

MINUTES

TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Wednesday, November 15, 2017

North Carolina Research Campus
UNC Building
Room 2201
500 Laureate Way
Kannapolis, North Carolina 28081

Members:

Bobby Moore
Tommy Garver
Al Brown
Liz Poole
Ryan Dayvault
Benita Conrad
Bill Feather
Deloris High
Jim Greene
Brandon Linn

Town of Rockwell
Town of Landis
City of Concord
Cabarrus County
City of Kannapolis
Town of Harrisburg
Town of Granite Quarry
Town of East Spencer
Rowan County
Town of China Grove

Others:

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| Phil Conrad | CRMPO Director |
| Stuart Basham | NCDOT Div 10 |
| Barbi Jones | Cabarrus Chamber |
| Connie Cunningham | CRMPO Staff |
| Alex Rankin | Cabarrus Chamber |
| Reuben Crummy | NCDOT - TPB |
| Pat Ivey | NCDOT Div 9 |
| Wilmer Melton | City of Kannapolis |

Call to Order

The November 2017 meeting of the Cabarrus Rowan MPO TAC was called to order by TAC Chair Liz Poole. TAC Chair Poole welcomed the members and proceeded by asking all present to please stand and recite the Pledge of Allegiance. TAC Chair Liz Poole continued the meeting by calling the roll of eligible voting members to determine that a quorum had been met.

TAC Chair Mrs. Liz Poole continued by reading 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, the member should recuse themselves from that portion of the meeting.

TAC Chair Liz Poole then asked for any Chamber of Commerce updates or reports. Mr. Alex Rankin with the Cabarrus Chamber deferred to Chamber President Mrs. Barbi Jones to provide an update. Mrs. Jones invited members to the Chamber Business After Hours and What's Up CabCo?, which will be held at the Hilton Hotel on December 7, 2017. She went on to say that there will be an opportunity to meet and speak with elected officials from Cabarrus County as well as meet others in the business community. The featured speaker for the event will be Warren Cooksey, Director of Outreach and Community Affairs for the North Carolina Turnpike Authority, a division of the North Carolina Department of Transportation.

With no other chamber reports being heard, TAC Chair Liz Poole asked if there were any speakers from the floor. Ms. Violet Mitchell from Kannapolis addressed Chairman Poole and asked to

address the members of the TAC. Ms. Mitchell addressed the members in regard to a sidewalk project on North and South Little Texas Road. Ms. Mitchell relayed that she had spoken with officials at NCDOT in regard to the length of time it will take to complete this project in full, and the dangers that exist in such a long wait. Only a section of the project will be completed in the near future with the remainder of the sidewalks not being completed until 2024. Mr. Ryan Dayvault, City of Kannapolis representative agreed with Ms. Mitchell's description of the dangers and stated that the City is also concerned about the length of time for the project to be completely finished due to funding allocations. CRMPO Executive Director Phil Conrad explained the project selection process for this project. Mr. Dayvault asked if the MPO could send NCDOT a letter of support requesting that the segments of the project be expedited. In closing, Ms. Mitchell sang a song to the members that she had written about the issue. Chairman Poole thanked Ms. Mitchell for coming to the meeting.

TAC Chair Liz Poole continued with the meeting by asking if there were any adjustments to the agenda or the consent agenda. Director Conrad requested that an item be added under the Reports Section. The item was an Air Quality Update. With no other requested heard, Mr. Ryan Dayvault made a motion to accept the Agenda and Consent Agenda as amended and Mr. Bobby Moore seconded the motion. TAC 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

THIS CONCLUDES THE CONSENT AGENDA

Approval of August 23, 2017 Minutes

TAC Chair Liz Poole called TAC members' attention to the minutes of the August 23, 2017 meeting of the CRMPO TAC included in their agenda packets. She asked if there were any adjustments or corrections to the minutes. With no adjustments or corrections being heard, Mr. Bill Feather made a motion to approve the minutes as presented and Mr. Ryan Dayvault seconded the motion. The TAC members followed with a unanimous vote of approval.

High Impact/Low Cost Funds

Mr. Stuart Basham from NCDOT Division 10 and Mr. Pat Ivy from NCDOT Division 9 provided presentations to the TAC members in regard to NCDOT's High Impact/Low Cost Project Selection Criteria. They reported to the members that as part of Senate Bill 257, Section 34.7.(c) -Current Operations Appropriations Act of 2017, each Division office is required to develop a quantitative, evidence based scoring formula to use in selecting projects to receive funding under this program.

They called TAC members' attention to a DRAFT information sheet in their packets which was a spreadsheet of the scoring criteria. Members were informed that under the Act, the funds will be allocated equally among the 14 Highway Divisions and projects for intersection improvements, minor widening projects, and operational improvement projects.

Stuart reviewed the criteria information with the members which outlined how points might be allocated. The criteria included Traffic Volume, Traffic Restrictions, Safety, Roadway Characteristics, Level of Service, Multimodal Benefits, Other Funding Availability and County Economic Well Being.

