

CRTPO TECHNICAL COORDINATING COMMITTEE
Summary Meeting Minutes
Charlotte-Mecklenburg Government Center
Room 267
August 1, 2019

Voting Members: *Vice-Chair* – Wayne Herron (Cornelius), Andy Grzyski – alt for Liz Babson (CDOT), Becky Chambers – alt for Dan Leaver (Charlotte E&PM), Garett Johnson – alt for Taiwo Jaiyeoba (Charlotte PD&D), Travis Johnson (Davidson), Bill Coxe (Huntersville), Todd Huntsinger – alt for Patrick Sadek (Indian Trail), Matthew Todd (Iredell County), Franklin Deese (Marshville), Dana Stoogenke (Matthews), David McDonald – (CATS), Nathan Farber – alt for Steve Frey (Mint Hill), Lisa Stiwinter (Monroe), Erika Martin (Mooresville), Scott Cole (NCDOT – Div. 10), Anil Panicker – alt for Mark Stafford (NCDOT – Div. 12), Andy Bailey – alt for Dominique Boyd (NCDOT-TPD), Travis Morgan (Pineville), Justin Russell – alt for Chris Easterly (Stallings), George Berger (Troutman), Bjorn Hansen (Union County), Kevin Parker – alt for Matt Hubert (Waxhaw), Robyn Byers (Wesley Chapel), Tim Gibbs – alt for Will Washam (Bicycle Focus Area Representative), Joyce Figueroa (Focus Area Representative – Greenway), Laura Thomason (Focus Area Representative – Public Health), Jennifer Stafford (Focus Area Representative– Pedestrian)

Staff: Curtis Bridges (CRTPO), Neil Burke (CRTPO), Robert Cook (CRTPO), Judy Dellert-O’Keef (CRTPO), Erin Kinne (CRTPO), Catherine Mahoney (CRTPO), Agustin Rodriquez (CRTPO), Theo Thomson (CRTPO), Anna Gallup (CDOT), Charlie Menefee (CDOT), Alex Riemondy (CDOT), Dave Hill (Huntersville), Abby Hall (Indian Trail), Rich Hoffman (Iredell County), Kate Cavazza (Meck. Co.), Sara McAllister (Monroe), Stuart Basham (NCDOT-Div. 10), Lee Ainsworth (NCDOT-Div. 10), John Cook (NCDOT-Div. 12), John Wagner (NCDOT – Div. 12), Warren Cooksey (NCTA)

Guests: Bill Thunberg (LNTC), Todd Steiss (WSP), Erin Musiol (RS&H), David Harris (HNTB), Richard Stogner (Jacobs Engineering Group)

Wayne Herron opened the meeting at 10:05 a.m. TCC members, staff, and guests introduced themselves.

1. Adoption of the Agenda

Mr. Herron stated that changes have been made to the July 11, 2019 minutes and requested that approval of the July 11, 2019 TCC minutes be removed from the agenda and be considered at the September 5, 2019 meeting. Mr. Herron then requested that a new item be added to the consent Agenda, for Pineville to request CRTPO’s endorsement of their NCDOT Bicycle & Pedestrian Grant application.

Motion:

Lisa Stiwinter made a motion to approve the amendments to the agenda. Bill Coxe seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

2. Consideration of Consent Agenda

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

- NCDOT Bicycle & Pedestrian Grant Application for the Town of Pineville

Action Requested: Recommend that the CRTPO Board approve the resolution of support for the Town of Pineville to pursue an NCDOT grant to complete a bicycle and/or pedestrian plan.

Motion:

Bill Coxe made a motion to approve the consent agenda. Bjorn Hansen seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

TCC BUSINESS ITEMS

3.2. FY 2019 UPWP Amendment: Additional Planning (PL) Funds

Presenter: Robert Cook

Summary/Action Requested:

Mr. Cook began the information report by stating the requested action is to recommend the CRTPO Board amend the FY 2019 UPWP to transfer funds between task codes. He stated the recommended transfer is summarized in the memo attached to the TCC agenda packet.

Mr. Cook stated the purpose of the amendment is to close out the fiscal year and reimburse five project sponsors taking on local transportation planning projects. Mr. Cook explained that overspending in two task codes, Data Planning & Support and State & Extra Regional Planning, was due to the unexpected time commitment for the 2019 NCAMPO conference. He also explained STBG-DA planning supplemental funds were needed to reimburse project sponsors due to insufficient Planning (PL) funds.

