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charlotte regional **transportation** planning organization

NEWSLETTER

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upcoming

CRTPO meetings

April 20, 2016

May 18, 2016

June 15, 2016

CRTPO Leadership

Chairman

Mayor James Taylor
Town of Matthews

Vice-Chairman

Mayor Pro-Tem Michael Johnson
City of Statesville

TCC Chairman

Danny Pleasant
City of Charlotte
Department of Transportation

TCC Vice-Chairman

Bill Coxe
Town of Huntersville

www.crtpo.org

NEW MPO LEADERSHIP

MAYOR JAMES TAYLOR & MAYOR PRO-TEM MICHAEL JOHNSON

At the January 20 MPO meeting, Matthews Mayor Jim Taylor (left) was elected MPO Chairman and Statesville Mayor Pro-Tem Michael Johnson (right) was elected Vice-Chair. Mayor Taylor has served on the MPO board since 2010, and Mayor Pro-Tem Johnson has served since the City of Statesville's inclusion within CRTPO in 2013. Prior to 2013, Mayor Pro-Tem Johnson served as a delegate for the Lake Norman Rural Planning Organization for many years.



NCDOT PRIORITIZATION 4.0 UPDATE

Prioritization is NCDOT's decision making tool for developing the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), which is a listing of projects to be delivered within NCDOT's upcoming ten-year work program. The current round is known as Prioritization 4.0 (or P4.0), and will develop the 2018-2027 TIP. CRTPO is involved in the nomination of projects for scoring by NCDOT, and the application of local input points based upon its methodology.

A joint policy board/Technical Coordinating Committee Workshop was held on P4.0 on Thursday, February 11. The purpose of this workshop was to familiarize the policy board and TCC with NCDOT's project prioritization process, and the method by which the CRTPO identifies its priorities in the P4.0 process through the application of points to projects.

CRTPO's Local Input Points Methodology for P4.0 can be viewed [here](#).

A nuance to P4.0 is the separation of the local input points allocation process for Regional Impact projects occurring in April through May, and Division Needs projects in August through September.

NCDOT will release the quantitative scores and draft list of programmed Statewide Mobility projects in early April. Members of the TCC will begin a process to review the P4.0 scores, and use the methodology to develop a draft local input points assignment project list for Regional Impact projects on the US and NC route system. CRTPO will hold a public comment period and a public meeting on the draft list of projects proposed for Regional Impact local input points assignment in April. All MPOs and NCDOT Divisions must assign their Regional Impact points to projects by the end of May. A public comment period and public meeting will be held in August regarding CRTPO's draft assignment of Division Needs points to projects. The CRTPO P4.0 webpage will be updated once NCDOT releases the scores and project lists. The webpage can be accessed [here](#).

TROUTMAN US 21 / NC 115 CORRIDOR PLANNING STUDY

The Town of Troutman was awarded CRTPO planning funds to study the six-mile section of the US 21/NC 115 Corridor within the Town's planning area. Kimley-Horn is working with the Town to develop a comprehensive, long term, multi-modal strategy for the corridor. Phase one of this study included data collection and analysis. The outcome of the analysis revealed that this corridor carries between 8,000 to 14,000 vehicles per day, commercial trucks account for 19% of daily traffic volumes due to regional connectivity to I-40 and I-77, and consistent traffic volumes use this corridor throughout the entire day. It also included public engagement through multiple stakeholder interviews and an interactive public input meeting

to provide direction on various alternatives for the corridor.

The second phase of this study includes numerous public engagement opportunities with the goal of determining a preferred functional roadway design, with accommodations for multi-modal uses. NCDOT has retained a consultant to complete a similar study along the corridor. The Town, CRTPO, and NCDOT are striving to coordinate its planning efforts to ensure public resources are used wisely and that the community's vision is reflected in planning and construction documents.



FY 2017 UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM APPROVAL

The CRTPO policy board adopted the FY 2017 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) at its March 20 meeting. The UPWP describes the planning activities that are anticipated for the coming fiscal year and documents the allocation of state and federal funds associated with each planning activity. The most significant activities anticipated for the coming fiscal year include work on the 2045 Metropolitan Transportation Plan, updating the Congestion Management Process and readying the CRTPO for the implementation of performance based planning requirements.

