

# MINUTES

## TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Wednesday, January 25, 2017

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

### Members:

Elizabeth Poole  
Bobby Moore  
Dorland Abernathy  
Al Brown  
Benita Conrad  
Greg Edds  
Ryan Dayvault  
Deloris High  
Richard Wise  
Bill Feather  
Jim Gobbel  
Mike Upright  
Maggie Blackwell

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

### Others:

Phil Conrad CRMPO Director  
Warren Cooksey NCDOT Div 10  
Scott Cole NCDOT Div 10  
Stuart Basham NCDOT Div 10  
Alex Rankin Cabarrus Chamber  
Denise Hallet Cabarrus Chamber  
Reuben Crummy NCDOT - TPB  
Pat Ivey NCDOT Div 9  
Connie Cunningham CRMPO Staff  
Brian Wert NCDOT-TPB  
Richard Smith Midland  
Richard McMillan Midland  
Wilmer Melton Kannapolis  
Deborah Carter Cabarrus Chamber  
Elaine Spaulding Rowan Chamber

### Call to Order

Newly elected TAC Chair Liz Poole called the meeting of the Cabarrus Rowan MPO TAC to order. Chairman Poole welcomed everyone before asking those present to please stand and recite the Pledge of Allegiance. Chairman Poole continued the meeting by calling the roll of eligible voting members and determined that a quorum had been met. She then asked that those present introduce themselves.

After all introductions were made, Chairman 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. Chairman Poole then asked for any Chamber of Commerce updates or reports. Mrs. Denise Hallett with the Cabarrus Chamber announced that Mr. Randy Welch has been named the Chamber's Chairman of Advocacy which includes Transportation. She went on to thank the TAC members for their continued efforts towards making transportation improvements in our area. Mrs. Elaine Spaulding with the Rowan Chamber addressed the TAC

members and invited them to Rowan Chamber's Power in Partnership breakfast on February 16, 2017 at the Freightliner Truck plant.

With no other chambers reports, Chairman Poole asked if there were any speakers from the floor to be heard. With none heard, Chairman Poole continued by asking if there were any adjustments to the agenda or the consent agenda. Cabarrus Rowan MPO Executive Director Phil Conrad addressed Chairman Poole and requested that an item on the 2045 MTP be added to the end of the list under Reports. With no other requests made, Mr. Ryan Dayvault made a motion to accept the Agenda and Consent Agenda as amended and Mr. Rich Wise 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:

#### **Old Beatty Ford Road Bridge Request**

MPO Director Conrad reported to the TAC members that the amended 2016-2025 STIP includes the construction of a new I-85 interchange north of Old Beatty Ford Road. This new interchange identified as Project I-3804 is to be constructed concurrently with the I-3802B widening project.

#### **FY 2016-2017 UPWP Amendment #1**

Director Conrad explained to the members that the City of Concord and RIDER Transit have requested that the CRMPO amend the Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) to include federal funds to produce a long range transit plan for Cabarrus County. The plan funded by using Section 5307 federal funds, will evaluate the type and level of transit service needed locally and regionally.

With no discussion heard, Mr. Rich Wise made a motion to approve both items under the Consent Agenda. Mr. Jim Gobbel seconded the motion and TAC members voted unanimously to approve.

### **THIS CONCLUDES THE CONSENT AGENDA**

#### **Approval of August 24, 2016 Minutes**

Chairman Poole called TAC members' attention to the minutes of the October 26, 2016 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. Jim Gobbel made a motion to approve the minutes as presented and Mr. Rich Wise seconded the motion. The TAC members followed with a unanimous vote of approval.

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

MPO Director Phil Conrad reported that the Cabarrus-Rowan TAC Bylaws state that a new TAC Vice-Chair must be elected each year. Phil reported that the Vice-Chair will rotate to the Chair position in January 2018. He stated that the TAC would need to nominate and elect a Vice-Chair from Rowan County at today's meeting since the current Chair was from Cabarrus County.