Motion:

David McDonald made a motion to recommend to the CRTPO Board amend the FY 2019 UPWP to transfer funds between task codes. Tim Gibbs seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

TCC INFORMATION REPORTS

4.1 2020-2029 Draft STIP Update

4.2 2022-2031 TIP Development (NCDOT Prioritization 6.0) Update

Presenter: Neil Burke

Summary:

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 the presentation by stating he would cover the two information reports together due to the relationship between the items and all dates covered in the presentation are subject to change based on actions by NCDOT and MPOs throughout the state.

Mr. Burke stated NCDOT will release a revised 2020-2029 Draft STIP on August 7th, and the NC Board of Transportation has delayed adoption of the 2020-2029 STIP from June to September 2019. CRTPO must adopt the 2020-2029 TIP, 2045 MTP Amendments, and make an air quality conformity determination prior to adopting the 2020-2029 STIP. However, to complete the required actions CRTPO must participate in FHWA's interagency consultation process which has not yet begun. The MPOs in the region are tentatively scheduled to open a public comment period in the Fall of 2019 and CRTPO will adopt the 2020-2029 STIP in February 2020.

Mr. Coxe asked if the adoption schedule for the 2020-2029 STIP will coincide with the closing of the next call for discretionary projects. Mr. Burke stated the goal will be to adopt the 2020-2029 TIP with discretionary funds included.

Mr. Burke highlighted the key P6.0 Work Group recommendations which included: a six-year commitment window for 2020-2029 TIP, a three-year STIP Development Cycle for P6.0, creation of Modernization and Mobility criteria for highway projects, addition of accessibility/connectivity and safety risk criteria for bicycle/pedestrian scoring, and a local input point flex policy.

Mr. Burke explained the criteria for projects to be included in a six-year commitment window. He highlighted reasons for extending the STIP Development Cycle and stated this decision will extend the P6.0 scoring process and schedule.

Mr. Coxe asked if NCDOT will resume a two-year STIP Development Cycle after this one three-year STIP Development Cycle. Mr. Burke answered it is expected to be a onetime three-year cycle.

Mr. Burke presented the new default criteria and weights for Modernization highway projects and reviewed the existing criteria for Mobility highway projects. He stated that this criteria was included in Prioritization 1.0 and 2.0 but removed after adoption of STI in 2013. It is being reincorporated to allow Rural Planning Organizations to address concerns not related to adding capacity, such as the completion of designated future interstate highway corridors.

He explained the Bicycle and Pedestrian scoring criteria was revised: a safety risk metric was added to the Safety criteria and Accessibility/Connectivity was added as new criteria. He summarized the new flex policy for Local Input Points which allows up to 50% of the base local input points to be flexed between Regional Impact and Division Needs.

Mr. Burke discussed the highway and non-highway project submittal selection process which is the first phase of the 2023-2032 TIP Development Process. CRTPO has 47 submittal slots for each transportation mode. The tentative P6.0 project list submittal schedule is to develop project submittal lists for all modes by the end of August and then request action from the TCC and CRTPO Board in September to open a 30-day public comment period and in November to approve the project submittal lists. Staff will submit the approved project lists to the NCDOT SPOT by December 22nd. The project submittal schedule is subject to change. The P6.0 Workgroup meets next week to discuss changes to the project submittal window.

Dana Stoogenke asked how many funds are available by STI tier for the 2023-2032 TIP development cycle. Mr. Burke was unable to provide a dollar amount because NCDOT will not provide this data until after the P6.0 scores have been released.

Bjorn Hansen asked for additional details about the rail projects. Mr. Burke directed him to the project submittal lists attached to the TCC agenda. Mr. Burke stated the majority of rail projects are from the "holding tank" but the draft list does include several new rail projects.

Mr. Coxe expressed concern that the TCC will not see the project lists prior to the September request for action. He recognized NCDOT's tight timeline but requested the committee be given an opportunity to review the lists prior to public comment. Mr. Burke stated he will advocate for an

extended project submittal window at Monday's P6.0 Workgroup Meeting which would allow the TCC to review project lists prior to public comment.

Mr. Hansen asked if the three-year timeframe was to allow for a better cost estimation process. Mr. Burke stated cost estimation occurred at the beginning of the P6.0 process prior to the local point assignments. Scott Cole added that NCDOT needs a defined project list before completing the express design and cost estimation process. Mr. Hansen clarified that the additional time would then be used to extend the project submittal window at the beginning of the P6.0 process.

