

CRTPO TECHNICAL COORDINATING COMMITTEE
Summary Meeting Minutes
March 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), Alysia Osborne – alt for Taiwo Jaiyeoba (Charlotte Planning, Design & Development), 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), 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), David Cole (Statesville), Bjorn Hansen (Union County), Theo Ghitea – alt for Matt Hubert (Waxhaw), Vagn Hansen (Wesley Chapel), Alex Riomondy (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), Brian Elgort (CRTPO), Jerrel Leonard (CRTPO), Catherine Mahoney (CRTPO), Agustin Rodriguez (CRTPO), Jennifer Stafford (CRTPO), Theo Thomson (CRTPO), Anna Gallup (CDOT), Andy Grzymiski (CDOT), Stuart Basham (NCDOT – Div. 10), Wendy Taylor (NCDOT – Div. 10), Travis Preslar (NCDOT – Div. 10), David Wasserman (NCDOT), Warren Cooksey (NCTA), Richard Buchanan (Mecklenburg County), Scottie Miller (NCDOT-Div. 10), Kathryn Cogar (Charlotte DOT), Wilson Stroud (NCDOT),

Guests: Hisham Abdelaziz (CDM Smith), Andrew Babb (Pond + Co), Scott Cole (RS&H), Bill Coxe, Mariate Echeverry (AECOM), John Fargher (ESP), Brady Finklea (Kimley Horn), Nick Landa (RS&H), Ford Tanner (RS&H), Todd McAulliffe (AECOM), Erin Musiol (RS&H), Matthew Werder (HDR), Lyuba Zuyeva (VHB), Michael Miltich (Cornelius), Eric Keravuori (Summit Design)

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:

Erika Martin made a motion to approve today's agenda. Dave Hill 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 March meeting contained the following items:

- Approval of the February 4, 2021 TCC Minutes
- CRTPO Self-Certification
- 2020 – 2029 TIP Amendments
- Recommend to the CRTPO Board that a resolution is endorsed for an application to NCDOT in the amount of \$7,643,550 of FY 2022 CMAQ for the Hambright Road Park and Ride project (TA-6724).

Motion:

Dana Stoogenke 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 to recommend that the Board approve the roadway financial projections for the 2050 MTP. Information will be provided regarding the roadway candidate project submittals. The project is on track and the plan is scheduled to be adopted by the Board in March 2022.

He provided a summary of the project types, number, and geographic dispersion of candidate projects submitted for prioritization in the 2050 MTP. Beginning in March, the Roadway Ranking Review Committee will evaluate the candidate projects according to the two-tier roadway ranking methodology. Fiscal constraint will be applied to the highest ranked projects in May. A draft fiscally constrained project list will open for public comment on June 17 and conclude July 14, 2021.

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 and January 2021, no issues were identified. He stated \$3.7 Billion (or \$2.4 Billion in current dollars) is available for allocation in the 2050 MTP. As part of the plan development process, potential alternative funding sources are being explored for the 2050 MTP. Mr. Burke restated the requested action and asked for questions from the TCC.

Motion:

Mr. Ventresca made a motion to recommend that the CRTPO Board approve the roadway financial projections for the 2050 MTP. Ms. Stoogenke seconded the motion. A roll call vote was conducted, and the motion passed unanimously.

4.2 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 began his presentation stating the requested action is to recommend that the CRTPO Board approve the FY 2022 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP). He stated the draft FY 2022 UPWP was presented for information at two Transportation Staff Meetings as well as the November 2020 and February 2021 TCC meetings.

He stated the local cost share funding levels are unchanged in FY 2022, the task code allocations are similar to FY 2021, and all Section 5303 requests were fully funded. The FY 2022 UPWP will need to be amended after work is complete with several planning initiatives including Beyond 77, CRTPO Strategic Plan and CONNECT Beyond.

Mr. Cook stated CRTPO received an additional \$475,644 Planning (PL) funds for FY 2022 due to the redistribution of unallocated PL funds across the state. These additional funds will be programmed to four planning projects approved through the Discretionary Program in December 2020. The STBG-DA funds originally programmed to these planning projects will be available for programming in the Fall 2021 discretionary project call.

He then displayed the total funding levels per funding source and the reviewed major projects and initiatives that would require funding task code allocations in FY 2022. He stated that approximately 95% of the organization's task codes are federally required. He concluded his presentation by restating the requested action and asked for questions.

Motion:

Ms. Martin made a motion to recommend that the CRTPO Board approve the FY 2022 Unified Planning Work Program. Mr. Ventresca seconded the motion. A roll call vote was conducted, and the motion passed unanimously.

