

CRTPO TECHNICAL COORDINATING COMMITTEE
Summary Meeting Minutes
May 6, 2021

Voting Members:

Vice-Chair – Andrew Ventresca (Davidson), Dan Leaver (Charlotte General Services), Trent Sellers – alt for Mark Wiebke (CLT Airport), Candice Rorie – proxy for Taiwo Jaiyeoba (Charlotte Planning, Design & Development), Anna Gallup - proxy for Liz Babson (Charlotte Department of Transportation), Aaron Tucker (Cornelius), Dave Hill (Huntersville), Todd Huntsinger (Indian Trail), 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), Dominique Boyd (NCDOT-TPD), Travis Morgan (Pineville), Justin Russell – alt for Chris Easterly (Stallings), David Cole (Statesville), Bjorn Hansen (Union County), Theo Ghitea – alt for Matt Hubert (Waxhaw), Alex Riemondy (Focus Area Representative – Bicycle), Gwen Cook (Focus Area Representative – Greenway), Kate Cavazza (Focus Area Representative – Public Health), Erin Pratt – alt for Tracy Houk (Focus Area Representative – Pedestrian)

Staff:

Curtis Bridges (CRTPO), Neil Burke (CRTPO), Robert Cook (CRTPO), Brian Elgort (CRTPO), Jerrel Leonard (CRTPO), Theo Thomson (CRTPO), Travis Johnson (CRTPO), Judy Dellert-O’Keef (CRTPO), Jennifer Stafford (CRTPO), Agustin Rodriguez (CRTPO), Stuart Basham (NCDOT Div. 10), Warren Cooksey (NCTA), Loretta Barren (FHWA), Suzette Morales (FHWA), Kevin Walsh (HDR), Teresa Robinson (NCDOT-Western STIP Unit), Wendy Taylor (NCDOT)

Guests:

Hisham Abdelaziz (CDM Smith), Bill Thunberg (LNTC), Scott Cole (RS&H), Nick Landa (RS&H), Erin Musiol (RS&H), Michael Miltich (Cornelius Town Board), Suzette Morales (FHWA), Kevin Walsh (HDR), Michelle Podeszwa (HDR), Todd McAulliffe (AECOM), Ron Shoultz (ICATS), Matt Werder (HDR), John Muth (VHB), Jorge Luna (HDR), Mariate Echeverry (AECOM)

Andrew Ventresca opened the virtual meeting at 10:00 a.m. Travis Johnson reviewed the virtual meeting guidelines and conducted a roll call to document attendance. Mr. Johnson determined that a quorum was achieved.

2. Adoption of the Agenda

Mr. Ventresca asked if changes to the agenda were necessary. Hearing none, he 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

Mr. Ventresca stated that the consent agenda for the May meeting contained the following items:

- Approval of the April 1, 2021 TCC Minutes,
- 2020-2029 TIP amendments

Motion:

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

TCC BUSINESS ITEM

4.1 Fred D. Alexander Boulevard Alignment CTP Amendment

Presenter: Anna Gallup (Charlotte DOT)

Summary:

Ms. Gallup 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:

Ms. Gallup conducted a presentation on a proposed amendment to the alignment of the future Fred D. Alexander Boulevard alignment in the CRTPO's Comprehensive Transportation Plan (CTP). This engagement period would be open from May 20 and conclude on June 18 and include sending a letter to every parcel owner within 500 feet along either the existing or proposed corridor. Additionally, media releases and social media will be used to raise awareness of the comment period.

The requested action was to recommend to the Board that a public comment period is opened on the proposed amendment.

The TCC unanimously recommended that the Board open a public comment period on the Fred D. Alexander Boulevard Alignment.

TCC INFORMATION REPORTS

5.1 Transportation Alternatives Program Scoring Criteria Revisions

Presenter: Curtis Bridges

Summary:

Mr. Bridges 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. Bridges presented on a proposed update to the Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) Scoring Criteria. This scoring criteria was originally adopted in 2015 to meet requirements associated with federal TAP legislation. Revisions are being proposed for the criteria to clarify guidance of applicants and incorporate social and health equity factors. These changes will align more closely with Project Oversight Committee (POC) discretionary scoring. Next steps include sharing this information with the Board as an informational item in May with action to be taken in June. If approved, these factors would be included in the fall discretionary projects call.

The TCC will be requested to recommend the amendments to the TAP criteria during the June meeting.

5.2 Project Oversight Committee Update

Presenter: Jennifer Stafford

Summary:

Ms. Stafford 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:

She presented an overview of the Project Oversight Committee (POC) and the process of developing consensus-based recommendations to the TCC regarding the allocation of the CRTPO's federal discretionary funds. A status update was provided on the existing discretionary projects, an overview of the spring 2021 shortfall call results was presented, and a schedule of activities for the POC in 2021 was presented.