4.3 Fall 2019 Call for Projects

Presenter: Erin Kinne

Summary:

Ms. Kinne began her presentation by stating the call for projects will open August 19 and close October 31. An educational webinar to review the application will be held in September. Scoring recommendations will be developed by the end of 2019 and presented to the TCC and CRTPO Board early in 2020. She explained that CRTPO's available funds total \$55 million.

Ms. Kinne explained several funding sources make up the available \$55 million. \$7.5 million in TAP-DA funds will be available to Bicycle & Pedestrian projects. The \$47 million in STBG-DA funds are flexible and can be used by multiple modes. \$500,000 in STBG-DA will be used for local planning projects, also known as UPWP PL projects. CMAQ is not included in the available funds because staff has not received notification about the availability or applicability of FY2020 CMAQ funds. Ms. Kinne will provide updates about CMAQ funding as available.

The Discretionary Funding Policy Guide is available on the CRTPO website. Other relevant information for the call for projects will be posted on the Discretionary Projects page moving forward.

Ms. Kinne explained the Project Oversight Committee (POC) developed funding targets by mode and these targets are documented in the Discretionary Funding Policy Guide. 80% of funding will be targeted for roadway projects, 20% for bicycle/pedestrian and transit projects, and less than 1% for local planning. Ms. Kinne reported the POC would like to clarify the project eligibility criteria which pertains to the maximum amount of funding that can be requested per application. The current text suggests a jurisdiction cannot request more than 25% of available funds. The criteria for maximum funding request, however, pertains to each application. A request to approve this text change will be brought to the TCC and CRTPO Board in September.

Ms. Kinne stated the contingency percentages for different phased projects are outlined in the budget development guidance section of the Discretionary Funding policy. Contingencies are required for new projects and for shortfall requests for capital projects. It does not apply to local planning projects.

Guidance for local planning projects can be found in the Resource Guide, UPWP PL Funded Projects which is also available on the CRTPO website. The timing to submit both types of projects are now in sync but the requirements for capital projects and local planning projects are different as outline in the respective policy guides.

Mr. Coxe commented that the POC discussed the 20% target for bicycle/pedestrian and transit projects at their last meeting. The POC acknowledged DA funds are the most flexible funds available and can be used for any mode. The committee also recognized that the \$56 million assigned in the last call for projects only funded two non-highway projects. The POC will be cognizant of assigning funds to Fall Call projects but agree the funding targets by mode are guidance and not rules.

Mr. Herron added that he appreciates the POC's commitment to funding existing projects which helps ensure legacy projects are realized as well as the committee's emphasis on bicycle & pedestrian projects. He stated all modes of transportation are important to the surrounding jurisdictions and larger region. All modes contribute to the region's quality of life and he believes the POC does a good job discussing and evaluating all modal projects.

4.4 Discretionary Projects & Federal Funds Rescission

Presenter: Erin Kinne

Summary:

Ms. Kinne started the presentation stating that this a follow-up to her presentation on the federal rescission at last month's TCC meeting. She reiterated the FHWA will rescind unobligated TAP-DA and CMAQ funds in FY 2020.

TAP-DA and CMAQ projects must authorize funds by September 30, 2019 to avoid rescission. Authorization occurs in phases when certain project milestones have been achieved and the request to use federal funds has been approved by the FHWA. The more funds authorized before the deadline means less funds will be lost.

Ms. Kinne stated the first week of September is considered the effective deadline to submit a request for authorization to NCDOT in order to achieve funding authorization from FHWA by the September 30th deadline. STBG-DA funds are not at risk for rescission. Bonus Allocation funds are at risk and must be authorized by June 30, 2020.

Ms. Kinne stated the status of unauthorized funds has not significantly changed since the last TCC meeting. \$650,000 of CMAQ funds have been authorized since then. In addition, \$600,000 of CMAQ funds will be reallocated in order to be authorized.

OTHER REPORTS

Vice Chair Wayne Herron recognized Scott Cole for over 30 years of service with NCDOT. This is Scott's last TCC meeting as a TCC member, as he will be retiring at the end of August. Scott has been a pleasure to work with and instrumental in his service to the CRTPO Board, TCC and all the jurisdictions.

