

CRTPO TECHNICAL COORDINATING COMMITTEE
Summary Meeting Minutes
January 7, 2021

Voting Members: *Chair* – Liz Babson (CDOT), *Vice-Chair* – Bjorn Hansen (Union County), Dan Leaver (Charlotte General Services), Trent Sellers – alt for Mark Wiebke (CLT Airport), Taiwo Jaiyeoba (Charlotte Planning, Design & Development), Aaron Tucker (Cornelius), Andrew Ventresca (Davidson), Dave Hill (Huntersville), Todd Huntsinger (Indian Trail), Richard Hoffman – alt for Matthew Todd (Iredell County), Franklin Deese (Marshville), Rohit Ammanamanchi (Marvin), Dana Stoogenke (Matthews), Megan Green (Meck. Co. – LUESA Air Quality), David McDonald (Metropolitan Transit Commission), Lisa Stiwinter (Monroe), Erika Martin (Mooresville), Jeff Littlefield – alt for Brett Canipe (NCDOT – Div. 10), Anil Panicker – alt for Mark Stafford (NCDOT – Div. 12), Pam DiGiovanni (NCDOT-Integrated Mobility Division), Dominique Boyd (NCDOT-TPD), Travis Morgan (Pineville), Chris Easterly (Stallings), Sherry Ashley – alt for Steve Bridges (Statesville), Matt Hubert (Waxhaw), Lisa Thompson (Weddington), Vagn Hansen (Wesley Chapel), Will Washam (Focus Area Representative – Bicycle), Gwen Cook (Focus Area Representative – Greenway), Kate Cavazza (Focus Area Representative – Public Health), David Harrison (Focus Area Representative – Pedestrian)

Staff: Curtis Bridges (CRTPO), Neil Burke (CRTPO), Robert Cook (CRTPO), Judy Dellert-O’Keef (CRTPO), Jerrel Leonard (CRTPO), Catherine Mahoney (CRTPO), Agustin Rodriguez (CRTPO), Jennifer Stafford (CRTPO), Theo Thomson (CRTPO), Loretta Barren (FHWA), Anna Gallup (CDOT), Andy Grzyski (CDOT), Mohamed Kaddoumi (CDOT), Alex Riemondy (CDOT), Sarah McAllister (Monroe), CJ O’Neill (Matthews), Stuart Basham (NCDOT – Div. 10), Wendy Taylor (NCDOT – Div. 10), Travis Preslar (NCDOT – Div. 10), Warren Cooksey (NCTA), Tracy Houk (Huntersville)

Guests: Hisham Abdelaziz (CDM Smith), Scott Cole (RS&H), Michael Johnson Nick Landa (RS&H), Dr. Mike Miltich (Cornelius), Michelle Podeszwa (HDR), Radha Swayampakala (RS&H), Mark Taylor (WSOC), Bill Thunberg (LNTC), Kevin Walsh (HDR)

Liz Babson opened the virtual meeting at 10:00 a.m. Catherine Mahoney reviewed the virtual meeting guidelines and conducted a roll call to document attendance. Ms. Mahoney determined that a quorum was achieved.

2. Adoption of the Agenda

Ms. Babson asked if changes to the agenda were necessary. Hearing none, she asked for a motion to approve today’s agenda.

Motion:

David McDonald made a motion to approve today’s agenda. Lisa Stiwinter seconded the motion. A roll call vote was conducted, and the motion passed unanimously.

3. Consideration of Consent Agenda

Ms. Babson stated that the consent agenda for the January meeting contained the following item:

- Approval of the December 3, 2020 TCC Minutes

Motion:

Andrew Ventresca made a motion to approve the consent agenda. Erika Martin seconded the motion. A roll call vote was conducted, and the motion passed unanimously.

TCC BUSINESS ITEMS

4.1 Election of Officers

Presenter: Liz Babson

Summary:

Ms. Babson stated that it is the responsibility of the TCC to annually elect new officers during the first meeting of the year. She then opened the nominations for Chair and Vice-Chair of the TCC.

Chair Nominations

Mr. McDonald nominated Liz Babson for Chair of the TCC for 2021. No other nominations were put forth.

Mr. McDonald made a motion to close the nominations; Ms. Ashley seconded the motion.

Ms. Liz Babson was elected Chair of the TCC for 2021 by acclamation.

Vice-Chair Nominations

Mr. McDonald nominated Andrew Ventresca for Vice-Chair of the TCC for 2021. No other nominations were put forth.

Mr. McDonald made a motion to close the nominations; Ms. Ashley seconded the motion.

Mr. Andrew Ventresca was elected Vice-Chair of the TCC for 2021 by acclamation.

Ms. Babson recognized Mr. Hansen for his service as TCC Vice-Chair and Project Oversight Committee Chair and thanked him for his leadership.

