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charlotte regional **transportation** planning organization

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October 21, 2015
November 18, 2015

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2016-2025 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (TIP)

During the August 19 meeting, CRTPO voted to approve the 2016-2025 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), the associated 2040 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) amendments, and air quality conformity determination that are associated with this process.



The TIP contains over \$1 Billion in transportation projects that will benefit the Charlotte region over the next ten years. Projects in the TIP were either identified through the Strategic Transportation Investments (Prioritization 3.0) process or were transition projects from the previous 2012-2018 TIP.

CRTPO's Financial Plan for the 2016-2025 TIP concluded that funding sources and revenue estimates cover the cost of projects in 2016 through 2019. The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) recognizes the first four years (2016-2019) of CRTPO's TIP. In addition, projected revenues for transit projects and programs will cover expenditures. CRTPO's TIP financial plan can be viewed [HERE](#).

Over 700 comments were received during the 30-day public comment period, with the majority of those comments expressing opposition to the I-77 Express Lanes project, which was a transition project from the 2012-2018 TIP. A public comment summary log can be viewed [HERE](#).

The Air Quality Conformity Determination Report can be viewed [HERE](#) and certifies that the projects proposed within the TIP and 2040 MTP are within the prescribed limits for air quality within the Charlotte region. FHWA requires that the TIP demonstrate conformity within the prescribed limits for air quality mobile emissions.

Additional information about the 2016-2025 TIP can be found [HERE](#). CRTPO's involvement in NCDOT Prioritization 4.0 will develop the next (2018-2027) TIP to be released for comment in late 2016.

TAP TRANSPORTATION ALTERNATIVES PROGRAM METHODOLOGY

The CRTPO Policy Board adopted a Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) Methodology for the planning area on August 19, 2015. An initial call-for-projects will be issued on Friday, September 25th. Please click [HERE](#) to visit CRTPO's TAP web page for information and resources related to the TAP program.

Federal legislation under the Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (MAP-21) created the Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) as a funding source for alternative transportation projects, including projects previously eligible for Transportation Enhancement and Safe Routes to Schools Funding. As advised by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), in order to allocate available TAP funds, each MPO must adopt a project ranking methodology, specific to TAP, which scores projects based on targeted project criteria. This methodology is to be determined by the individual MPO, based on the MPO's funding and planning priorities, and must be reviewed by FHWA.

In addition, a Criteria Scoring Guide was created to guide TCC members through the process of scoring potential projects. The TAP Criteria Scoring Guide can be viewed [HERE](#).

WORK GROUP



Source: Regional Preferred Growth meeting

CRTPO recognized the opportunity to apply the CONNECT resources in the forthcoming development of their 2045 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP), a 20-year look at the region's transportation needs that must be updated every four years. In January 2015 CRTPO and Charlotte Mecklenburg Planning Department staffs convened a broad-based workgroup to identify which CONNECT resources were most applicable to the issue of transportation planning, specifically within the context of developing the 2045 MTP. This work group was comprised of those who had participated in the CONNECT process, who currently sit on CRTPO's Technical Coordinating Committee, who had participated in the development of the 2040 MTP, or who staffed key transportation planning agencies in the region.

The outcome of the work group is a CONNECT/MTP Linkage Report, which evaluates the applicability of the CONNECT tools for the 2045 MTP process. The CONNECT/MTP Linkage Report can be viewed [HERE](#) and the CONNECT tool box can be viewed [HERE](#). The 2045 MTP Steering Committee will continue the process of reviewing the results of the CONNECT/MTP Linkage Report to determine the work products that can be used in the development of the 2045 MTP, slated to begin later this fall.

