

**CRTPO TECHNICAL COORDINATING COMMITTEE**  
**Summary Meeting Minutes**  
**October 5, 2023**

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**Voting Members:**

*Chair* – Liz Babson (CDOT), *Vice-Chair* – Andrew Ventresca (Troutman), Dan Leaver (Charlotte General Services), Candice Rorie – alt for Alyson Craig (Charlotte PD&D), Aaron Tucker (Cornelius), Andrew Golden (Davidson), Heather Maloney (Huntersville), Dana Stoogenke (Matthews), Megan Green (Mecklenburg County Air Quality), Brian Horton (Metropolitan Transit Commission), Sean Epperson (NCDOT – Div. 10), Anil Panicker – alt for Mark Stafford (NCDOT – Div. 12), Alex Rotenberry (NCDOT – IMD), Justin Russell (Stallings), Bjorn Hansen (Union County), Lisa Thompson (Waxhaw), Alex Riemondy (Focus Area Representative – Bicycle), Joyce Figueroa – alt for Gwen Cook (Focus Area Representative – Greenway), Tracy Houk (Focus Area Representative - Pedestrian)

**Staff:**

Curtis Bridges (CRTPO), Neil Burke (CRTPO), Robert Cook (CRTPO), Kendall Clanton (CRTPO), Temekia Dae (CRTPO), Judy Dellert (CRTPO), Brian Elgort (CRTPO), Jerrel Leonard (CRTPO), Paul Benton (CRTPO), Jennifer Stafford (CRTPO), Theo Thomson (CRTPO), Will Snyder (CRTPO), Loretta Barren (FHWA), Matthew Evans (NCDOT – Div. 12), Xavier Banguess (Statesville), Herman Caulder (Statesville), Martin Kinnamon (CDOT), Theo Ghitea (NCDOT), Andy Grzymyski (CDOT), Warren Cooksey (NCTA), Hassan Malik (NCDOT), Scott Miller (NCDOT), Diane Thomas (Mecklenburg County Public Health), Alex Sewell (Stallings)

**Guests:**

Erin Musiol (RS&H), Reaghan Murphy (CRC), Luke Lowry (CRC), Brian Powers (RS&H)

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Liz Babson opened the meeting at 10:01 a.m. Curtis Bridges determined that a quorum was achieved.

**2. CRTPO Personnel Announcements**

Robert Cook introduced two new CRTPO staff members: Will Snyder, Associate Planner, and Paul Benton, Transportation Planning Engineer. Mr. Cook also announced that Jennifer Stafford has been promoted to the position of Planning Project Manager.

**3. Adoption of the Agenda**

Ms. Babson asked if there was a motion to adopt the agenda.

Motion:

Irene Ivie made a motion to adopt the agenda. Andrew Ventresca seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**4. Consideration of Consent Agenda**

Ms. Babson stated that the consent agenda for the October meeting contained the following items:

- Approval of September 7, 2023 TCC Minutes
- 2024-2033 TIP Amendments
- Metropolitan Planning Area Boundary Adoption

Motion:

Candice Rorie made a motion to approve the consent agenda item. Aaron Tucker seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**TCC INFORMATION REPORTS**

**4.1 Functional Classification Revision Requests**

Presenter: Andy Grzymiski, CDOT

Summary:

Mr. Grzymiski provided information to the TCC via a PowerPoint presentation, the contents of which are incorporated into the minutes [here](#). The presentation covered the following points:

He stated that he would discuss two changes CDOT would like to make to the functional classification map and additions to the federal aid system. The two projects are in the southwest part of the city, in the Steele Creek area. The requests include:

- o Reclassify Brown-Grier/Arrowood Road Corridor from Local to Major Collector between I-485 and NC 160 (Steele Creek Road).
- o Reclassify Sandy Porter Road from Local to Minor Collector between NC 49 (S. Tryon Street) to Shopton Road.

Mr. Grzymiski stated that both roadways provide primary access to three schools, Berewick residential development, Whitehall office development and Ayrsley mixed-use development. Reclassifying the roadways to match their current purpose helps to maintain their proper hierarchy in the roadway network. MPOs must submit a formal Functional Classification Revision Request to NCDOT for consideration.

The TCC will be asked to make a recommendation to the CRTPO Board for approval of the functional classification revisions during their November 2 meeting. Mr. Grzymiski stated that after approval by TCC and CRTPO Board in November, CRTPO staff will submit the request to NCDOT for review and then to FHWA for a final review.

**4.2 COORDINATE Our Future/CommunityViz Briefing & Status Update**

Presenter: Reaghan Murphy, Centralina Regional Council

Summary:

Ms. Murphy provided information to the TCC via a PowerPoint presentation, the contents of which are incorporated into the minutes [here](#).

