - This is due to changes in the amount of unobligated funds that MPOs may keep on-hand. NCDOT recaptured old funds from some MPOs and this has increased the overall amount of UPWP funds available for allocation in FY 2020.
- Mr. Cook presented allocation recommendations that come from the meeting of the UPWP Subcommittee on January 25.
 - The subcommittee recommendations are guided by the goal of not substantially increasing the amount of UPWP funding that CRTPO programs in FY 2020 since this impacts the amount of local matching funds that member jurisdictions will be required to provide.
 - The subcommittee also recommends programming the oldest funding first, to reduce exposure to the risk of rescission of funds.
- Mr. Cook concluded by outlining the next steps in the UPWP process and reiterated that this item will come before the TCC and Board for action in March.

Bjorn Hansen asked what the approximate target is for total Planning dollars that will be made available in FY-2020. Mr. Cook stated that it's anticipated to be similar to the amount made available during the past few fiscal years—approximately \$400,000.

4.3. CATS Rapid Transit System Updates

Presenter: Jason Lawrence

Summary:

Mr. Lawrence began his presentation by stating that the staff recommendations contained in his presentation were presented to the Metropolitan Transit Committee (MTC) at their January 23 meeting, and will be brought before the MTC for action at their February 27 meeting.

- Mr. Lawrence added that future action will be required by the CRTPO to amend its Comprehensive Transportation Plan to account for new transit alignments and updated elements of the existing corridors.
- CATS has been engaged in public outreach for the past 18 months, in Mecklenburg County and Gaston County, regarding rapid transit options for the North and West Corridors and system integration options within an effort called the LYNX System Update.
- Regarding the North Corridor, Mr. Lawrence stated that their study will continue to explore commuter rail (Red Line) options on the Norfolk Southern O-Line, although utilizing that corridor is problematic at this time.
 - The study will also consider rapid transit on other alignments, including expanded express-route bus options on I-77, as well as innovative designs and uses for park-and-ride concepts.
 - CATS seeks to double park-and-ride locations (currently four), with direct-connects to transit priority lanes.
- Regarding the West Corridor, CATS is studying potential extensions of the Silver Line and other alignments west.

- CATS is studying two main light rail alignments to cross the Catawba River, and recommended that light rail be considered rather than streetcar going forward.
- Regarding the Southeast Corridor, Mr. Lawrence stated that CATS and stakeholders are tasked with determining the Silver Line's alignment in Uptown Charlotte.
 - CATS evaluated several options and are recommending the North End Connection, which would provide access to the future Charlotte Gateway Station.
- In addition, Mr. Lawrence stated that, as part of the upcoming Regional Transit Study, CATS plans to study rapid transit options for Pineville and Ballantyne.
 - CATS recommends continuing the LYNX System Update efforts by beginning an immediate LYNX Blue Line Extension study to Pineville and Ballantyne, as well as developing near-term mobility options.

OTHER REPORTS

5.1. NCDOT Report

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

- US 74 Superstreet Conversion Project in Indian Trail – Work continues to convert four major intersections to superstreets. Traffic is in a temporary pattern at the intersection at Unionville-Indian Trail Road. Paving is partially complete at the Unionville-Indian Trail Road intersection. Work is underway at the Indian Trail Road intersection.
- South Trade Street Widening in Matthews (U-5804B) – Will widen a half mile segment of South Trade Street from two to four lanes from Chapyn Lane to Weddington Road. Work is currently underway and is nearly complete. The contractor is currently working on a culvert extension and sewerline installation necessary to complete the widening. The project is expected to complete in April 2019.
- NC 16/Mount Holly-Huntersville Road Intersection – Work continues on the Continuous Flow Intersection (CFI) at this intersection. This project is behind schedule due to weather and other delays. Completion is expected in April 2019.
- I-485 Express Lanes Project (I-5507) – This project is a \$346M design-build contract for the I-485 Express Lanes project along I-485 in south Charlotte. This project will construct Express Lanes and other improvements along a 16.7 mile stretch of I-485 between I-77 and US 74. NCDOT is working with the design team to prepare construction plans. Construction is expected to begin next summer and complete late 2022.
- I-277 Maintenance Work – NCDOT crews are continuing to perform maintenance work on concrete slabs and bridge decks on the I-277 Loop around Uptown Charlotte. This will reduce travel lanes on the I-277 inner loop to provide a safe area for crews to perform full depth concrete repair on sections of the I-277 loop. Work will progress along the John Belk side of I-277 over the summer. Once that side is complete, will shift crews over to the Brookshire side of I-277 to begin work on that side of the loop. Work is expected to complete this summer.
- Torrence Chapel Road/Liverpool Parkway Intersection Improvements (U-5906) – NCDOT will host a public meeting on February 20 for intersection improvements at the intersection of Torrence Chapel Road and West Catawba Avenue in Cornelius. The meeting will be held at the Cornelius Town Hall. Local Officials meeting 2:30-3:30 and Public Meeting 4-7.
- NC 115 Widening Project (U-5772) – NCDOT will host a public meeting on February 21 for the widening of NC 115 between Harris Blvd (NC 24) and I-485 in Charlotte. The meeting will be held at Independence Hill Baptist Church. Local Officials Meeting 3-4 and Public Meeting 4-7.