There are over 103 active discretionary projects at different phases in the CRTPO region that includes 49 highway and intersection projects, 39 bicycle and pedestrian, 5 transit projects, and 10 planning studies. The CRTPO has approximately \$21 million in discretionary funding to allocate to eligible projects. \$7.9 million needs to be obligated to projects by Sept 30, 2024.

The Spring Shortfall call was recently concluded and the CRTPO received five applications totaling \$3,313,361. All projects submitted are eligible to receive funding. These projects will be reviewed in May and a recommendation will be made by mid-summer. The fall call for projects will open August 9 with applications due on October 15.

Ms. Stafford concluded her presentation by discussing the upcoming five-part training series for project managers that manage projects with federal discretionary funds. The first presentation is tentatively scheduled for June and will cover the Discretionary Grants Program. Other topics include for the application process for Discretionary Grant Funds, Planning Projects, Capital Projects, and Discretionary Grant Funds & Procurement. Dates and times will be announced on the CRTPO Website.

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 updated the TCC with information regarding the Roadway Ranking Review Committee and roadway candidate project submittals. He also reviewed the status and progress of other Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) activities. He shared the progress made with the draft project list and its anticipated presentation to the TCC in June.

During his presentation he discussed the Active Transportation element of the plan. This is a new element of the MTP and is used to identify corridors and not specific projects that may benefit from active transportation enhancements based upon the draft criteria. He explained feedback from the Bicycle and Pedestrian Work Group informed the draft criteria and additional modifications were made after the team received additional feedback from the two-week comment period by member

jurisdictions (April 14-28). There will be a request to release the corridor list for public comment in June.

The presentation also included an overview of the process to include transit funding assumptions within the 2050 MTP. The team is monitoring the Metropolitan Transit Commission (MTC) process and plans to incorporate the results into the 2050 MTP. The team will also coordinate public comments from CATS and the MTC into the plan.

He concluded the presentation by stating that the Roadway Ranking Review Committee will work to develop a draft fiscally constrained roadway project list that will be presented to the TCC for consideration of recommending to the CRTPO Board that it open a public comment period in June.

If your organization would like to have a virtual presentation on the 2050 MTP, please email your requests to email@crtpo.org.

OTHER REPORTS

6.1. NCDOT Report

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

Warren Cooksey stated that they had distributed over one million NC Quick Pass transponders. They attributed this success to the opening of the Monroe Expressway and the I-77 Express Lanes facilities over the past several years.

6.2. Project Oversight Committee Update

No updated were provided.

6.3. Bicycle and Pedestrian Work Group Report

Curtis Bridges stated the Bicycle Pedestrian Work Group will meet virtually this afternoon. A presentation will be conducted on the Beyond 77 Corridor Study.

6.4. Charlotte Regional Alliance for Transportation (CRAFT)

Mr. Cook stated CRAFT Technical Committee will meet Tuesday May 25. This meeting will be hosted by the Cabarrus-Rowan MPO and the agenda will include a discussion on MTP preparation, Connect Beyond, I-77 North Corridor BRT Study, project coordination, joint online mapping efforts, and a discussion on the potential changes to the parameters used to identify urbanized areas by the Census Bureau.

He also shared that on Wednesday, May 19 Connect Beyond will have two opportunities for the TCC and the Board to hear updates about the plan. The first meeting will take place at 2pm during the Transportation Staff Meeting and the second meeting will be held at 5pm during the education session prior to the CRTPO Board meeting. The same Zoom link will be used for both meetings.

Lastly, he shared that the hiring process is nearing completion for the Finance Officer position with CRTPO. This is a new position that was recommended in the Staffing and Resources Study. The anticipated start date for the selected candidate is May 17.

6.5 Upcoming Issues

Agustin Rodriguez provided an update on the Beyond 77 Corridor Study and the public engagement that has been completed to date. He encouraged everyone to review and comment on the strategies and solutions list on the dashboard at beyond77.com. Starting May 17, the study will enter phase 4 which is the final phase. This phase will include an implementation plan and final recommendations.

Jerrel Leonard provided an update for Transit Education Initiative Task Force. The Task Force recently held its final meeting and is creating a memorandum of understanding among the Task Force members. They plan on providing a presentation to the TCC in June with a request for action in July.

The next TCC meeting will be conducted virtually on June 3, 2021 at 10 a.m.

ADJOURN: Mr. Ventresca determined that the agenda had been adequately completed and adjourned the meeting at 11:04 a.m.