

CRTPO TECHNICAL COORDINATING COMMITTEE
Summary Meeting Minutes
February 4, 2021

Voting Members: *Chair* – Liz Babson (CDOT), *Vice-Chair* – Andrew Ventresca (Davidson), Dan Leaver (Charlotte General Services), Trent Sellers – alt for Mark Wiebke (CLT Airport), Aaron Tucker (Cornelius), Dave Hill (Huntersville), Todd Huntsinger (Indian Trail), Richard Hoffman – alt for Matthew Todd (Iredell County), Rohit Ammanamanchi (Marvin), Dana Stoogenke (Matthews), Megan Green (Meck. Co. – LUESA Air Quality), David McDonald (Metropolitan Transit Commission), Nathan Farber – alt for Steve Frey (Mint Hill), Sarah McAllister – alt for Lisa Stiwinter (Monroe), Erika Martin (Mooresville), Jeff Littlefield – alt for Brett Canipe (NCDOT – Div. 10), Pam DiGiovanni (NCDOT-Integrated Mobility Division), Dominique Boyd (NCDOT-TPD), Travis Morgan (Pineville), Chris Easterly (Stallings), David Cole (Statesville), Bjorn Hansen (Union County), Theo Ghitea – alt for Matt Hubert (Waxhaw), Lisa Thompson (Weddington), Vagn Hansen (Wesley Chapel), Alex Riemondy (Focus Area Representative – Bicycle), Gwen Cook (Focus Area Representative – Greenway), Kate Cavazza (Focus Area Representative – Public Health), Tracy Houk (Focus Area Representative – Pedestrian)

Staff: Curtis Bridges (CRTPO), Neil Burke (CRTPO), Robert Cook (CRTPO), Judy Dellert-O’Keef (CRTPO), Brian Elgort (CRTPO), Jerrel Leonard (CRTPO), Catherine Mahoney (CRTPO), Agustin Rodriguez (CRTPO), Candice Rorie (P,D&D), Jennifer Stafford (CRTPO), Theo Thomson (CRTPO), Loretta Barren (FHWA), Anna Gallup (CDOT), Andy Grzymiski (CDOT), Wendy Taylor (NCDOT – Div. 10), John Cook (NCDOT – Div. 12), Travis Preslar (NCDOT – Div. 10), Warren Cooksey (NCTA)

Guests: Hisham Abdelaziz (CDM Smith), Justin Carroll (STV), Scott Cole (RS&H), John Fargher (ESP), Nick Landa (RS&H), Todd McAulliffe (AECOM), Erin Musiol (RS&H), Matthew Werder (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:

Andrew Ventresca made a motion to approve today’s agenda. Erika Martin 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 items:

- Approval of the January 7, 2021 TCC Minutes
- 2020 – 2029 TIP Amendments

Motion:

Ms. Martin made a motion to approve the consent agenda. Dave Hill seconded the motion. A roll call vote was conducted, and the motion passed unanimously.

TCC BUSINESS ITEMS

4.1 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 by providing an overview of the presentation. Action is being requested for the Board to approve the updates to the Goals and Objectives and to approve the roadway project ranking methodology for the 2050 MTP. Information would be provided regarding the roadway financial projections for the 2050 MTP in February, with action requested for the for the TCC to recommend approval to the Board in March.

He explained the 2045 MTP goals were consolidated for this planning effort and the objectives were revised to be more measurable. The revised Goals and Objectives were presented to the Advisory Committee, TCC, and CRTPO Board throughout Fall 2020. A public comment period was opened November 19 and concluded December 31, 2020. The majority of feedback received during the public comment period supported the draft Goals and Objectives.

Mr. Burke stated the 2045 MTP roadway ranking criteria was reviewed and the addition of an equitable access criterion is recommended for tier two of the methodology. The addition of the new measure requires a reallocation of point values within tier two in order to keep the total possible amount of points at 100. The revised roadway ranking criteria was presented to the Advisory Committee, TCC, and CRTPO Board and no issues were identified.

Mr. Burke provided an overview of the roadway financial projections and stated an information report was presented to the TCC and CRTPO Board in November 2020. He stated \$3.7 Billion (or \$2.4 Billion in current dollars) is available for allocation in the 2050 MTP. Action will be requested for the TCC to recommend that the Board approve the roadway financial projections in March. Mr. Burke concluded his presentation and asked for questions from the TCC.

Motion:

Ms. Martin made a motion to recommend that the CRTPO Board approve the MTP Goals and Objectives and the roadway ranking methodology for the 2050 MTP. Sarah McAllister seconded the motion. A roll call vote was conducted, and the motion passed unanimously.

4.2 Performance-Based Planning: 2021 Safety Targets

Presenter: Robert Cook

Summary:

Mr. Cook began his presentation stating the requested action is to recommend that the CRTPO Board support NCDOT's 2021 safety targets as part of the implementation of federally-required performance-based planning requirements.

He stated the proposed NCDOT 2021 safety targets were discussed at November 5, 2020 TCC meeting. North Carolina has not met or made significant progress toward achieving its 2018 targets. Mr. Cook attributed this to North Carolina's continued population growth and the overall reliance on single occupant vehicles for most trips throughout the state.

CRTPO has historically endorsed NCDOT safety targets because of the MPO's inability to affect meaningful change in the short-term on safety issues. Absent a compelling reason to do otherwise, staff recommends that the CRTPO act to support NCDOT's 2021 safety targets. Mr. Cook restated the requested action and asked for questions.

