

# MINUTES

## TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Wednesday, January 27, 2021

### VIRTUAL MEETING DUE TO COVID-19 PANDEMIC

#### Members

Blake Kiger	Cabarrus County
Lori Furr	Town of Mt. Pleasant
JC McKenzie	City of Concord
Karen Alexander	City of Salisbury
Lori Furr	Rowan County
Bill Feather	Town of Granite Quarry
Meredith Bare Smith	Town of Landis
Ron Smith	Town of Harrisburg
Anthony Perkins	NCDOT Board
Stephen Rosenburgh	NCDOT Board
Ryan Dayvault	City of Kannapolis
Charles Seaford	Town of China Grove
Mike Tallent	Town of Midland
Deloris High	Town of East Spencer

#### Others

Phil Conrad	CRMPO Director
Pat Ivey	NCDOT Div 9
Connie Cunningham	CRMPO Staff
Scott Miller	NCDOT Div 10
Brett Canipe	NCDOT Div 10
Andy Bailey	NCDOT TPD
Terry Crawford	City of Concord
Alex Rankin	Cabarrus Chamber
Phillip Craver	NCDOT Div 9
Wilmer Melton	City of Kannapolis
Elaine Spaulding	Rowan Chamber
Loretta Barren	FHWA
Stuart Basham	NCDOT Div 10
Tamara Sheffield	City of Salisbury
Tony Hillian	East Spencer
Ashley Stewart	Town of Landis
Barbara Strang	Cabarrus County
Diamond Staton-Williams	Harrisburg
Eric Boyette	NCDOT Secretary

### Call to Order

TAC Chairman Lori Furr opened the virtual meeting of the Cabarrus Rowan MPO TAC by welcoming everyone to the meeting and asked all present to recite the Pledge of Allegiance to a flag displayed on their screens. After reciting the pledge, Chairman Furr called the roll of eligible voting TAC members and determined that a quorum had been met. Chairman Furr then asked the group to introduce themselves.

After introductions were made, Chairman Furr read the NC State Ethics Commission Ethics Awareness and Conflict of Interest requirement and asked that should a conflict arise during any part of the meeting, TAC members should recuse themselves from that portion of the meeting.

Chairman Furr moved on to Chamber of Commerce updates. Mr. Alex Rankin with the Cabarrus Chamber reported that the Chamber would be holding a Legislative Agenda Review on March 5<sup>th</sup>

to prioritize the goals for 2021. Mrs. Elaine Spaulding from the Rowan County Chamber reported to the TAC members that the Rowan Chamber will be holding a State Legislative PIP on February 15<sup>th</sup> and invited all members. With no other Chamber reports, TAC Chairman Furr called up CRMPO Executive Director Phil Conrad to present the next item.

Director Conrad provided TAC members with a bio introduction for NCDOT Secretary Eric Boyette. Secretary Boyette thanked the members for the opportunity to speak to them about ongoing issues within NCDOT. Secretary Boyette spoke at length regard the NC First Commission and explained that the NC First Commission was organized in March 2019 consisting of thirteen members. The group he explained was tasked with evaluating North Carolina's current and future transportation investment needs and advising the secretary of new or better ways to ensure that critical financial resources are available in the future. Secretary Boyette stated that the NC First Commission has just recently completed their research and have published a final report on their findings and recommendations. He reviewed some of the information contained in the report. The report and findings can be found in entirety on the NCDOT website. Secretary Boyette emphasized that members should feel free to reach out to the NC First Commission Board to better understand the outcome and goals. He closed in stating that NCDOT is working with a FHWA delegation on small town opportunities for more projects and funding.

Director Conrad continued by introducing NCDOT Board of Transportation member Mr. Stephen Rosenburgh. Director Conrad asked if Mr. Rosenburgh had any comments to add to the Secretary's. Mr. Rosenburgh stated that citizens will see a more direct involvement by the NCDOT Board regarding finances. In an effort to get more projects moving, Mr. Rosenburgh reported that new laws and new policies will be looked at and that cooperation among all agencies is vital to success of moving projects forward.

Director Conrad went on to introduce NCDOT Board of Transportation member Mr. Anthony Perkins if he has anything additional to add. Mr. Perkins supported and agreed with Secretary Boyette and Mr. Rosenburgh.

Moving on, TAC Chairman Furr asked if there were any speakers from the floor who would like to speak. With none heard, she moved onto the next order of business.