Pat reviewed that in Division 9, the Cabarrus Rowan MPO projects being considered are the roundabout at Highway 153 and Cannon Farm Road and turn lanes at Heilig Road and Faith Road. Stuart explained that the Cabarrus Rowan MPO projects in Division 10 were a roundabout at Highway 3 and Odell School Road and turn lanes at Poplar Tent Road and Rock Hill Church Road.

After all discussion, Mr. Jim Greene made a motion that the CRMPO TAC send a Resolution of Support for High Impact/Low Cost Projects proposed by Division 9 to NCDOT. Mr. Ryan Dayvault seconded that motion and the TAC voted unanimously to approve. After the vote was closed, Mrs. Benita Conrad made a motion that the CRMPO TAC send a Resolution of Support for High Impact/Low Cost Projects proposed by Division 10. Mr. Al Brown seconded that motion and TAC members again voted unanimously to approve.

Draft Public Participation Policy Revisions

CRMPO Executive Director Phil Conrad reported that at the last Federal Certification Review, the Federal Highway Administration suggested that the CR MPO consider some modifications to the CRMPO's Public Involvement Policy document. These modifications, Phil reported would make the Policy document consistent with the recent FAST Act.

Phil reminded members that this committee had authorized release of the modifications for a forty-five day public comment period, which ended on August 24, 2017 and that there were no public comments received.

Phil then called members' attention to Attachment #4 in their meeting packets which was a draft of the revised CRMPO Public Involvement Policy, and reviewed the sixteen page draft document with the members. He called members' attention to the addition of the RIDER Transit System Program of Projects that had been added to the document as well as the addition of a Performance Measures section.

Once Phil completed the review and there were no questions, Mr. Bill Feather made a motion to approve the CRMPO Public Involvement Policy. Mrs. Deloris High seconded that motion and the TAC members voted unanimously to approve the motion.

FY 2017-18 UPWP Amendment #1

Phil reported to the TAC members that CRMPO staff is bringing an amendment from a NCDOT Board of Transportation agenda for their consideration. This project amendment Phil explained, is in regard to a cost increase in U-5761, the Dale Earnhardt/US 29 intersection project. Phil called members' attention to information in their meeting packets regarding the requested amendment.

With no discussion heard, Mr. Ryan Dayvault made a motion to approve Amendment #1 to the FY2017-2018 UPWP. Mr. Bill Feather seconded that motion and it was followed by a unanimous vote of approval by the TAC members.

Reports/CRMPO Business

- Local Reports - MPO/TPB/NCDOT Division 9 & 10 – Mr. Pat Ivey, NCDOT Division 9 reviewed the Division 9 project updates included in the members' packets. Pat reported to the members that projects associated with the widening of I-85 are moving along and is currently approximately 35% complete. He also went on to say that project W-5313 has encountered some utility relocation issues and will be somewhat delayed.

Mr. Stuart Basham, NCDOT Division 10 reviewed updates on the Division 10 projects. He reported that the portion of the I-85 widening project located in Division 10 is making good progress. He also explained that U-3440 which is the NC 3 widening project is currently stalled due to some utility relocation issues. He continued by reporting that the right-of-way for the Concord Mills flyover has been completed and that the project should be let by December 19, 2017. Stuart announced that Mr. Scott Cole, NCDOT Division 10 has been promoted to Division 10 Engineer replacing Mr. Louis Mitchell who was promoted to Western Deputy Chief Engineer for Divisions 1-6 and 8. Mr. Cole's former position of Deputy Division Engineer will be filled by Mr. Brett Canipe.

In closing, Stuart informed members that NCDOT currently has a bike helmet initiative in progress and will be giving away 4000 helmets to riders.

- 2018 TAP ADA Funds – CRMPO Executive Director Phil Conrad reported to TAC members that Transportation Alternatives Program funds are available for certain projects. He explained what TAP funds are and what types of projects are eligible for these funds. Phil also explained that these funds are available to both Division 9 and Division 10 projects that meet the criteria and score well. Phil directed members' attention to a letter from NCDOT Chief Engineer Michael Holder included in their packets which provided additional information about how the funding works. Phil reported that new project submittals would be accepted until December 4, 2017.
- NCDOT 2018 Safety Targets – Phil called TAC member's attention to a letter included in their packets from Mr. Daryl Vreeland, Transportation Engineer in the NCDOT Transportation Planning Division. The letter identified the five targets for safety related performance measures that were recently determined. The letter provided a deadline of February 27, 2018 for MPO's to create and adopt a resolution of their own safety targets or adopt a resolution supporting NCDOT safety targets.

- 2045 MTP Update – Phil reported that CRMPO staff is continuing to work on the update.
- Air Quality - Phil provided members with a power point presentation on the 2015 National Ambient Air Quality Standards for Ozone Nonattainment Area Classifications and State Implementation Plan Requirements. Phil explained the types of ozone, what non-attainment means and what measures are necessary to reach attainment. He reiterated that NC has made the recommendation to the EPA that the entire state be designated attainment and that a final decision on the recommendation should be made approximately sixty days after November 6, 2017.

Informational Items

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

- Next Meeting is January 24, 2018

Adjournment

With no other business to bring before the TAC, Chair Liz Poole adjourned the meeting.