

CRTPO TECHNICAL COORDINATING COMMITTEE
Summary Meeting Minutes
Charlotte-Mecklenburg Government Center
Room 267
June 6, 2019

Voting Members: *Vice-Chair* – Wayne Herron (Cornelius), David McDonald – (CATS), Liz Babson (CDOT), Candice Rorie – proxy for Taiwo Jaiyeoba (Charlotte PD&D), Travis Johnson (Davidson), Bill Coxe (Huntersville), Todd Huntsinger (Indian Trail), Richard Hoffman – alt for Matthew Todd (Iredell County), Jay Camp – proxy for Dana Stoogenke (Matthews), Megan Green (Mecklenburg County – LUESA Air Quality), Sarah McAllister – alt for Lisa Stiwinter (Monroe), Erika Martin (Mooresville), Anil Panicker – alt for Mark Stafford (NCDOT- Div. 12), Dominique Boyd (NCDOT-TPD), Nathan Farber – alt for Steve Frey (Mint Hill) Travis Morgan (Pineville), Chris Easterly (Stallings), George Berger (Troutman), Bjorn Hansen (Union County), Kevin Parker (Waxhaw), Lisa Thompson (Weddington), Will Washam – (Bicycle Focus Area Representative), Jennifer Stafford (Pedestrian Focus Area Representative), Laura Thomason (Public Health Focus Area Representative)

Staff: Robert Cook (CRTPO), Curtis Bridges (CRTPO), Neil Burke (CRTPO), Judy Dellert-O’Keef (CRTPO), Agustin Rodriguez (CRTPO), Theo Thomson (CRTPO), Felix Obregon (CDOT), Sara Familian (CDOT), Carlos Alzate (CDOT), Jason Lawrence (CATS), Michelle Nance (CCOG), Jason Wager (CCOG), Dave Hill (Huntersville), Loretta Barren (FHWA), Stuart Basham (NCDOT-Div. 10), Wendy Taylor (NCDOT-Div. 10), Lee Ainsworth (NCDOT-Div. 10), Wendy Taylor (NCDOT – Div. 10), Van Argabright (NCDOT), David Wasserman (NCDOT), Kate Cavazza (Mecklenburg County)

Guests: Bill Thunberg (LNTC), Joe Lesch (Gresham Smith), Javier Tamargo (I-77 Mobility Partners), Kevin Walsh (HDR) Radha Swayampakala (RS&H), Erin Musiol (RS&H), Bridget Grant (Moore & Van Allen)

Wayne Herron opened the meeting at 10:00 a.m. in absence of the chairman. TCC members, staff, and guests introduced themselves.

1. Adoption of the Agenda

Mr. Herron explained that the Charlotte DOT had requested that the CTP alignment amendment for a new roadway connector between Shopton and Arrowood Roads in southwest Charlotte is placed on the June TCC agenda for action. The TCC took action during the May TCC meeting to open a public comment period on the amendment; however, CDOT staff had researched the rezoning case associated with this roadway alignment relative to the CRTPO’s Public Involvement Plan and determined that an adequate amount of public involvement had been conducted with as a part of the rezoning process. Mr. Herron asked if any additional changes to the agenda are necessary. Hearing none, the amended June agenda was adopted by acclamation. This item will become Business item 3.1

2. Consideration of Consent Agenda

Mr. Herron stated that the consent agenda for the June meeting contained the following item:

- Approval of the May 2, 2019 TCC Minutes.

Motion:

Bill Coxe made a motion to approve the consent agenda. Erika Martin seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

TCC BUSINESS ITEMS

3.1. CTP Alignment Amendment

Presenter: Felix Obregon, Charlotte Department of Transportation

Summary/Action Requested:

