

MINUTES

TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Wednesday, September 24, 2014

North Carolina Research Campus
UNC Building
500 Laureate Way
Kannapolis, North Carolina 28081

Members:

Al Brown
Bill Feather
Maggie Blackwell
Elizabeth Poole
Ryan Dayvault
James Sell
Reid Walters
Mike Upright
Jeff Phillips

City of Concord
Town of Granite Quarry
City of Salisbury
Cabarrus County
City of Kannapolis
Town of Mt. Pleasant
Town of Spencer
Town of China Grove
Town of Harrisburg

Others:

Phil Conrad CRMPO Director
Deborah Carter Cabarrus Chamber
Carolyn Carpenter CCSC
Connie Cunningham CRMPO Staff
Denise Hallett Cabarrus Chamber
Pat Ivey NCDOT Div 9
Stuart Basham NCDOT Div 10
Warren Cooksey NCDOT Div 10
Linda Dosse NCDOT-TPB
Rodney Harrison Salisbury Transit
Wilmer Melton City of Kannapolis
Carl Ford NC House
Larry Pittman NC House

Call to Order

TAC Vice-Chairman Jeff Phillips called the September 24, 2014 meeting of the Cabarrus-Rowan MPO TAC to order. Vice-Chairman Phillips welcomed everyone to the meeting and asked that everyone present, stand and recite the Pledge of Allegiance. After the Pledge was recited, Vice-Chairman Phillips proceeded by calling the roll of eligible voting members and determined that a quorum had been met. He then requested that everyone present introduce themselves. The Vice-Chairman continued on by requesting others present to introduce themselves. Once introductions were complete, Vice Chairman Phillips moved onto the next item.

Vice-Chairman Phillips informed TAC members of the NC State Ethics Commission Ethics Awareness and Conflict of Interest requirement and read the requirement to members. He then asked that should a conflict arise during any part of the meeting, the member should excuse themselves from that portion of the meeting.

Continuing on, Vice-Chairman Phillips asked for any updates from the Rowan or Cabarrus Chamber of Commerce's. Mrs. Denise Hallett from the Cabarrus Regional Chamber addressed the TAC members and reported that the Chamber's Transportation and Land Use Committee continues to support the CR MPO in their transportation efforts and encouraged members to watch a television broadcast on the upcoming Thursday night at 10:00 pm on UNC TV regarding NC Transportation.

Vice Chairman Phillips proceeded by asking for Legislative updates. NC House of Representative members Carl Ford and Larry Pittman were introduced and each given the opportunity to speak to the members. Representative Ford and Pittman both praised Transportation Secretary Tata on the efforts he has made to improve North Carolina's transportation funding issues and project improvements. They spoke about the Governor's initiative to borrow \$1.2 billion for transportation improvements throughout North Carolina and talked about the benefit's it could bring to the CR MPO area. Both representatives stressed the importance of the two counties continuing to work together toward get projects done in the area. TAC Vice-Chairman Phillips thanked Representative Ford and Pittman for coming and updating the MPO.

Moving on, Vice-Chairman Phillips asked if there were any speakers from the floor. With none heard, Vice-Chairman Phillips asked for any adjustments to the agenda and consent agenda. CR MPO Director Phil Conrad requested that an item on the SEI be added to end of the Reports/MPO Business Section of the Agenda. He also requested that the Public Transportation Discussion item under Reports/MPO Business Section be tabled until the next meeting. Mrs. Liz Poole also requested that an item be added under the same section to report on the recent Governor's Press Conference in Concord. With no other additions or corrections being heard, Mr. Bill Feather made a motion to accept and approve the additions to the agenda. Mrs. Maggie Blackwell seconded the motion and the members voted unanimously to approve.

CONSENT AGENDA

All items on the consent agenda are considered to be routine and may be enacted by one motion. If a TAC member requests discussion on an item, the item will be removed from the consent agenda and considered separately. The following items were presented for TAC consideration on the Consent Agenda:

NO ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION AT THIS TIME

THIS CONCLUDES THE CONSENT AGENDA

Approval of Minutes

Vice-Chairman Phillips called members' attention to the minutes of the August 27, 2014 TAC meeting included in their agenda packets. He asked if there were any adjustments or corrections to the minutes. With no adjustments or corrections being heard, Mrs. Liz Poole made a motion to approve the minutes as presented and Mr. Al Brown seconded the motion. The TAC members followed with a unanimous vote of approval.