Chairman Furr then asked if there were any adjustments to the meeting agenda including the Consent Agenda. Director Conrad requested that Item 2 under the consent agenda be moved as Item 4A. With no additional adjustments heard, Mr. Greg Edds made a motion to approve the agenda as amended including the Consent Agenda and Mr. Charles Seaford seconded the motion. The TAC members voted unanimously to approve.

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

All items on the consent agenda are considered 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:

## **DRAFT 2022-2031 TIP Project Call – SPOT Request**

CRMPO Director Phil Conrad reported to the TAC members that the CRMPO held a call for new projects that concluded on January 31, 2019 for the next TIP cycle which is 2022-2031. After review of the submitted projects, NCDOT's SPOT Office determined that project H192609 Poplar Tent and Harris Road is considered a committed project and cannot be quantitatively evaluated. The SPOT Office determined that it would be best to remove the project for P6.0 consideration. Phil then TAC called members' attention to a copy of an email included in their packet regarding the project.

With little discussion, Mr. Greg Edds made a motion to endorse this request to remove H192609 from SPOT P6.0. Mrs. Karen Alexander seconded the motion and the TAC members voted unanimously to approve.

## **Salisbury Transit Public Transportation Safety Plan**

CRMPO Director Phil Conrad reported to the TAC members that the Public Transportation Agency Safety Plan (PTASP) final rule 49 C.F.R. Part 673, requires certain operators of public transportation systems that are recipients or sub-recipients of FTA grant funds to develop safety plans that include the process and procedures necessary for implementing Safety Management Systems.

Mr. Rodney Harrison with Salisbury Transit addressed the members and explained that the PTASP was approved by the City of Salisbury's City Council and that the City is requesting the CRMPO review and approve their Plan as well. MPO approval is required for final approval and certification by NCDOT. Phil called members' attention to Attachment 4 in their packets which was a copy of the 37-page Plan.

With little discussion, Mr. Greg Edds made a motion to approve the Salisbury Transit Public Transportation Agency Safety Plan. Mrs. Karen Alexander seconded the motion and the TAC members voted unanimously to approve.

## **FY 2020-2029 MTIP Modification #4**

CRMPO Director Phil Conrad reminded TAC members that MPO staff is at times requested to bring amendments or modifications from recent NCDOT Board of Transportation agendas to the TCC/TAC for consideration. A request from the last NCDOT BOT meeting was made to modify additional projects. Director Conrad called members' attention to the information included in their packets regarding the specific project modifications.

The first project modification is the delay in right-of-way to B-5805 to FY2021 for a bridge project onus 29/US601. The second modification is for project AV-5820 which would delay the right-of-way to FY 2028 for an aircraft helipad at the Rowan County Airport. The third and final modification is for B-5772 which requests a delay in construction to FY2022 for the Hurley School Road bridge replacement over the railroad tracks.

He then called members' attention to Attachment 2 which was a draft resolution modifying the MTIP for these projects. At that time NCDOT Division 9 Engineer Mr. Pat Ivey addressed the members. Mr. Ivey requested that project HS2009A be added to MTIP Modification #4. Mr. Ivey explained this project is being done with Safety Funds and is going to be let to contract before July 1, 2021 therefore his request is to expedite approval by the MPO. The proposed wide lines have shown safety benefits in reducing run-off road collisions on our secondary roads. Mr. Ivey explained this project would add roadway striping for 18 roads in Rowan County.

Director Conrad asked for any questions or comments regarding the information presented. With none heard, Mr. Ron Smith made a motion to endorse modification #4 with the addition of project HS2009A to the FY 2020-2029 MTIP. Mrs. Karen Alexander seconded the motion and the TAC members voted unanimously to approve.

## **THIS CONCLUDES THE CONSENT AGENDA**

### **Approval of October 28, 2020 Minutes**

Chairman Furr called the members' attention to the minutes from the October 28, 2020 meeting included in their meeting packets. Chairman Furr asked if there were any corrections or additions to the minutes. With none being heard, Mr. Greg Edds made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Mr. Charles Seaford seconded the motion and the TAC members followed with a unanimous vote to approve.