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IMPLEMENTATION TOOLS

The top seven most-frequently selected CONNECT Implementation Tools (those selected by a majority of responding work group members) were identified for further study, and were:

- Transportation Corridor Preservation
- Walking and Biking Audits and Planning
- Transportation Demand Management (TDM)
- Freight Transportation Planning
- Complete Streets
- Greenways and Trails Planning
- Land Use Modeling

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IDENTIFIED ISSUES

In addition, the work group identified four additional CONNECT-related issues that they felt should be evaluated in consideration of the planning process for the 2045 MTP:

- Use of the CONNECT Preferred Growth Scenario
- Creative/Innovative Financing
- Public Transit
- Municipal Transportation Issues

PRIORITIZATION 4.0 UPDATE

PROJECT SUBMITTAL PHASE

CRTPO's involvement in the P4.0 process began this summer. During the months of July and August, CRTPO member jurisdictions and staff were tasked with completing the following items:

- 45 highway and 35 non-highway projects were proposed for removal from the NCDOT database prior to P4.0 based upon a set of criteria defined by the P4.0 Work Group. Some of these projects were added back to the NCDOT database using one of CRTPO's 20 project submittal windows for P4.0.
- Two highway projects in the City of Monroe were identified for removal. Removal of these projects will result two additional project submittals for CRTPO during P4.0.
- Seven current project modifications were identified by CRTPO member jurisdictions.

Resident review of the P4.0 proposed project submittals was solicited via a press release issued on September 4. Project lists and maps can be viewed on CRTPO's Prioritization webpage by clicking [HERE](#).

CRTPO will consider endorsing its lists of new highway, bicycle and pedestrian, public transit, rail, and aviation projects for submittal to NCDOT for P4.0 scoring at the October 21 meeting.

PRIORITIZATION 4.0 UPDATE continued

LOCAL CONTRIBUTION and PROJECT SCORING

Beginning in November and continuing until March of 2016, NCDOT will review and calculate quantitative scores for all projects throughout North Carolina.

Modifications have been made to the local contribution calculation by the P4.0 Work Group to offer municipalities a greater incentive to contribute to the cost of high priority projects. Local contributions received in P4.0 should result in a greater increase to the project score because non-NCDOT funds will be accounted for in two portions of the equation. Another nuance to the local contribution process is that there will be three opportunities to submit local contributions: during the project submittal in October, during the Regional Impact local input points assignment in April of 2016, or during the Division Needs local input points assignment window in August of 2016. By applying a local contribution later in the P4.0 process, communities can review the Draft P4.0 project scores and determine if the local contribution would provide enough leverage in the final score to get the project programmed in the next Draft TIP.

NC Moving Forward with the

MONROE EXPRESSWAY CONSTRUCTION

NCDOT Press Release on Sep 13, 2015

A United States District Court judge has ruled in favor of the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) and against the environmental groups seeking to stop construction of the Monroe Expressway. The judge's decision allows the state to continue delivering the project, which will build a 20-mile expressway from U.S. 74 near I-485 in Mecklenburg County to U.S. 74 between the towns of Wingate and Marshville in Union County. This project is part of Governor Pat McCrory's 25-year vision to connect small towns to larger economic centers.

The Monroe Expressway will improve capacity by providing high-speed regional travel, while maintaining access to properties along existing U.S. 74. Construction on the Monroe Expressway started in late May, with completion scheduled for late 2018. The NCDOT Project Website for the Monroe Expressway can be viewed [HERE](#).

CRTPO members

- | | |
|---------------------------------|---------------|
| Charlotte | Mint Hill |
| Cornelius | Monroe |
| Davidson | Mooresville |
| Fairview | NCDOT |
| Huntersville | Pineville |
| Indian Trail | Stallings |
| Iredell County | Statesville |
| Marshville | Troutman |
| Marvin | Union County |
| Matthews | Waxhaw |
| Mecklenburg County | Weddington |
| Metropolitan Transit Commission | Wesley Chapel |
| Mineral Springs | Wingate |

Website

Please visit our website for more information
www.crtpo.org

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If you know anyone who would like to be added to our mailing list, please e-mail us
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