Mr. Cole commented that he appreciated the gratitude and enjoyed working with the TCC members throughout his years of service.

5.1. NCDOT Report

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

- **Old Mountain Road** – Meeting held with Iredell County representatives to discuss an express design for widening the road, more refined cost estimates, and preferred cross section.

- **I-40/I-77 Interchange** – Work has started with lane shifts underway. It's a major project that involves construction of new bridges at the interchange and a collector distributor interchange configuration along I-40 between US 21 and I-77. A public meeting is scheduled from 4-7 pm on August 5th at the Statesville Agricultural Center.

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

- **US 74 Reduced Conflict Intersection Project in Indian Trail (W-5520)** – Work is complete on three of the four major intersections on US 74 in Indian Trail. Paving work is underway on the last intersection at US 74 & Indian Trail Road. Signals have been installed and they're waiting on the contractor to connect the power to the signals.
- **South Trade Street Widening in Matthews (U-5804B)** – The contractor is currently working on a culvert extension and sewer line installation necessary to complete the widening of the road. The project is expected to be complete in November 2019.
- **NC 16/Mount Holly-Huntersville Road Intersection (U-6084)** – Work continues on the Continuous Flow Intersection (CFI) at the NC16/Mount Holly-Huntersville Road intersection. This project is behind schedule due to weather and other delays. Completion is expected early Fall.
- **NC 218/Mill Grove Road Roundabout** – Construction is underway on a new roundabout at the intersection of NC 218 and Mill Grove Road in Fairview. Construction is expected to be complete in late August.
- **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 in south Charlotte. NCDOT is currently working with the design team to prepare construction plans. Construction is expected to begin in August and be completed in 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 work 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.
- **NC 160 Widening (U-5766)** – NCDOT will host two public meetings for the widening of NC 160 from I-485 to South Carolina state line. First meeting is scheduled from 4-7 pm on August 19th at Kennedy Middle School, 4000 Gallant Lane. The local officials meeting will be held from 3-3:30 pm. The second meeting is scheduled from 4-7pm on August 21st at Southwest Middle School, 13624 Steele Creek Road. There will not be a local officials meeting at this location.
- **P6.0 Update** – NCDOT is preparing to begin another cycle of STI to prioritize and fund projects. The new window to submit projects will still open on October 7th. The P6 Workgroup will revisit the schedule since NCDOT is moving to a onetime 3-year STIP cycle. There will be more information to come on this as we move forward.

Ms. Stoogenke asked about public meetings scheduled for US 74 Express Lanes. Mr. Cole stated the meetings have been delayed by the NCDOT Communications office because they want to do a broader meeting for multiple projects which will likely be scheduled in September.

5.2. Comprehensive Transportation Plan Amendment Update

Curtis Bridges stated there was a recent call for Comprehensive Transportation Plan (CTP) amendments that have not gone through a separate engagement process or might not otherwise go through a public engagement process. CRTPO will request the TCC and Board open a public comment period for all amendments in October.

Andy Bailey added that the CTP amendments already made in 2019 will be reviewed and by the NCDOT Board of Transportation in January 2020. The Board will also be asked to approve the amendments at that time.

Mr. Bailey also announced that he recently learned the state law which requires board meetings be announced to the public and a quorum (defined as 50+1) be reached to start the meeting also requires a meeting to end if one person from the quorum leaves the meeting. Information may not be shared if there is not a quorum. A memo summarizing the requirement will be sent out to the RPOs and MPOs soon.

Mr. Hansen asked for clarification about the Board of Transportation's action on the CTP amendments. Mr. Bailey stated any amendments approved by the CRTPO Board prior to November could be included in the January 2020 request for action by the Board of Transportation. Amendments submitted after November 2019 will be deferred for action until the January 2021.

5.3. Bicycle and Pedestrian Work Group Report

Mr. Bridges stated that the Bicycle and Pedestrian Work Group will meet this afternoon and the process to recommend bicycle and pedestrian project submittals for NCDOT Prioritization 6.0 will be discussed.

5.4. Upcoming Issues

Agustin Rodriguez stated he will send out information about the FY2020 Traffic Count program next week.

Mr. Burke stated that an education session for CRTPO Board and TCC members regarding the 2016 repeal of the NC Map Act will be held Wednesday, August 21st prior to the CRTPO Board meeting.

6. Adjourn: Mr. Herron determined that the agenda had been adequately completed and adjourned the meeting at 11:08 a.m.