

MINUTES

TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Wednesday, September 26, 2012 – 5:30 pm

Salisbury City Hall
217 South Main Street
Salisbury, North Carolina 28146

Members:

John Bradford	Town of Cleveland
Reid Walters	Town of Spencer
Bill Feather	Town of Granite Quarry
Richard Burleyson	Town of Mount Pleasant
Maggie Blackwell	City of Salisbury
Tom Kincaid	City of Kannapolis
Phil Cowherd	Town of Harrisburg
Tony Hilton	Town of Landis
Carl Ford	Rowan County
Elizabeth Poole	Cabarrus County
Richard Wise	Town of Midland
Ralph Womble	NCDOT Board Member

Others:

Phil Conrad	MPO Director
Alex Rankin	Cabarrus Chamber
Loretta Barren	FHWA
Ryan Dayvault	City of Kannapolis
Connie Cunningham	MPO Staff
Linda Dosse	NCDOT-TPB
Pat Ivey	NCDOT-Division 9
Louis Mitchell	NCDOT Division 10
Wilmer Melton	City of Kannapolis
Mike Legg	City of Kannapolis
Dan Mikkelson	City of Salisbury

Call to Order

TAC Chairman Tony Hilton called the September 26, 2012 meeting of the Cabarrus Rowan MPO TAC to order. Chairman Hilton called the roll of eligible TAC voting members and confirmed that a quorum had been met.

Chairman Hilton continued by asking if there were any corrections or additions to the agenda. Chairman Hilton requested that an item concerning the West Fifth Street Extension Grade Separation project in Landis be added under reports. With no other corrections or additions heard, Mr. Bill Feather made a motion to approve the agenda as amended. Mrs. Maggie Blackwell seconded the motion and the TAC members voted unanimously to approve. Chairman Hilton moved to the next item of business.

Chairman Hilton then asked for Commerce updates. Mr. Alex Rankin, representative for the Cabarrus Regional Chamber of Commerce invited TAC members to the Chambers Transportation Committee meeting on September 28, 2012. From the Committee meeting, attendees are also invited to go to the Charlotte Area Listening Session presented by the Piedmont Crescent Partnership and the NC Metro Mayor Coalition. MPO Director Phil Conrad provided TAC members with an agenda for the Listening Session.

Chairman H. A. Hilton asked for any speakers from the floor. With none heard, he moved on to the next order of business.

Approval of Minutes

Chairman Hilton called TAC members' attention to the minutes of the June 27, 2012 TAC meeting included in their agenda packets. With no comments or corrections being heard, Mr. Reid Walters

made a motion to approve the minutes and Mr. Richard Wise seconded the motion. The TAC followed with a unanimous vote to approve the minutes.

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 are presented for TAC consideration on the Consent Agenda:

FY 2012-2018 MTIP Amendment #5

The City of Concord has received federal funding for a traffic management system through NCDOT's Transportation, Community and System Preservation Program (TCSP). Mr. Richard Wise made a motion to endorse and approve Amendment #5 to the FY 2012-2018 MTIP. Mr. Rick Burleyson seconded the motion and TAC members voted unanimously to approve the consent agenda item.

THIS CONCLUDES THE CONSENT AGENDA

DRAFT 2012-2020 TIP and Conformity

Phil Conrad, CR MPO Director informed TAC members that the NDOT Board of Transportation released the Draft TIP on September 5, 2012. The TIP, Phil reported, includes highway, bicycle, pedestrian, rail and transit projects for the fiscal years 2014 to 2020. He continued by stating that as part of the development of the Draft 2014-2020 TIP, the CRMPO submitted a priority list to NCDOT in the fall of 2011. A copy of the MPO Highway TIP Priorities was included in the TAC agenda packets which Mr. Conrad reviewed for the members.

Phil called TAC members' attention to Attachment 4A in their packets and explained that the attachment is the funding report for the highway portion of the Draft 2014-2020 TIP. After review of the attachment, Phil continued by reviewing Attachment 4B which was a summary of schedule changes for major highway projects between the 2012-2018 TIP and the Draft 2014-2020 TIP. Phil reviewed the projects on the summary with TAC members.

After all review and discussion, Phil requested guidance from the TAC members as to whether or not they would want to have a one-on-one meeting with NCDOT to discuss their projects in the Draft TIP. After discussion and by consensus, the TAC agreed that they would like to have a one-on-one meeting. It was decided that the TCC and TAC Chairs and Vice-Chairs would attend on behalf of the CRMPO. Phil is to schedule the meeting.

Federal Certification Review

Phil reported to the TAC members that due to the federal designation as a Transportation Management Area (TMA), the CRMPO is required to participate in a Federal Certification Review every four years. The review Phil explained, was held on June 13 -14, 2012 in Concord with representatives from FHWA, FTA, Title VI - FHWA, and NCDOT. Phil then introduced Mrs. Loretta Barren with FHWA who explained the Certification Review to the TAC members. Included in member's packets was an Executive Summary of the review from FHWA as well as a Summary of Current Review Findings. The

findings were broken down into three categories; Noteworthy Practices, Recommendations, and Corrective Actions. Loretta reviewed some of the findings with the members. TAC members requested an explanation of the corrective action. Loretta explained that FHWA discovered that not only did NCDOT have to demonstrate fiscal constraint of the TIP, but the MPO's statewide do as well. It was assumed in the past that this task was being done, when in fact MPO's were not aware that they needed to do it at all. NCDOT Division 9 and 10 representatives at the meeting as well as the NCDOT Board Members stated they were not aware of this development until now. Mrs. Barren stated that FHWA informed NCDOT Management about this requirement in August 2011 but this detail was not made public to the CRMPO until the Certification Review in June 2012.