TCC INFORMATION REPORTS

5.1 US 74 Corridor Implementation Strategy

Presenter: Neil Burke, Andy Grzyski (CDOT), Jeff Littlefield (NCDOT), David Wasserman (NCDOT)

Summary:

Mr. Burke, Mr. Grzyski, Mr. Littlefield, and Mr. Wasserman 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 stated the US 74 Corridor Implementation Strategy was introduced to the TCC at the February 27 Transportation Staff Meeting and the purpose of today's presentation is to provide an update on efforts to develop an implementation strategy for the US 74 Corridor improvements. NCDOT, CDOT, CRTPO, and the Town of Matthews have been involved in development of the strategy

which includes both bundling and sequencing recommendations for delivering the committed US 74 Corridor improvements beyond the 2020-2029 STIP.

Mr. Grzynski provided an historical overview of the conversion of Independence Boulevard to a freeway. When conversion of the corridor began in the 1980s, it impacted surrounding neighborhoods and identified the need for a parallel street network to provide access to development and connectivity to neighborhoods. As growth continued throughout the 1990s and early 2000s, multiple planning efforts identified the need for additional corridor improvements such as express bus lanes and managed lanes. The review of lessons learned confirms that future US 74 Corridor Improvements must:

- Preserve the level-of-service on the mainline by using a parallel network of multimodal transportation segments to access development;
- Extend the functional life of the mainline by providing an increased capacity in the parallel network;
- Develop a parallel network in a multimodal pattern and allow the mainline to carry regional traffic;
- Accommodate regional transit without affecting the level-of-service on the mainline.

Mr. Littlefield provided background information about the project limits, scope of work and estimated costs for the US 74 corridor improvements (U-6103 and U-2509). He explained project costs have significantly increased due to updated cost estimates and an increase in right-of-way expenses. Mr. Littlefield provided an overview of the US 74 Corridor Implementation Strategy workgroup which includes staff from NCDOT, Charlotte DOT, CATS, the Town of Matthews and CRTPO. The workgroup prioritized proposed segmentation of projects along the corridor by reviewing traffic volume data, cost estimates, and constructability issues. The workgroup identified their connectivity segment priorities and then developed an implementation plan.

Mr. Wasserman presented cost estimates for the 18 segments included in the two corridor projects. He explained complimentary interchange improvements and parallel street improvements were combined into packages. He explained NCDOT will continue to review and update cost estimates as well as examine available funding. After the timeline and implementation details of the US 74 Corridor Implementation Strategy are finalized, the strategy will be brought before the TCC and CRTPO Board for approval in within the next several months.

Bjorn Hansen stated the need for a US 74 Implementation Strategy exemplifies the inability to revise the scope of committed projects in the STIP without forfeiting funds. He explained there will continue to be cost increases across the state and encouraged the TCC to act upon Mayor Ron Pappas' request for legislation that would allow the revision of a project scope or reallocation of funds to more beneficial projects. Mr. Wasserman answered that there is a STIP Committee that evaluates significant cost escalations to confirm the increased costs are justified.

OTHER REPORTS

6.1. NCDOT Report

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

Warren Cooksey stated the North Carolina Turnpike Authority is testing a pilot program with a company called PayByCar that allows NC Quick Pass customers with smartphones to pay for gasoline without inserting a credit card at the pump. Addresses of all PayByCar locations are available at <https://www.mypaybycar.com/locations>.

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 next CRAFT Technical Committee meeting is March 23. The agenda will include:

- Implementation of CONNECT Beyond and Beyond 77
- Metropolitan Transportation Plan Development Updates
- Proposed changes to the designation of Census Bureau’s urban areas

Mr. Cook stated the Census Bureau may revise designation criteria for urban areas. This change may have implications for CRTPO since metropolitan planning organizations’ planning areas are defined by the Census Bureau’s urbanized areas. Additional information will be provided by Loretta Barren (FHWA) at the next CRAFT meeting and the TCC will be updated accordingly.

6.5 Upcoming Issues

Agustin Rodriguez provided an update on the Beyond 77 plan development process which is scheduled to be complete in October 2021. The project team is halfway complete with developing a list of strategies and solutions. Next steps will include development of funding and financial recommendations as well as an implementation strategy. Phase 3 of public engagement will begin April 1 and conclude May 15.

Mr. Cook announced a series of CRTPO staff changes:

- He welcomed Brian Elgort, Associate Planner, and Travis Johnson, Planning Coordinator and TCC Secretary, to the team.
- He announced Catherine Mahoney has accepted at new position with Charlotte, Planning, Design & Development’s Long Range & Strategic Planning Division and thanked her for her time at CRTPO.
- He announced CRTPO has one open position, Administrator IV, which will serve as the organization’s financial officer and is scheduled to close March 5.

ADJOURN: Ms. Babson determined that the agenda had been adequately completed and adjourned the meeting at 11:23 a.m.