Ms. Murphy updated the TCC on the in-progress COORDINATE Our Future project. COORDINATE Our Future is an integral piece of travel demand modeling, planning and decision-making for MPOs across our region. To better link this process to locally adopted land use policy, Centralina Regional Council (CRC) has been asked to update and develop land use and development data across the region. Centralina staff are currently in the process of gathering and updating regional GIS data layers to support development of the 2055 MTPs for the CRTPO and the Gaston-Cleveland-Lincoln MPO.

This TCC briefing included an overview of COORDINATE Our Future, an update on work completed so far, and a forecast of upcoming engagement activities. Engagement activities will include:

- Regional information sessions on October 24th and 26th
- Office Hours with CRC (by request) October 30<sup>th</sup> – November 15<sup>th</sup>
- Regional development community surveys

Ms. Murphy stated that Feedback and surveys are due to CRC by November 15 and the CRC expects to have a finalized regional dataset by January 2024.

Mr. Hansen asked either Ms. Murphy or CRTPO staff to address the schedule for TCC being asked to adopt county level “control totals” and baseline socioeconomic data. Mr. Bridges stated that the intent was for information and action by both TCC and CRTPO Board in November. Mr. Hansen expressed concern and inquired about shifting to a December request for action. Mr. Bridges stated that the timeline is being driven in part by RFATS MTP schedule, and CDOT Modeling staff would need to determine if the project schedule would allow for December action. Mr. Kinnamon (CDOT) stated that GCLMPO would be approving control totals in December, so that is an option for CRTPO. Mr. Hansen and Ms. Stoogenke indicated that a December approval would be preferable to allow more time for review.

Mr. Rotenberry asked how CommunityViz and the Travel Demand Model treat parking. Ms. Murphy indicated that parking is addressed in the Community Type model layer. Mr. Kinnamon stated that it is coded in the Central Business District under mode choice.

Mr. Rotenberry asked if plans for future transportation buildout are reflected in the CommunityViz model. Ms. Murphy stated that they are, but those plans are not reflected beyond local adopted land use categories.

#### **4.3 Beyond 77 Mobilization Update**

Presenter: Kendall Clanton and Brian Powers, RS&H

##### Summary:

Mr. Clanton and Mr. Powers provided information to the TCC via a PowerPoint presentation, the contents of which are incorporated into the minutes [here](#).

Mr. Clanton provided an overview of a timeline of pre-study activities, background on the scope of the Beyond 77 study, and the outcomes of the plan. Next, he provided an overview of the Mobilization phase of the initiative which began in January of 2022 and is anticipated to conclude with the launch of a Beyond 77 Coalition. A Mobilization task force was established to direct the implementation phase of the Beyond 77 initiative. Mr. Clanton provided context as to the meeting schedule and core tasks completed by the task force. In addition, two implementer meetings were held with NCDOT, member jurisdiction, and Centralina Regional Council to receive feedback on task force recommendations and alternative funding mechanisms. Mr. Clanton stated that CRTPO staff has been reviewing the 286 recommendations that have originated from the Beyond 77 study to determine if they can be consolidated or removed. Several recommendations are identified within peer organization’s plans and initiatives.

Mr. Powers provided an overview of the scope of the alternative funding component within the Beyond 77 Mobilization effort. The objectives were to support stakeholder efforts to gain familiarity and understanding of alternative funding sources identified in Beyond 77 Study; identify the most

feasible alternative funding sources based upon feedback; and develop documentation for the Funding Alternative Strategies Tool (FAST) application.

Mr. Hansen asked about the universe of projects being considered for alternative funding strategies. Mr. Powers stated that many of the funding strategies will need to be implemented at the individual jurisdictional or county level. Mr. Clanton stated that he can continue the conversation in detail after the presentation.

Ms. Maloney asked how the FAST application is intended to be used. Mr. Powers stated that the original intent of the tool was to provide a framework for discussing funding alternative – the tool is intended for information and education.

Mr. Panicker asked what the expectation is of the TCC related to approval or endorsement. Mr. Clanton and Mr. Powers stated that the FAST application/tool is informational and needs some updating, and is not intended to suggest actionable items.

Mr. Hansen asked if there is an upper limit of funding strategies that would not impact the current I-77 managed lanes contract between NCDOT and the concessionaire. Mr. Epperson verified that Mr. Hansen was asking if there were any recommendations that would compromise the existing contract. Mr. Cooksey stated that unplanned revenue-impacting facilities affect only capacity improvements within the interstate corridor.

Mr. Clanton provided final information on next steps for Beyond 77 implementation, and thanked previous project manager, Agustin Rodriguez.

#### **4.4 CRTPO Transit Providers Work Group – Kick-Off & Next Steps**

Presenter: Luke Lowry, Centralina Regional Council

##### Summary:

Mr. Lowry provided information to the TCC via a PowerPoint presentation, the contents of which are incorporated into the minutes [here](#).