### **Nomination and Election of TCC Vice-Chair**

CRMPO Executive Director Phil Conrad reported to the TAC members that the Cabarrus Rowan MPO TAC Bylaws state that a new TAC Vice-Chair must be elected each year. Director Conrad stated that the Vice-Chair will rotate to the Chair position in January 2022. He also stated that the TAC would need to nominate and elect a Vice-Chair from Rowan County at tonight's meeting since the current Chair was from Cabarrus County. With that being said, Mr. Greg Edds nominated the Mayor of Landis, Mrs. Meredith Bare Smith for the 2021 Vice Chair of the CRMPO TAC. Mrs. Karen Alexander seconded that motion. Mr. Charles Seaford then made a motion to close the nominations and Mr. Blake Kiger seconded that motion. The TAC members voted unanimously to approve Mrs. Bare Smith to the position.

### **Performance-Based Planning: Safety Targets**

Director Conrad informed the TAC members that the federal transportation legislation or FAST Act requires State DOT's and MPO's to adopt performance-based planning as a component of the metropolitan transportation planning process. He continued by saying that NCDOT recently released the next round of safety targets for North Carolina and that it is up to each MPO to either adopt those targets or create their own. Director Conrad informed members that the proposed

Safety Targets will be published on the CRMPO website. Phil also reported that no public comments were submitted during the open comment period which ended on January 13, 2021.

Director Conrad called members' attention to a memo included in their packets pertaining to the safety targets. He continued by stating Attachment 7 also included in their packets was a draft resolution in support of the new Safety Targets for year 2021. Phil reported that approving safety targets has now become an annual requirement and this year's deadline for submittal is February 27, 2021.

With no comments or discussions heard, Mr. Ron Smith made a motion to endorse the 2021 Safety Targets. Mr. Charles Seaford seconded the motion and the TAC members voted unanimously to approve.

### **CTP Amendment**

Director Conrad reminded TAC members that CRMPO staff had presented some Comprehensive Transportation Plan (CTP) amendments to the Public Transportation and Rail Map to them and the CRMPO TAC back in October 2020. The amendments Director Conrad explained, were associated with the Cabarrus County Public Transportation Master Plan. He also explained that a public comment period for these amendments concluded on December 16, 2020.

Director Conrad reviewed the map with the members and informed them that the last time this map was amended was in June 2020. He also explained that the City of Concord did a CTP that will be incorporated. In closing, Director Conrad called members' attention to Attachment 8B which was the Draft adoption resolution for the CTP amendment.

With no questions or discussions, Mr. JC McKenzie made a motion to endorse the CTP amendments as presented in the Public Transportation and Rail Map. Mrs. Karen Alexander seconded the motion and the TAC members voted unanimously to approve.

### **Reports/CRMPO Business**

1. Local Reports - NCDOT Division 9 & 10 – Mr. Pat Ivey, NCDOT Division 9 called TAC members' attention to the Division 9 Updates included in their meeting packet. He reviewed projects that are coming to completion.  
Mr. Brett Canipe, NCDOT Division 10 Engineer reviewed for members projects included in the updates spreadsheet that was included in their packet.
2. Mr. Brett Canipe, NCDOT Division 10 provided TAC members information on how COVID-19 has impacted funding for projects. He reported that some revenues are still down but that some projects are starting to be released for construction.
3. 2050 DRAFT MTP Projects List\_- Director Conrad reported to the members that the 2050 Draft MTP Projects List is out for public comment and that no comments have been received yet.

4. FY 2021-2022 UPWP – Director Phil Conrad called the members’ attention to the Draft CRMPO Budget for FY 2021-2022. He reviewed the budget with them calling attention to line item II-B-III. He reported that the proposed budget would allocate \$104,000 to the Special Planning Studies. Director Conrad also informed the members that work has begun on the 4-Year MTP Plan update.
5. Regional Transit Plan HCT Recommendations – Director Conrad called attention to the High Capacity Corridors map in their packets and reviewed it with them.
6. CMAQ Project Call – Director Conrad reported that the deadline for candidate project submittals is the end of February 2021. He called members’ attention to an email in their packets providing additional information.
7. TAC Member Orientation: Metropolitan Transportation Planning Legislative Caucus – This item was tabled due to difficulties in showing the digital presentation.

### **Informational Items**

- ✦ RIDER Transit and Salisbury Transit Ridership Information - Phil called the TAC members’ attention to the ridership information included in their packets.
- ✦ Little Texas Road Sidewalk Public Meeting – January 26, 2021 at 6:00 pm.

Next Meeting is February 24, 2021

### **Adjournment**

With no other business to bring before the TAC, Mr. Ron Smith made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Mr. Charles Seaford followed with a second and the meeting was adjourned.