Transit Appointment to the MPO

Director Conrad reminded TAC members that this item was carried over from the August 2014 meeting. Phil explained that one of the requirements of the MAP-21 is that a representative from the transit community must serve on the MPO Board. Phil stated that according to FHWA staff, this requirement can be met with a resolution rather than a formal amendment to the current CR MPO Memorandum of Understanding.

Phil continued on by reminding members that there are four transit operations currently in the CR MPO area and one of those operations has an active Transit Commission. Phil explained that the transit representative should probably be an elected official since all the current TAC representatives are elected officials. By consensus, TAC members agreed.

Phil reminded members that this topic had generated a very lengthy discussion at the last TAC meeting with their final recommendation being to form a subcommittee to bring back a recommendation to the TAC membership at the September 2014 meeting.

Vice-Chairman Phillips reported to members that as a result of the subcommittee recommendation it had been determined to recommend that the TAC Vice-Chairman be designated as the transit representative to the CR MPO Board each year. Since the Vice-Chairman position alternates each year between the two counties all parties would be fully represented in a fair manner. Mr. Bill Feather from the Town of Granite Quarry reported that he was in support of this determination and seemed like a fair solution to Rowan County members.

With little additional discussion, Mr. Reid Walters made a motion to endorse a resolution appointing the TAC Vice-Chairman as the transit representative to the CR MPO Board. Mr. Bill Feather seconded the motion and the members voted unanimously to approve.

Reports/CRMPO Business

- ✓ Local Reports - MPO/TPB/NCDOT Division 9 & 10 – Mr. Pat Ivey, NCDOT Division 9 reviewed the Division 9 projects update list included in the members' packets. Mr. Stuart Basham, NCDOT Division 10 also presented and reviewed current Division 10 projects with the members.
- ✓ NCDOT Rail Update - NCDOT Rail Representatives Jason Oerthner and Jamal Pullen provided a presentation to TAC members on the Piedmont Improvement Program initiative and pictures of construction along the corridor in Cabarrus and Rowan Counties. They also discussed the schedule of specific projects along the corridor with a deadline of 2017 for final completion. They also mentioned a study for a North Kannapolis/Landis grade separation project.
- ✓ Public Transportation Discussion – This item was tabled until the next meeting.
- ✓ MPO Member Spotlight: Town of Mount Pleasant – Phil Conrad provided TAC members with background information and a presentation on the Town of Mount Pleasant. He reported on the progress the Town has made over the years and highlighted their accomplishments. Mr. James Sells added information about the Town's accomplishments as well.
- ✓ TAC Member Info: Metropolitan Transportation Planning – Phil Conrad provided members with a power point presentation explaining Metropolitan Transportation Planning and the responsibilities of the TAC members.
- ✓ SEI Letter – Phil provided members with a copy of a letter received from the NC State Ethics Commission regarding the Statement of Economic Interest filing. The commission

is requesting input from filers regarding the online accessibility of certain information contained in the filings. Contact information for submitting input, comments, concerns and suggestions is included in the letter.

- ✓ Governors Press Conference in Concord – Mrs. Liz Poole reported to TAC members that she had attended a press conference conducted by the Governor at Concord Regional Airport on the new North Carolina Transportation Vision. Liz provided a copy of a handout she received at the meeting and offered to all members present for their review.

Informational Items

- Concord Express, Salisbury Transit, Rowan Express, Cabarrus Links and RIDER Transit Ridership Information - Phil called the TAC members' attention to the ridership information included in their packets.

- Next meeting is October 22, 2014.

Adjournment

With no other business to bring before the TAC, Mr. Bill Feather made a motion to adjourn the September 24, 2014 meeting of the CR MPO. Mrs. Liz Poole seconded the motion and the meeting was adjourned.