

CHARLOTTE REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLANNING ORGANIZATION
Charlotte-Mecklenburg Government Center, Room 267
June 21, 2023 Meeting
Summary Minutes

Members Attending:

Danté Anderson (Charlotte), Denis Bilodeau (Cornelius), Rusty Knox (Davidson), Rob Kidwell (Huntersville), David Cohn (Indian Trail), Ernestine Staton (Marshville), Jamie Lein (Marvin), Renee Garner (Matthews), John Higdon (Metropolitan Transit Commission), Lisa Qualls (Mooresville), Tony Lathrop (NCBOT-Division 10), Brad Richardson (Stallings), David Jones (Statesville), George Harris (Troutman), Brian Helms (Union County), Ron Pappas (Waxhaw), Craig Horn (Weddington), David Boyce (Wesley Chapel)

Non-Voting Members Attending:

Jim Walker (NC Turnpike Authority)

1. Call to Order

Chair Ron Pappas called the June 2023 CRTPO Board meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

2. Adoption of the Agenda

Summary:

Chair Pappas asked if any changes to the agenda were necessary. No changes were identified.

Motion:

Mayor Higdon made a motion to approve the agenda. Mayor Knox seconded the motion. Upon being put to a vote, the agenda was adopted by acclamation.

3. Public Comment Period

Samuel Grundman stated that he lives in Charlotte and commutes regularly to Gastonia along the I-85 corridor. He encouraged the CRTPO Board to work with the Gaston-Cleveland-Lincoln MPO Board to advance regional transportation planning with the USDOT and NCDOT. Mr. Grundman explained that he believes that the I-85 widening project in Gaston County should include tolled managed lanes within its scope. He then expressed concerns with the environmental impacts associated with a freeway widening project in an urban environment and stated that Gastonia would benefit from the implementation of passenger rail service to Charlotte.

4. Ethics Awareness & Conflict of Interest Reminder

Mr. Cook read the ethics awareness and conflict of interest reminder. No conflicts of interest were identified.

5. Consent Agenda

Summary:

Chair Pappas requested action on the following consent agenda items:

- a) May 17, 2023 CRTPO Board Meeting Minutes
- b) 2020-2029 TIP Amendments
- c) Performance-Based Planning: PM 2 & PM 3 Targets

Motion:

Mayor Knox made a motion to approve the consent agenda. Rob Kidwell seconded the motion. Upon being put to a vote, the consent agenda was unanimously approved.

6. Draft 2024-2033 Transportation Improvement Program

Presenter:

Travis Johnson

Summary:

Mr. Johnson provided information to the Board via a Power Point presentation, the contents of which are incorporated into the minutes.

The presentation's purpose was to request that the board adopt the 2024-2033 TIP. The Board was asked to take three actions:

1. Make an air quality conformity determination
2. Adopt the 2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan amendments
3. Adopt the 2024-2033 Transportation Improvement Program

The presentation reviewed the following issues: public involvement update; NCDOT STIP fiscal constraint process; MTP amendments; the air quality conformity determination. No concerns were raised by the CRTPO Board regarding the requested action.

Motion:

Danté Anderson made a motion to make an air quality conformity determination, approve amendments to the 2050 MTP, and adopt the 2024-2033 TIP. Mayor Horn seconded the motion. Upon being put to a vote, the motion passed unanimously.

7. 2026-2035 TIP Development Process (NCDOT Prioritization 7.0)

Presenter:

Travis Johnson

Summary:

Mr. Johnson provided information to the Board via a Power Point presentation, the contents of which are incorporated into the minutes.

The presentation's purpose was to approve the opening of a public comment period on the draft P7.0 project lists for all modes. The 2026-2035 TIP development process and schedule were reviewed, followed by a review of CRTPO decision points in the process. If approved, the public comment period on the P7.0 project submittals would begin on June 22 and conclude on July 22. Mr. Johnson then referenced the hyperlinks to the preliminary project lists and provided the Board with an overview of the number of projects proposed for submission to NCDOT within each mode. He concluded the presentation by stating that an update regarding the outcome of the public comment period will be provided during the July 19 meeting, and action will be requested of the CRTPO Board to endorse the CRTPO's P7.0 project submittals during the August 16 meeting.

Mayor Horn asked about how the estimated cost of the P7.0 projects is factored into NCDOT Prioritization, and the process in which residents will be made aware of the cost as opposed to available revenue. Mr. Johnson explained that NCDOT develops project cost estimates for the highway and rail projects submitted throughout the state. Project sponsors develop cost estimates for bicycle/pedestrian, transit, and aviation projects. NCDOT develops the revenue estimates for available federal and state funding for the program years within the 2026-2035 TIP. Projects are funded into the TIP based upon their prioritization score (including the allocation of local input points) and available revenue. Residents will be able to review the estimated cost of all projects submitted in P7.0 in the spring of 2024 when NCDOT releases the draft Prioritization scores.