Mr. Lowry stated that the Transit Providers Work Group (TPWG) purpose is to provide a forum for coordination and collaboration on public transportation matters affecting CRTPO plans and programs. Mr. Lowry stated that support for the TPWG was based upon recommendations within the CRTPO Staffing and Resources Study, the Transit Education Initiative Task Force, the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Section 5307 CRTPO MOU, and through surveying the four transit providers in the CRTPO planning area. The TPWG start-up activities are being facilitated by Centralina Regional Council for the initial six months.

A charter has been drafted to govern the TPWG activities. Six goals have been included within the charter: Enhance collaboration; Provide support to maximize FTS Section 5303 utilization; Provide support to maximize FTA Section 5307 utilization; Assist with performance-based planning and activities; and Improve transit planning education. The charter also specifies work group membership. Mr. Lowry concluded the presentation by stating that an initial TPWG meeting was held on September 12 and monthly meetings will be held until the end of the calendar year. Mr. Lowry stated that CRC is still working through questions around membership and logistics. The plan is to move to quarterly

meetings after the initial establishment of the work group. The next meeting will be held on October 17, and the following meeting dates are still to be determined.

#### **4.5 CRTPO Federal Certification Review Report**

Presenter: Loretta Barren, FHWA

##### Summary:

Ms. Barren stated that the CRTPO underwent a Quadrennial Certification Review by FHWA and FTA in June 2023. The certification review was administered by FHWA and FTA staff and was attended by members of CRTPO staff and the Chair of the Board. The outcome of the certification review was that FHWA and FTA have certified the planning process for the CRTPO planning area for the next four years.

Ms. Barren stated that the following three recommendations were included within the CRTPO's certification review report:

- Coordinate with appropriate stakeholders to update and fully implement the procedures developed in the Congestion Management Process
- Better address resiliency and stormwater in the MTP and coordinate with NCDOT to monitor outcomes of their resiliency studies
- Consult local Chamber of Commerce and travel and tourism agencies, public transit, and other agencies to better define and address travel and tourism

She stated that the CRTPO did receive one commendation on Environmental Justice (EJ) work for conducting Degree of Impact analysis which identifies projects in relation to EJ communities, and outreach to EJ communities.

#### **5.0 OTHER REPORTS**

##### **5.1 NCDOT Reports**

NCDOT Division 10 and Division 12 construction updates were included in the TCC agenda packet. There were no additional updates.

Alex Rotenberry (NCDOT-IMD) updated the TCC that the IMD Director, Ryan Brumfield has left IMD and taken a position with another NCDOT division. Brennon Fuqua will serve as interim director until a new director is selected. Mr. Rotenberry noted that IMD has prepared an On-Demand Micro mobility Annual Report which CRTPO staff will distribute after the TCC meeting. He also announced that IMD submitted two grant applications (combined) for Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhood Access & Equity for mobility hub planning along the proposed S-Line from Richmond to Raleigh. He also stated that IMD staff are willing to assist the MPO and municipalities in pursuing IIJA grants.

##### **5.2 Charlotte Regional Alliance for Transportation (CRAFT)**

Jennifer Stafford provided a brief review of topics covered at the September 26<sup>th</sup> meeting including:

- Update on Metrolina Regional Travel Demand Model and Household Travel Demand Survey
- Regional COORDINATE Our Future progress
- Regional MPO MTP updates
- CONNECT Beyond Initiative update
  - Update on Connected and Autonomous Vehicles Task Force

The next CRAFT meeting will be held on November 28<sup>th</sup>.

### **5.3 Project Oversight Committee Update**

Ms. Stafford stated that the Fall Discretionary Call is currently open and mandatory pre-submittal meetings are due by October 13. Fall Call will close on October 31. POC will meet next week to provide local staff with project submittal guidance.

Ms. Stafford also stated that CRTPO staff distributed a survey from NCDOT on September 18 to gauge how staff can support project development for projects using federal funds.

### **5.4 Bicycle and Pedestrian Work Group Report**

Mr. Bridges provided an overview of this afternoon's Bicycle and Pedestrian Work Group agenda by stating that the Work Group will discuss the slate of TCC Focus Area Representatives for 2024.

### **5.5 Upcoming Issues**

Mr. Bridges acknowledged David McDonald's years of service on the TCC. David has taken a new position with CATS and has been replaced by Brian Horton on the TCC.

Mr. Bridges identified two upcoming agenda items for the November meeting: a request for action on the CDOT Functional Classification Revisions and an approval of the 2024 meeting schedule, likely on the consent agenda. He also reminded staff that copies of CRTPO's Annual Report were available at their chairs and outside of the meeting room.

Mr. Bridges reminded TCC of the Biennial Board Orientation to be held in January 2024.

The next TCC meeting will be conducted on November 2, 2023 at 10:00 am.

### **7.0 ADJOURN**

Ms. Babson determined that the agenda had been adequately completed and adjourned the meeting at 11:38 a.m.