The FY 2017 UPWP continued a long CRTPO tradition of allocating some of its funding to local transportation planning initiatives. Next year,

three towns will use CRTPO funds to undertake five projects that will provide long-term benefits to their communities as well as the larger CRTPO region. The projects are:

- Cornelius - Old Statesville Road Corridor Study
- Indian Trail - Faith Church Road Alignment Study
- Indian Trail - Wesley Chapel-Stouts Road Corridor Study
- Mooresville - NC 801 Realignment Study
- Mooresville - US 21/NC 115 Intersection Alternatives Analysis

Local projects in Charlotte and Huntersville that were started in the current fiscal year were approved for funding extensions into FY 2017.

CRTPO BICYCLE SUITABILITY MAP



TRANSPORTATION ALTERNATIVES PROGRAM

PROJECTS HAVE
BEEN APPROVED

The Charlotte Department of Transportation was awarded CRTPO planning funds to create a Bicycle Suitability Map for the CRTPO Planning Area. The previous version of the Bicycle Suitability Map was completed solely for Mecklenburg County and western Union County in 1998. The mapping effort contains detailed analysis and mapping of appropriate bicycling routes and facilities, and has been coupled with public engagement received from meetings in the three CRTPO counties as well as input received from an interactive online map. Public open houses were held in Iredell, Mecklenburg, and Union Counties during the first week of March to receive resident feedback on the draft maps. The update to the Bicycle Suitability Map will be complete by June 2016.

The MPO approved the final Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) project list during its March 16 meeting. CRTPO's Bicycle and Pedestrian Work Group used the recently-approved TAP methodology to score and rank projects submitted to the MPO for TAP funding. Sixteen submittals were received from CRTPO member jurisdictions, and the following four projects were recommended for the current cycle of TAP funding:

- McDowell Creek Greenway in Cornelius
- Greenway Connector under US 21 in Statesville
- Downtown Bicycle and Pedestrian Facility Enhancements in Waxhaw
- Charlotte B-Cycle Expansion



The Bicycle and Pedestrian Work Group will begin prioritization efforts for the next round of TAP funding beginning in the fall of 2016.

2045 METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION PLAN

Work has begun on an update to the 2040 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP). The MTP defines the policies, programs and projects to be implemented in the CRTPO's planning area over a 20-year period, and is updated every four years to ensure that it accurately reflects the region's transportation priorities. The current MTP was adopted in April, 2014, and a staffed Steering Committee has completed several efforts to ensure the successful completion of the updated plan by March, 2018, including:

- the establishment of an Advisory Committee to guide the plan's preparation
- a review of the CONNECT Our Future initiative to determine which of its outcomes can be incorporated into the updated MTP
- the selection of two consulting firms to assist CRTPO staff

Public engagement will begin later this year and will build upon the successful outreach efforts of the 2040 MTP.

GRANTS TO REPLACE AGING DIESEL ENGINES PROGRAM

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Mecklenburg County's Grants to Replace Aging Diesel Engines (GRADE) program is designed to reduce oxides of nitrogen (NOx), an ozone forming air pollutant, by providing businesses and organizations funding incentives to replace or repower heavy-duty non-road equipment with newer, cleaner, less polluting engines. Mecklenburg County's Air Quality Division (MCAQ) recently received a \$500,000 Diesel Emission Reduction Act grant from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to continue the program. Through GRADE, which will be accepting applications this summer, MCAQ will award sub-grants of up to 50% of the cost to replace older diesel-powered freight vehicles and equipment with newer cleaner-operating equipment. Diesel vehicles and equipment operating at goods movement facilities such as terminals, airports, and distribution centers within the Charlotte region may be eligible for funding. More project eligibility information can be found [here](#) or please contact Mecklenburg County Air Quality at 704-336-5430.

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

Contacts

(704) 336-2205

If you know anyone who would like to be added to our mailing list, please e-mail us
info@crtpo.org

NEXT NEWSLETTER APRIL - JUNE 2016