4.2 Election of Focus Area Representatives

Presenter: Catherine Mahoney

Summary:

Ms. Mahoney stated that the Bicycle and Pedestrian Work Group (BPWG) discussed nomination of Focus Area Representatives at the December 3 meeting. The group recommend the re-appointment of the focus area representatives and alternates for 2021 with replacements to the bicycle and pedestrian representative memberships. TCC members were also permitted to submit nominations via email from December 17 through January 4.

The following delegates and alternates were recommended by the BPWG and member jurisdictions:

Focus Area	Delegate	Alternate	Agency
Bicycle	Alex Riemondy	Will Washam	CDOT
Greenway	Gwen Cook	Joyce Figueroa	Mecklenburg County
Pedestrian	Tracy Houk	Erin Pratt	Huntersville Parks & Rec. CDOT
Public Health	Kate Cavazza	Laura Thomason	Mecklenburg County

Motion:

Ms. Martin made a motion to elect the Bicycle, Greenway, Pedestrian and Public Health Focus Area Delegates and Alternates for 2021. Mr. McDonald seconded the motion. Upon being put to a vote, the motion passed unanimously.

TCC INFORMATION REPORTS

5.1 Transit Education Initiative Task Force Update

Presenter: Michael Johnson, Task Force Chair & Jerrell Leonard

Summary:

Mr. Johnson and Mr. Leonard 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. Johnson began the presentation by explaining the purpose of convening the Transit Education Initiative Task Force (TEI) in 2020. Mr. Leonard explained the purpose of the task force is to provide a common understanding of the parameters for Federal Transit Administration (FTA) funding within the CRTPO and determine the feasibility of recommending a modification of the CRTPO formula for allocation of FTA 5307 funding to eligible CRTPO recipients.

Mr. Johnson explained the task force’s data collection process began with a series of stakeholder interviews. Mr. Leonard provided a summary of the feedback received in the interviews and explained the interview summaries provided direction for the subsequent task force meetings which covered the following topics:

- Overview of transit providers within CRTPO;
- Review of federal, state, local rules and regulations for transit funding;
- Detailed review of the CRTPO FTA 5307 formula.

Mr. Leonard explained the FTA 5307 funds are allocated for transit capital expenses and operating assistance within the urbanized area as well as for transit planning initiatives. He provided examples of eligible activities for FTA 5307 funding and reviewed local match requirements. Mr. Johnson stated CRTPO approved the current formula in 2014 and the key factors that influenced its development were:

- Utilize readily available data;
- Accommodate potential CRTPO planning area expansion as a result of the 2020 Census;
- Accommodate new transit agencies without amendment;
- Recognize operating and capital needs; and
- Promote transit growth and improved performance.

He stated the current allocation formula is based on expenses and service: equal shares are based on annual vehicle revenue miles, fleet size, and ridership. He then displayed the 2020 CRTPO 5307 allocations and to transit agencies within the CRTPO.

Mr. Leonard concluded his presentation by explaining that the TEI will meet in February to review peer MPO FTA 5307 funding distribution methodologies and develop a recommendation for modifications to the CRTPO's FTA 5307 funding formula if the task force has determined that modifications are warranted.

5.2 Charlotte Moves Task Force

Presenter: Taiwo Jaiyeoba

Summary:

Mr. Jaiyeoba 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. Jaiyeoba stated that the purpose of his presentation is to provide a summary of the Charlotte Moves Task Force recommendations which were presented to Charlotte City Council on December 14, 2020. While the task force's initial charge was to identify mobility solutions within the City of Charlotte, he explained that the multimodal facet of the effort evaluated the adopted transit and greenway networks throughout Mecklenburg County. Mr. Jaiyeoba added that the Mecklenburg County Board of Commissioners has expressed support for a multimodal transportation network throughout the county. Therefore, the task force's recommendations are aimed at creating a transformational mobility network throughout Mecklenburg County.

Mr. Jaiyeoba stated the task force ultimately recommends a "One Cent for Mobility" countywide referendum for Fall 2021 in order to:

- Create a \$4-6 billion mobility investment program (TMN) to achieve a "safe and equitable" network;
- Align the TMN with the goals and strategies of the 2040 Comprehensive Plan and priorities of affordable housing and upward mobility;
- Fund the TMN with a clear and straightforward "single source" funding strategy that will be detailed in a financing plan.

He explained that the task force's funding strategy contains two major components. The first component is the one cent referendum, which would generate \$4-6 billion dollars in local funds. The second component of the funding strategy would require a partnership with the state and federal government to match local funds, which would generate a TMN of approximately \$8-12 billion. The TMN program would build out the recommended network in 10 years and finance the debt over 30 years.

Mr. Jaiyeoba stated the current light rail, streetcar, and bus services have been funded by a half cent sales tax. He explained Charlotte's sale tax is significantly less than comparable cities throughout the nation and lower than the ten largest cities within North Carolina. Despite the city's low sales tax, Charlotte has constructed a more robust and connected transit system than peer cities. As such, the city has proven itself to be a good steward of public dollars.