Mr. Obregon 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. Obregon began his presentation by stating that action is requested to recommend to the CRTPO Board that it approve an amendment to the CTP.
- He explained that this item was presented as an action item during the May TCC and CRTPO Board meetings to open a public comment period on the CTP amendments.
- Mr. Obregon presented a map of the project area, which includes a planned development in southwest Charlotte, near I-485 and Arrowood Road.
- The proposed roadway alignment would function as a connector between Shopton and Arrowood Roads.
 - The existing alignment in the CTP connects to Arrowood Road just south of Savoy Corporate Drive's connection to Arrowood Road.
 - He explained that the proposed realignment will provide improved traffic signal spacing with Savoy Corporate Drive along the Arrowood Road corridor between the I-485 interchange and S. Tryon Street. In addition, Mr. Obregon stated that the realignment will provide full access to a future development that will improve network connectivity by providing a parallel road to I-485.
- He reviewed the "waiver of public involvement activities" clause within the PIP that state that public involvement efforts can be waived for CTP amendments if the agency proposing the amendment has conducted public involvement efforts sufficient to meet the guidelines on the CRTPO's PIP.
- Mr. Obregon then displayed a series of slides that were used to convey the new public street network and CTP connectivity that were utilized as part of the public involvement effort for the rezoning process.
- He detailed the public engagement for the rezoning process between November 2018 and April 2019.
- Mr. Obregon concluded his presentation by stating that CDOT staff believes that the public engagement process that was undertaken as part of the rezoning process is sufficient to meet the guidelines within the CRTPO's PIP, and the public comment period for the CTP can be waived.

Mr. Coxe recognized the need for a CTP amendment process where a subcommittee would review requests to determine the appropriate level of public engagement prior to the adoption process.

Motion:

Mr. McDonald made a motion to recommend that the CRTPO Board to amend the CTP for this roadway alignment modification and waive the public comment period recognizing CDOT's public

involvement process as part of the rezoning process was sufficient. Bjorn Hansen seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

3.2. Union County CTP Alignment Amendments

Presenter: Bjorn Hansen, Union County

Summary/Action Requested:

Mr. Hansen 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. Hansen began his presentation by stating that Union County is requesting to open a public comment period on a series of CTP amendments after the June CRTPO Board meeting, with a formal request to amend later in the summer after any comments have been addressed. He explained that the Union County Board of Commissioners took action to recommend the CTP amendments during the June 3 meeting.
- He explained that Union County has coordinated with the Towns of Indian Trail, Marvin, Waxhaw, Wingate, and Weddington to identify a series of CTP amendments to remove or modify new roadway alignments to reflect feasibility and local support.
- Mr. Hansen stated that the list of amendments in Union County reflects alignments that are not likely to be built due to environmental or built environment considerations, as well as updates to reflect completed road realignments.
- He then reviewed the 13 proposed CTP amendments, noting that 9 of which are roadway segment deletions and the remaining four are alignment modifications.

Motion:

Mr. Coxe made a motion to recommend to the CRTPO Board that it open a public comment period on amendments to the Comprehensive Transportation Plan. Anil Panicker seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

3.3. CATS-CRTPO Metropolitan Planning Agreement

Presenter: David McDonald

Summary/Action Requested:

Mr. McDonald began his presentation by stating that action is requested to recommend to the CRTPO Board that it approve the Metropolitan Planning Agreement between CATS and CRTPO.

- He explained that Federal metropolitan planning regulations (23 CFR 450.314) require MPOs and transit agencies to establish written agreements that “cooperatively determine their mutual responsibilities in carrying out the metropolitan transportation planning process.”
- The CRTPO and CATS currently lack such an agreement and this issue was identified in CATS’s most recent triennial review.
- CATS has documentation of all the other ways that CRTPO and CATS interact and collaborate, but lack a specific financial agreement.
- The two organizations share financial information related to developing the TIP and MTP and have some existing agreements.

Motion:

Mr. Coxe made a motion to recommend that the CRTPO Board endorse Metropolitan Planning Agreement between CATS and CRTPO. Ms. Martin seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

3.4 STBG Funds Exchange

Presenter: David Wasserman, NCDOT

Summary/Action Requested:

Mr. Wasserman 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. Wasserman explained that action is being requested to recommend to the CRTPO Board that it approve a \$24 million exchange between 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, U-2509 Independence Boulevard upgrade; I-5825 I-77 pavement rehabilitation.
- In turn, the STBG-Flex funds would be used to fund four CRTPO projects currently funded with STBG-DA funds: U-5108, Northcross Drive Extension; U-5908 Main Street in Huntersville; U-6106 Gilead Road in Huntersville, and U-6105 Bailey Road in Cornelius.
- 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. Wasserman 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. Wasserman explained that there would be no effect on project schedules.