Reports & Updates

- Local Reports – MPO/TPB/NCDOT Division 9 & 10 – Mr. Pat Ivey of NCDOT Division 9 reviewed a spreadsheet which contained updates to projects in Division 9 which was included in their agenda packets. Mr. Louis Mitchell the new Division 10 Engineer introduced himself and gave a brief introduction. He provided TAC members with information on projects they had specific questions regarding Division 10 projects. Phil asked Mr. Mitchell when the George Liles Parkway project would be let for construction and he confirmed that it would be in April 2013.
- 24th Street Grade Separation – Pat Ivey, Division 9 Engineer reviewed the project with TAC members. He explained that many meetings had been held in regard to the project and that a large amount of input had been received from the public. He said many hours were spent on design and review of the project by NCDOT and that they had concluded that there was simply no way to design the project to suit everyone's needs or wishes. Representatives from the City of Kannapolis made a request to review other alternatives such as making improvements to 18th or 22nd Street crossings. Mr. Ivey reported that they would take a look at those possibilities and report back to the Kannapolis representatives.
- West Fifth Street Extension – Copies of a letter to the NCDOT Rail Division from the Town of Landis were handed out to TAC members. The letter was in reference to the 24th Street Grade Separation project being cancelled and presented an alternative project, the extension of West Fifth Street over the railroad in Landis. Chairman Hilton explained that Landis had been approached by NCDOT about fifteen years ago to assist in funding an extension of West Fifth Street. At that time the Town was not in a position financially to assist and thus the project was dropped. The letter states that the Town is requesting that NCDOT re-visit the onceproposed project.
- Secondary Roads Paving List – Phil reported that a question had been received from a TAC member in regard to NCDOT roadway maintenance. Mr. Louis Mitchell explained how to add a roadway to the Division 10 NCDOT Roadways Maintenance schedule which was helpful to TAC members with questions regarding this process.
- State of NC Ethics Law – MPO Director Conrad provided a power point presentation to TAC members in regard to the new State Government Ethics Act that now applies to MPO's and RPO's. The presentation provided information on what the Act is, who it pertains to, why it is required, and important deadline dates for compliance. After the presentation, TAC members questioned the need to meet this new requirement for MPO's when they already have to meet strenuous ethics requirements as council members, aldermen, or county commissioners. Phil called members' attention to information contained in their agenda packets on the new requirements. After discussion, the TAC members requested that Phil gather additional information and clarify the requirements. Part of the compliance Phil explained, is to take an Ethics Education class. After discussion about how to do this, TAC members directed staff to

put together a webinar session for TAC and TCC members to meet this requirement. Phil said he would look into what needs to be done to conduct such a program and will email CRMPO TCC and TAC members with the details.

- Rowan County Legislative Goals – Phil called TAC members’ attention to Legislative Goals Proposal Form provided to the MPO by Mr. Carl Ford for Rowan County. Mr. Ford explained that the goal is to restructure MPO’s to have more authority locally to make decisions on how money is spent on projects.
- 2040 LRTP Horizon Year Project List and Schedule - MPO Director Conrad directed TAC members to a memo in their packets titled 2040 CR MPO Financial Forecast. In the memo Phil explains that the MPO develops financial projections for each of the horizon years in order to establish a fiscally constrained project list. The memo explains funding sources available to the MPO. Phil then continued by calling members’ attention to worksheets included in their packets which contained information on projects in the 2012 to 2020 Horizon Years, 2021 to 2030 Horizon Years, and 2031 to 2040 Horizon Years. Phil reviewed all information with TAC members. After this review, Phil called members’ attention to the CRMPO 2040 Long Range Transportation Plan Update schedule.
- TAC Meetings – Phil stated that some questions had come up from members in regard to the TAC meeting locations and schedule. Some members voiced ideas for a central meeting location versus two locations. It was also proposed by a member that the group should meet every month except July, November, and December regardless of whether there are pressing agenda items or not. There were also discussions about the manner in which TAC members receive agenda packets. After all discussions, no decisions or consensus was reached as to the member ideas presented.

Information Items

- ✓ Concord Express, RIDER and Salisbury Transit, both Rowan Express routes, Cabarrus Links and RIDER Para-Transit Ridership - Phil highlighted ridership information included in their packets.
- ✓ 2013 NCDOT Bicycle and Pedestrian Planning Grant – Phil called members’ attention to information in their packets concerning a 2013 Grant Call for Bicycle and Pedestrian projects.
- ✓ NCDOT Complete Streets Workshops – Information was provided in TAC member packets for their review.

Adjournment

With no other business before this committee, Chairman Hilton adjourned the TAC meeting.

Next Meeting: October 24, 2012 in Concord