Mr. Jaiyeoba provided an overview of next steps for the task force's recommendations:

- Obtain state legislative approval for a one cent referendum in November 2021;
- Refine the transformational network of multi-modal projects;
- Refine the TMN funding strategy;
- Coordinate with countywide and regional planning efforts.

5.3 2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan

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 with an overview of the project schedule and ongoing activities. Efforts scheduled throughout 2021, such as project prioritization and air quality conformity, are on track and the plan is scheduled to be adopted by the Board in March 2022.

He provided a summary of public comments received regarding the update to the goals and objectives for the 2050 MTP. Approximately ninety percent of the feedback received agrees that the proposed objectives support the goals. Action will be requested for the TCC to recommend that the Board adopt the updates to the goals and objectives in February.

Mr. Burke explained the two-tier roadway ranking criteria for the 2050 MTP and introduced two potential changes to the criteria. The Steering Committee and Advisory Committee recommended retaining the Environmental Justice (EJ) criteria in tier two which penalizes projects that impact private property in census-defined EJ communities. The Steering and Advisory Committees supported the addition of a new criteria, Equitable Access, would improve a roadway project's score when access to census-defined EJ communities was improved. Mr. Burke explained the addition of the new criteria requires a revision of point assignment to each criterion in tier two, but the revised point assignment retains the same weight per criteria. The roadway ranking criteria will be presented to the CRTPO Board in January. Action will be requested for the TCC to recommend that the Board adopt the revised roadway ranking criteria in February.

He provided an overview of the roadway candidate project submission process for the 2050 MTP. A project submittal workshop will be held for TCC members on January 19, and the project window will open on January 25 and will close on February 12.

5.4 Draft FY 2022 Unified Planning Work Program

Presenter: Robert Cook

Summary:

Mr. Cook 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. Cook stated the presentation's purpose was to update the TCC on the preparation of the FY 2022 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP). The UPWP is CRTPO's budget and guides the organization's

work throughout the year. Action will be requested for the TCC to recommend that the Board adopt the FY 2022 in March.

Mr. Cook reviewed the FTA Section 5303 fund requests by transit agency. The CRTPO anticipates having \$980,352 in FTA 5303 funds for FY 2022, and a call for projects/initiatives was conducted to allocate the funds. Three of the CRTPO's four transit agencies (CATS, ICATS, Union County) applied for FTA 5303 allocations for the FY 2022 UPWP. MTS did not apply for FTA 5303 funds in consideration of the FY 2022 UPWP. Mr. Cook reviewed major projects and initiatives that would require funding task code allocations in FY 2022. He concluded his presentation by reviewing the anticipated allocations and tasks within the FY 2022 UPWP.

Mr. Cook highlighted major projects and initiatives which will be included in the FY 2022 UPWP. He also discussed other potential initiatives or issues that need to be evaluated before completing the FY 2022 UPWP.

OTHER REPORTS

6.1. NCDOT Report

No reports were provided from NCDOT Division 10, Division 12 or Transportation Planning Division.

Warren Cooksey provided an overview of the annual increase of toll rates for the Monroe Expressway which took effect January 1. The annual increases affect tolls on two-axle vehicles and larger vehicles with three or more axles.

Tolls also increased on the Triangle Expressway. For both the Monroe Expressway and the Triangle Expressway, the Turnpike Authority's Board adopted toll rate schedules with annual increases to continue to meet the financial needs of the two facilities.

6.2. Project Oversight Committee Update

No reports were provided on behalf of the Project Oversight Committee.

6.3. Bicycle and Pedestrian Work Group Report

Curtis Bridges stated the Bike and Pedestrian Work Group will meet this afternoon from 2:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

6.4. Charlotte Regional Alliance for Transportation

Mr. Cook stated the CRAFT Technical Coordinating met December 8. Matt Noonkester, City Explained, provided an overview of the 2050 MTP scenario planning efforts which encompasses adjacent MPOs and RPOs in the region. A detailed update on the Beyond 77 initiative was presented by the project managers. The committee also discussed using additional FY 2022 Planning funds to fund the North Carolina portion of the Intelligent Transportation Study. The next Technical Coordinating Committee is scheduled January 26.

6.5 Upcoming Issues

Mr. Cook stated work on the CRTPO Strategic Plan began in November 2020. Work is underway on the four deliverables: development of a mission statement, vision statement, goals and strategies. The Steering Committee will review a first draft of the plan in late January or early February.

The Gaston-Cleveland-Lincoln MPO hosted a kick-off meeting for the Catawba Crossing Feasibility Study on January 6. The study proposes a new alignment of Highway 279 from Gaston County to Steele Creek Road in Mecklenburg County. More information is available at Catawbacrossings.com.

Ms. Mahoney stated the 2050 MTP candidate project workshop is scheduled January 19 from 2 – 3:30 pm. The workshop will be recorded and shared with TCC members who are unable to attend.

ADJOURN: Ms. Babson determined that the agenda had been adequately completed and adjourned the meeting at 11:54 a.m.