Motion:

Mayor Horn made a motion to open a 30-day public comment period on the draft P7.0 Project lists. Renee Garner seconded the motion. Upon being put to a vote, the motion passed unanimously.

8. Discretionary Program Supplemental Funding Recommendations

Presenter:

Andrew Ventresca, Troutman

Summary:

Mr. Ventresca provided information via a Power Point presentation, the contents of which are incorporated into the minutes.

He began the presentation by providing an overview of the two shortfall applications received seeking supplemental funding for active projects totaling \$3.5 million. The project call began on March 1 and concluded on April 28. The Project Oversight Committee (POC) determined that both projects qualified for additional funding based on the supplemental funding criteria within the CRTPO Discretionary Funds Policy Guide and recommended the following two projects for the CRTPO’s supplemental discretionary funding:

Project Name	Jurisdiction	Requested Amount	POC Recommended Projects
Downtown Waxhaw Pedestrian and Bicycle Facility Enhancements (EB-5819)	Waxhaw	\$392,367	\$392,367
NC 115 Widening (Mt. Holly-Huntersville Rd to Ramah Church Rd) (U-5908)	Huntersville	\$3,144,600	\$3,144,600
Total Spring 2023 Supplemental Discretionary Funding Recommendations			\$3,536,967

Mr. Ventresca stated that the Huntersville project is under construction and the Waxhaw project is ready to initiate construction and requested supplementary funds to cover material cost increases. He concluded the presentation by stating the action requested was to approve \$3,536,967 of the CRTPO’s unobligated future year STBG-DA funding to two existing discretionary projects that have experienced shortfalls and amend the 2020-2029 TIP to allocate the funding to the existing discretionary projects. The TCC unanimously recommended that the Board approve the requested action during the June 1 meeting.

Motion:

Mr. Kidwell made a motion to approve \$3,536,967 of the CRTPO’s unobligated future year STBG-DA funding to two existing discretionary projects that have experienced shortfalls and amend the 2020-2029 TIP to allocate the funding to the existing discretionary projects. Mayor Higdon seconded the motion. Upon being put to a vote, the motion passed unanimously.

9. Waxhaw Parkway Comprehensive Transportation Plan (CTP) Amendment

Presenter:

Bjorn Hansen, Union County

Summary:

Mr. Hansen provided information to the Board via a Power Point presentation, the contents of which are incorporated into the minutes.

He began the presentation by stating that a revised alignment of the Waxhaw Parkway between NC 16 and NC 75 east of downtown Waxhaw was identified as a result of an NCDOT feasibility study. As a result, the CRTPO’s CTP highway map needs to be amended to reflect the most current alignment of the Waxhaw Parkway. Mr. Hansen explained that the revised alignment has been endorsed by the Town of Mineral Springs, Town of

Waxhaw, and Union County. He concluded the presentation by stating that action will be requested for the CRTPO Board to approve the opening of a public engagement period during the July 19 meeting.

10. CRTPO Congestion Management Process (CMP) Update

Presenter:

Kendall Clanton

Summary:

Mr. Clanton provided information to the Board via a Power Point presentation, the contents of which are incorporated into the minutes.

He began the presentation by explaining that federal regulations require MPOs with a population over 200,000 to have a congestion management process. A CMP is a regionally-accepted approach for managing congestion. Mr. Clanton explained that the CRTPO updates the CMP every four to five years (concurrent with CRTPO MTP cycle). He then reviewed the CMP goals and objectives and then identified staff that will serve on the CMP Task Force. The CMP task force will provide oversight on the CMP goals and performance measures; confirmation of final strategy list; and confirmation of congested corridors. A six-month timeline has been developed for the task force to develop its recommendations to be incorporated within the 2055 MTP development process, which is anticipated to begin by the first quarter of 2024.

11. Upcoming Agenda Items

Presenter:

Robert Cook

Summary:

Mr. Cook provided a recap of the Joint Gaston-Cleveland-Lincoln MPO and CRTPO meeting on May 11. The highlight of the event was an interactive funding exercise that helped to inform both MPOs' priorities and next steps. Staff from CRTPO and GCLMPO has begun the process of planning for the 2024 joint workshop and will attempt to schedule the meeting earlier in the year to avoid budget season.

The MOU subcommittee is scheduled to meet on Thursday, June 29 to review MOUs from comparable MPOs, discuss the weighted vote, and review county-based transit agency representation on the CRTPO.

FHWA and Federal Transit Administration (FTA) will hold a certification review to evaluate and certify the transportation planning processes for the CRTPO on Tuesday, June 27. The last review was dated March 2020. Board members will have an opportunity to meet with FHWA and FTA staff on June 27, but Loretta Barren, our NC FHWA liaison, has stated that she can meet with members at other times.

12. Board Member Comments

Presenter:

Ron Pappas

There were no comments.

13. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 6:53 p.m.