Motion:

Mr. Ventresca made a motion to recommend that the CRTPO Board support NCDOT's 2021 safety targets as part of the implementation of federally-required performance-based planning requirements. Mr. McDonald seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

TCC INFORMATION REPORTS

5.1 CATS Transit Initiative Update

Presenter: Jason Lawrence, CATS

Summary:

Mr. Lawrence 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. Lawrence stated the purpose of his presentation is to provide an overview of the Charlotte Area Transit System (CATS) initiatives which will require TCC and CRTPO Board action throughout 2021. He explained many of the initiatives underway will influence recommendations included in the CONNECT Beyond Regional Mobility Initiative and projects recommended by the Charlotte Moves Task Force.

He then provided an overview of past transit planning efforts, including the 2025 Transit and Land Use Plan. He highlighted current studies underway which might be appropriate to include in the development of the 2050 MTP, including: Envision My Ride, LYNX Blue Line Platform Upgrades, CityLYNX Gold Line Phase 3 Design, Charlotte Gateway Station Public Private Partnership, North Corridor Rapid Transit Strategy, LYNX Silver Line Design, LYNX Silver Line Transit Oriented Development Planning, and the LYNX Silver Line Rail Trail Study.

Mr. Lawrence also provided an overview of the CONNECT Beyond initiative which will define a single, coordinated transit vision for the region. He provided details about the guiding principles of the effort and presented priority corridors already identified in the plan development process. The CRTPO will be requested to incorporate the final priority corridors into the Comprehensive Transportation Plan. In

addition, the 2050 MTP will need to include any assumptions for committed funding to construct fixed guideway transit facilities throughout the plan horizon years.

5.2 CRTPO Strategic Plan Update

Presenter: Rich Denbow, Cambridge Systematics

Summary:

Mr. Denbow began his presentation by explaining that the Staffing & Resources Study recommended the preparation of a strategic plan “to establish a proactive planning direction for the CRTPO” through the development of a vision and strategic goals. He explained that the majority of the work to-date has involved peer review of MPOs that have an adopted strategic plan. The peer review has been focused as to how the MPO’s have utilized strategic plans, development of mission statements, and long-term visioning of organizational goals.

He then reviewed the following strategic plan elements:

- Mission Statement: Why CRTPO exists
- Vision Statement: How CRTPO views itself in the future
- Goals: Desired end states
- Strategies: Action steps to achieve each goal

Mr. Denbow explained that a steering committee has been formed to represent a group of key CRTPO stakeholders that will be engaged throughout the project to provide input and feedback on development of the strategic plan and review of draft materials. A kickoff meeting was held on November 9, 2020 with the purpose of educating the steering committee on the key elements of the effort as well as to receive feedback on a potential mission statement, vision and goals. The next steering committee meeting will be held in early March to review the first draft of strategic plan. Mr. Denbow concluded his presentation and asked for questions.

5.3 Draft FY 2022 Unified Planning Work Program

Presenter: Robert Cook

Summary:

Mr. Cook stated the presentation’s purpose was to update the TCC on the preparation of the FY 2022 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) following the presentation during the January meeting. The UPWP is CRTPO’s budget and guides the organization’s work throughout the year.

He then 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 Mr. Cook reviewed major projects and initiatives that would require funding task code allocations in FY 2022. He concluded his presentation by stating the action to approve the FY 2022 will be requested of the TCC during the March meeting.

OTHER REPORTS

6.1. NCDOT Report

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

6.2. Project Oversight Committee Update

Jennifer Stafford provided four updates on behalf of the Project Oversight Committee:

- On January 21, 2021, CRTPO was notified that \$7,643,550 in Congestion Mitigation Air Quality (CMAQ) funds is available and must be authorized by June 30, 2024. Applications for the FY 22 CMAQ funds are due to NCDOT by March 15, 2021. Due to the short deadline, staff recommends swapping existing STBG-DA funds with the FY 22 CMAQ funds to take advantage of the available funds and free up more flexible STBG-DA funds for the Fall Call.
- The spring shortfall call is tentatively scheduled to open March 1 and conclude on April 30.
- Staff will distribute a survey to member jurisdictions in the second quarter in order to receive feedback regarding potential topics to focus the discretionary program training sessions for 2021.
- NCDOT is in the process of removing project suspensions for a number of projects in the planning area. Member jurisdictions will receive a notice to resume work from NCDOT.

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. A preliminary prioritization criteria for bicycle and pedestrian candidate projects as part of the 2050 MTP will be presented by the consultant team.

6.4. Charlotte Regional Alliance for Transportation

Mr. Cook stated the CRAFT Technical Committee met January 26. The committee discussed how to incorporate implementation actions from CONNECT Beyond into each planning organization's work programs. Centralina Regional Council will submit an application for State Planning and Research (SPR) funds to NCDOT on behalf of the CRAFT member organizations to update the Intelligent Transportation Systems Plan. The next Technical Committee meeting is March 23.

6.5 Upcoming Issues

Ms. Mahoney stated the 2050 MTP candidate project submittal window will close Friday, February 12. Comments on CRTPO's Annual Self Certification for the Federal Highway Administration are due February 28.

ADJOURN: Ms. Babson determined that the agenda had been adequately completed and adjourned the meeting at 11:45 a.m.