Motion:

Mr. Coxe made a motion to recommend to the CRTPO Board that it approve a \$24 million exchange between CRTPO's STBG-DA funds and NCDOT's STBG-Flex funds. Mr. McDonald seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

3.5 Old Monroe Road Project (U-4714B) TIP Amendment

Presenter: David Wasserman, NCDOT

Summary/Action Requested:

Mr. Wasserman 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. Wasserman began his presentation by stating that NCDOT has been notified that the Town of Indian Trail has withdrawn a \$10 million local contribution to the Old Monroe Road project (U-4714B) in Union County.

- He explained that the letter from the Town identified issues with the design of the project, continued schedule delays, and escalating costs as reasons to withdraw the \$10 million in local funding.
 - He explained that this will cause a delay in the project schedule since the \$10 million local contribution gave the project a higher priority in the NCDOT Prioritization process by reducing the cost to NCDOT.
- He explained that the project segments would have to be revised for U-4714 due to the change in funding.
- Mr. Wasserman provided a funding history for U-4714B by explaining that the project first appeared in the 2016-2025 TIP in 2015.
- He stated that NCDOT presented the following two options during the May 14 Transportation Staff meeting:
 - A. Replace \$10M with \$10M from another project(s) w/in CRTPO in Division Needs category
 - Likely result in delay for other project(s)
 - Project could be selected through STI or locally selected (i.e., DA funded)
 - B. Delay right-of-way for U-4714B to FY 2026 and CON to FY 2028
 - Project would be reprioritized in P6.0
- Mr. Wasserman concluded his presentation by stating that a decision from the CRTPO is needed on the selected option for U-4714B by June 30 to include changes in the final 2020-2029 STIP.

Todd Huntsinger explained that the \$10 million local contribution for the U-4714B project originated from a 2011 Town bond referendum, and \$500,000 of the total was issued to support the design on this project in 2015. He stated that the design for U-4714B did not begin until 2018 and the Town has been paying interest on the appropriated design funds since 2015. He explained that the remaining \$9.5 million of the bond will expire in 2021. Mr. Huntsinger cited the two-year project delay due to NCDOT funding shortfalls as shown in the draft 2020-2029 STIP as the primary reason for the Town’s decision to withdraw its local contribution.

Mr. McDonald encouraged Indian Trail to discuss options with NCDOT as soon as possible for the U-4714B project to remain on its current schedule.

Mr. Herron recognized the importance of the U-4714B project to the region, but he stated that delaying the project (option B) seemed to be the only realistic option.

Motion:

Travis Morgan made a motion to recommend that the Town of Indian Trail and NCDOT re-examine the local contribution for the U-4714B project to ensure that the project will not experience further delay. If a resolution cannot be identified by June 30, the TCC recommends to the CRTPO Board that it approve a TIP amendment to delay right-of-way acquisition for U-4714B to FY 2026 and Construction to FY-2028, which will result in the project being reprioritized in Prioritization 6.0. Ms. Martin seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

3.6 FY 2020 UPWP Amendment: I-77 Corridor Study Funding

Presenter: Agustin Rodriguez

Summary/Action Requested:

- Mr. Rodriguez stated that the requested action was to recommend to the CRTPO Board that it approve an amendment to the FY 2020 UPWP to reflect the award of FY 2020 State Planning & Research (SP&R) funding for the I-77 Corridor Study and to incorporate a more detailed description of the project.
- He explained that the FY 2020 UPWP must be amended to include this information before FHWA can approve the SPR funds.
- The funding breakdown for the FY 2020 SP&R award is \$721,000 federal share, a \$309,000 state share for a total amount of \$1,030,000.

Motion:

Mr. Coxe made a motion to Recommend to the CRTPO Board that it approve an amendment to the FY 2020 UPWP to reflect the award of FY 2020 State Planning & Research (SPR) funding for the I-77 Corridor Study and to incorporate a more detailed description of the project. Mr. Morgan seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

TCC INFORMATION REPORTS

4.1. FY 2020 UPWP Amendment: Additional Planning (PL) Funds

Presenter: Robert Cook

Summary:

Mr. Herron began the information report by explaining that the additional PL funds have been made available to the CRTPO outside of the routine paradigm, and this is the reason that he referred the request to the UPWP subcommittee during the May TCC meeting. He recognized that all member jurisdictions may not have had an opportunity to express their interests for the funds; therefore, recommending that all member jurisdictions will have another opportunity to submit an application to CRTPO staff for a request for these funds. The UPWP subcommittee will review all requests that have been received by CRTPO staff by the deadline of Monday, June 10. TCC members from the member jurisdictions would be required to attend the UPWP subcommittee to explain their request for the additional PL funding.