With little discussion, Mr. Greg Edds made a motion to nominate Mr. Ryan Dayvault for the 2017 TAC Vice-Chair if he would accept it. Mr. Dayvault said he would and Mr. Bill Feather proceeded by seconding the nomination. The TAC members then voted unanimously to approve Mr. Dayvault as the 2017 TAC Vice-Chairman.

### **Proposed New CMAQ Project – Town of Midland**

Director Conrad reported to the TAC members that the Town of Midland had been awarded about \$112,248 in FY 2015 by the CRMPO for CMAQ project C-5503. The proposed project was to design and construct sidewalks and crosswalks at the intersection of US Hwy 601 and NC 24/27. Phil then introduced Mr. Richard Smith of Benchmark Planning who is representing the Town of Midland in presenting this proposed new project.

Mr. Smith addressed the members and explained that the Town of Midland would like to shift the CMAQ funding from their originally approved project site to a new location on Bethel School Road. Due to the recent opening of the new Rob Wallace Park by Cabarrus County in Midland's jurisdiction, the Town feels that the funding would be better spent on a crosswalk, signalization, and a sidewalk that would join area developments such as Saddlebrook, Bethel Glen, and Brentwood to the Park. Shifting funding from the original project to this new project would encourage these adjacent developments and future ones to utilize pedestrian access to the Park.

Phil then called members' attention to information in their packets on the project with included Attachment 6A – Original Agreement from NCDOT, Attachment 6B – New Project CMAQ Application and Attachment 6C – Letter of Support for the Project from the Town of Midland. TAC Chairman Poole reported to members that she had attended the soft opening of Rob Wallace Park and explained the features of the park and what an addition it is for Cabarrus County. She encouraged members to visit the park.

With no more discussion, Mr. Ryan Dayvault made a motion to endorse the CMAQ application for the pedestrian connection to Saddlebrook, Bethel Glen, and Brentwood subdivisions with Rob Wallace Park. Mr. Rich Wise seconded the motion and the TAC members voted unanimously to approve.

### **Proposed CMAQ Project Submittals**

Director Phil Conrad reminded TAC members that Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) funds are a federal funding source for areas designated non-attainment by the Environmental Project Agency (EPA). He went on to say that to receive CMAQ funding the local sponsor is required to contribute a 20 percent match. Phil explained that eligible projects must demonstrate an emissions reduction benefit to the local area making the request.

Phil continued by saying that the CRMPO has two existing CMAQ Project Proposals currently in the NCDOT system and that the MPO received four new project proposals by the December 2016 deadline for submittals. He went on to say that new project applications must be submitted to NCDOT by March 15, 2017 for interagency review.

Phil called members' attention to Attachment 7A which was a table listing all of the CMAQ projects being considered. He called attention to copies of all of the new project applications included in their packets and reviewed all of the projects with the members. He then reported that NCDOT has indicated that the CRMPO should anticipate receiving approximately \$1.6 million per year in CMAQ funds for FY 2018 and FY2019. If that is the case, about two-thirds of the CRMPO proposed CMAQ projects can be funded with this existing revenue source. Phil concluded by calling members' attention to Attachment 7B, which outlines the estimated FAST Act CMAQ Apportionment.

After all review, Phil handed out copies of Attachment 7C which was a draft Resolution of Support for the CMAQ project submittals. Mr. Bill Feather addressed Director Conrad and asked how the projects were ranked in the order that they are currently ranked and could the ranking be changed. Phil reported that cost and the ability to fully fund projects were considered in the ranking and that the TAC could rank the projects however they wished within the FY year. Mr. Feather expressed that his opinion was that the project with the most annual emission reductions should be ranked first and that the number one project should move to number three on the list.

After little discussions, Mr. Bill Feather made a motion to endorse the CMAQ Project submittals after moving the number one ranked project to number three and adding project number three to the number one ranking position. Mr. Greg Edds seconded the motion and the TAC members voted unanimously to approve.