- Charlotte Avenue Widening Project in Monroe (U-6031) – NCDOT will host a public meeting for the widening of Charlotte Ave from Seymour St to NC 200 and the widening of NC 200 from Charlotte Ave to Goldmine Rd in Monroe. The meeting will be held at the Union Baptist Association. Local Officials Meeting 2:30-3:30 and Public Meeting 4-7.
- 2020-2029 Draft STIP Release – NCDOT released the 2020-2029 Draft STIP following the January Board of Transportation (BOT) meeting. A public comment period for Division 10 will be held February 25 – March 1. Comments may be submitted via the NCDOT STI webpage or sent to slbasham@ncdot.gov. Approval of the Draft STIP is expected to occur at the June BOT meeting.

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

- 2020-2029 Draft STIP Release – Public comment period for Division 12 will be held February 18-22, and comments may be submitted via the website or sent to atpanicker@ncdot.gov.
- One resurfacing project is 98% complete and will finish soon. A second resurfacing project is under contract and will be letting soon; it will involve 3 miles of resurfacing in Iredell County.
- Bridge project over Rock Creek on Myers Mill Road is now complete and open to traffic.
- The second phase of the interchange between I-40 and I-77 has been let, and construction is expected to begin in late spring or early summer.
- Construction on the realignment and signalization of the intersection of Houston Road and Powerhouse Road is expected to start in the summer of this year.
- Widening of US 21 and NC115 through Troutman (R-2532) will have a public meeting this spring.
- The Fairview Road Flyover is in the final design inspection phase, and right-of-way is expected to begin in August.

Dominique Boyd provided an update on behalf of NCDOT-Transportation Planning Division:

- NCDOT’s long-range statewide transportation plan, known as NC Moves 2050, has new information posted on the NCDOT website.
- Mr. Boyd is currently preparing to make a presentation on NC Moves 2050 to CRTPO in the near future.

5.2. Bicycle and Pedestrian Work Group Report

Mr. Bridges announced that the Bicycle and Pedestrian Work Group will meet this afternoon and there will be presentations from Charlotte DOT staff members. Curtis also made a reminder to TCC members who have received requests for updates to bike/pedestrian plans from NCDOT Bike/Ped Division, to provide that information to them by February 15.

5.3. Upcoming Issues

Mr. Burke made several announcements:

- There will be a meeting of the CRTPO and GCLMPO Boards on March 13, 5-8 pm at the Gastonia Conference Center, and dinner will be provided. The purpose of the meeting is to continue conversations on regional priorities which began at last year’s meeting. Neil has sent a save-the-date calendar invitation to Board and TCC members.
- CRTPO staff are in the process of scheduling a CRTPO Board retreat. The dates and the agenda are to be determined. Some of the focus will be on the outcomes of the recent CRTPO Staffing Assessment that was completed.

- The NC Association of Metropolitan Planning Organizations (NCAMPO) Conference will be held in Charlotte, and hosted by CRTPO, April 24-26 at the Charlotte Convention Center. Early bird registration is open until February 28, after which time the rate will increase.
- The Annual Centralina Council of Governments Conference (CCOG) will be held March 7-8 at UNC Charlotte.

Ms. Ashley made an announcement related to the scheduling of the March TCC meeting. Several members will be attending the March 7 CCOG Conference, which conflicts with the TCC meeting. She proposed holding the TCC meeting on March 6 at 2:00 pm, taking the place of the regularly scheduled Transportation Staff meeting at that time. By a raise of hands, the TCC agreed to hold the March 2019 TCC meeting on March 6 at 2:00 pm.

6. Adjourn: Ms. Ashley determined that the agenda had been adequately completed and adjourned the meeting at 11:25 a.m.