Mr. Coxe asked about the timing to obligate the additional PL funds. Loretta Barren explained that the additional PL funds need to be obligated by mid-September. She explained that the project descriptions must be amended into the UPWP and the request must then be made to NCDOT-Transportation Planning Division.

Mr. Coxe suggested that this item should be an action item during the July TCC meeting.

Robert Cook stated that he will e-mail the TCC regarding the procedures to submit a funding request for the additional PL funds following the meeting today.

4.2. Letter of Support for Repealing FAST Act Rescission

Presenter: Robert Cook

Summary:

Mr. Herron omitted this agenda item due to time constraints. This item will be discussed at a Transportation Staff meeting in June.

4.3. Supplemental Discretionary Funding Recommendations

Presenter: Wayne Herron

Summary:

Mr. Herron 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. Herron stated that a funding round was held for supplemental funds to address shortfalls for existing CRTPO discretionary-funded projects from March 15 until April 8.
- The Project Oversight Committee reviewed the applications and developed funding recommendations during the April 11, May 13, and May 23 meetings.
- CRTPO's unprogrammed STBG-DA balance, which totals \$57.8 million, is the proposed source for this allocation of funds. \$56.5 million is being recommended for allocation to address funding shortfalls with 20 existing projects.
- Mr. Herron concluded his presentation by stating that the TCC will make a recommendation to approve the STBG-DA funding allocations during the July meeting.

4.4. I-77 North Peak-Period Shoulder Lanes

Presenter: Van Argabright, NCDOT

Summary:

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 the purpose of this presentation is to provide list of projects being proposed for funding reallocation.
- He explained that 20 of the CRTPO's active STBG-DA and Bonus Allocation projects have been identified for the funding reallocation of approximately \$47 million. These projects would receive equal allocations of NCDOT-controlled CMAQ funds.
- He stated that the funding source modifications will not require any additional work for the project sponsors. He stated that NCDOT will distribute memorandums to the affected member jurisdictions that explain the funding reallocation once it has been approved by CRTPO.
- Mr. Argabright concluded his presentation by stating that NCDOT will request action of the TCC during the July meeting to recommend the approval of the funding reallocations and the addition of the PPSL project to the draft 2020-2029 STIP.

Mr. Coxe asked if the NCDOT-controlled CMAQ funds could be used for other projects within the CRTPO's planning area. Mr. Argabright explained that NCDOT has proposed the allocation of statewide CMAQ funding for the I-77 PPSL project, and if the funding reallocations do not move forward then the funding would be returned to NCDOT.

Mr. Coxe questioned the PPSL project concept in terms of solving a specific problem along the corridor. Mr. Argabright explained that the project team is currently conducting capacity analyses along the corridor to quantify the benefit of the PPSL concept in addition to the managed lanes.

OTHER REPORTS

5.1. NCDOT Report

Mr. Herron omitted this agenda item due to time constraints.

5.2. Bicycle and Pedestrian Work Group Report

Mr. Herron omitted this agenda item due to time constraints.

5.3. Upcoming Issues

Neil Burke made several announcements:

- The deadline for applications for NCDOT planning grant for bicycle and pedestrian plans is August 2. These applications require a resolution from the CRTPO. He encouraged TCC members to submit the appropriate information to staff by June 24.
- CRTPO will hold a discretionary project training session on June 24. TCC members and project managers are encouraged to attend. The focus of this training will be a review of the appropriate procedures for obligating the federal funds prior to September 30 to avoid rescission of the funds.
- Staff is conducting CRTPO 101 presentations to elected boards and environmental justice communities throughout the planning area. TCC members are encouraged to contact staff if a presentation is desired.

6. Adjourn: Mr. Herron determined that the agenda had been adequately completed and adjourned the meeting at 11:57 a.m.