### **Draft Comprehensive Transportation Plan**

Director Conrad informed the TAC members that NCDOT, CRMPO TCC and MPO staff has spent the past year working on a series of maps to update the Comprehensive Transportation Plan (CTP). These maps Phil explained, will complement the current adopted and fiscally constrained MTP. Phil went on to say that NCDOT is requesting adoption of the CTP maps. An advertised thirty day public comment period ended on December 14, 2016 and a public meeting was held in China Grove on November 15, 2016 in conjunction with a NCDOT Open House.

Phil then introduced Mr. Reuben Crummy from NCDOT – TPB who reported that all updates provided by the CRMPO jurisdictions have been incorporated into the CTP maps and are now ready to be adopted by the TAC. With no questions or discussion, Mr. Dorland Abernathy made a motion to adopt the CTP maps and Mr. Al Brown seconded the motion. The TAC 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 project updates included in the members' packets. Pat called members' attention to specific projects within the Division 9 MPO area and reported on their progress. Pat said he would be happy to answer any individual questions after the

meeting. Mr. Stuart Basham, NCDOT Division 10 reviewed updates on the Division 10 projects from the information included in TAC members' packets as well. Stuart also reported that the Draft TIP will be voted on at the Board of Transportation meeting in June 2017. If approved, the effective date after approval will be October 1, 2017.

- DRAFT 2018-2027 TIP Release – Phil projected the information on an overhead screen for all the members to see. He read through the summary of information for the members.
- DRAFT 2020-2029 TIP Project Call – Phil informed TAC members that a call for new projects will begin soon to all CRMPO jurisdictions and the public. He stated that all project submissions must be submitted to the SPOT office by July 2017.
- Proposed Federal Rule on Coordination and Planning Area Reform Update - Phil Conrad referred TAC members to a summary included in their packets of the finalized Federal Planning Rule. He stated that the implementation schedule has been moved back to 2024 but that under the new administration, this reform could change the implementation date.
- Draft 2016-2017 Planning Work Program – Phil Conrad reported that each year the CRMPO develops and adopts a Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP). The UPWP is the MPO's budget and follows the state fiscal year 2017-2018. Phil explained that the UPWP identifies the planning tasks, responsible agencies, and funding sources for regional transportation planning activities to be conducted within the planning area during the next fiscal year.

He called members' attention to the DRAFT UPWP included in their packets and reviewed it with the members. Phil concluded by saying that it would come back to them in final form at a later date. He also reviewed the local match worksheet that was included in the meeting packet.

- 2017 SEI Requirement - Phil directed member's attention to an email from Ms. Diana Latta State Ethics Commission Paralegal II in their packets. The email provides information on the requirements for TAC members in filing SEI forms.
- 2045 MTP Update – Phil presented TAC members with a power point presentation explaining the process for gathering information and what information is needed for the update.

### **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.
- Mr. Jake Alexander, Board of Transportation member addressed the TAC and informed them that this would be his last meeting. With the changed in administration, he will no longer serve as a NC Board of Transportation

member. He expressed his gratitude to the members and said that he had enjoyed coming to the meetings and participating in the good work of the MPO.

- Mr. Ryan Dayvault expressed concern to NCDOT Division 10 representatives that the Curb Motorsports Museum and the NC Music Hall of Fame do not have signs on I-85 directing visitors to their location. Mr. Scott Cole with Division 10 reported that signage will be added as part of the widening project on I-85.
- Mrs. Maggie Blackwell informed members that Mr. Kyle Petty will perform at Catawba College on February 4, 2017 at 7:30 pm and is open to the public.
- Next Meeting is February 22, 2017

### **Adjournment**

With no other business to bring before the TAC, Mr. Rich Wise made a motion to adjourn the meeting and was seconded by Mr. Dorland Abernathy. Chairman Poole closed the meeting by thanking everyone for coming.