

MINUTES

TECHNICAL COORDINATING COMMITTEE

Wednesday, August 21, 2019

NC Research Campus
Kannapolis City Hall
401 Laureate Way
Kannapolis, North Carolina 28081

Members:

Phillip Graham	City of Concord
Susie Morris	Cabarrus County
Ed Muire	Rowan County & Town of Cleveland
Wilmer Melton	City of Kannapolis
Erin Burris	Town of Mt. Pleasant
Franklin Gover	Town of China Grove
Wendy Brindle	City of Salisbury
Andy Bailey	NCDOT TPD
Stuart Basham	NCDOT Div. 10
Sushil Nepal	Town of Harrisburg

Others:

Phil Conrad	CRMPO Director
Connie Cunningham	MPO Staff
Phil Collins	Concord
Loretta Barren	FHWA
Brielle Hartney	Concord
Franklin Barnes	Rowan Transit
LJ Weslowski	RIDER Transit
Darrell Hinnant	Kannapolis

Call to Order

The August 21, 2019 meeting of the Cabarrus Rowan MPO TCC was called to order by TCC Chair Wilmer Melton. After welcoming the members, Chairman Melton called the roll of eligible TCC members and determined that a quorum was met.

Chairman Melton then asked for any additions or corrections to the agenda. Vice Chair Wendy Brindle addressed the members and requested that an item be added under Reports which was a request from the City of Salisbury regarding their transit system. With no other corrections or additions being heard, Mr. Ed Muire made a motion to approve the agenda with the noted additions or corrections and Vice Chair Brindle seconded that motion. The TCC members voted unanimous approval. Chairman Melton then asked for any speakers from the floor. With none being heard he moved on to the next item of business.

Approval of Minutes

Chairman Melton called the TCC members' attention to the May 15, 2019 meeting minutes included in their meeting packets. Chairman Melton asked if there were any corrections or additions to the minutes. With no corrections or additions being heard, Vice Chair Wendy Brindle made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Mr. Phillip Graham seconded the motion and the TCC members voted unanimously to approve.

“Draft” 2020-2029 TIP

Director Phil Conrad reported to the TCC that NCDOT has applied their methodology to ranking the transportation projects across North Carolina and has also incorporated the quantitative scores from MPO's and each Division Engineers rankings. Phil went on to say that the *Draft* FY 2020-2029 TIP had been released initially for public comment at the January meeting of the Board of Transportation. Phil continued by stating that the *Draft* FY2020-2029 had to be re-released at the August meeting of the Board of Transportation.

Mr. Stuart Basham, NCDOT Division 10 explained that issues began to arise across the State after the first public comment period release in the Draft TIP. Those issues Mr. Basham stated were due to project cost overruns due to increases in materials and labor costs as well as the effects of damage caused by hurricanes and unexpected larger than normal amounts of snowfalls. Stuart stated that NCDOT is letting the revenues catch up to the expenditures and will move forward with projects, but more cuts could be possible later. In closing, Stuart reported that the Board of Transportation is scheduled to adopt the *Draft* FY2020-2029 TIP at their September 2019 meeting.

“Draft” STBG Methodology

Director Conrad reminded the TCC members that NCDOT staff had provided them with a presentation on funding and at the close of their presentation, requested a swap of \$6 million in STBG (Surface Transportation Block Grant) funds that are to be repaid in the future. Director Conrad reported that the CRMPO had a total available balance of \$7.6 million in STBG funds that are normally used on high priority and hard to fund projects. Phil went on to say that unfortunately the criteria for selecting those types of projects for funding has changed and as a result of those changes, the CRMPO has no projects that scored high enough to be considered for the non-federal match.

Based on those changes, MPO staff was directed to begin creating a methodology to score any STBG projects being considered for submittal. Staff worked with a TCC subcommittee to develop this methodology and is being presented to them today for their feedback. Phil called members' attention to Attachment #4 in their packets which was the CRMPO STBG Eligibility Criterial Methodology for candidate projects. Phil reviewed the *Draft* document with the TCC members and explained the different points included in the criteria. It included a minimum eligibility requirement, STBG eligible activities, eligible costs, project evaluation criteria, project budget and project implementation. After review and discussion, it was determined to minimally change some of the wording in Project Evaluation Criteria under paragraph 3 to be better defined.

After all discussions were finished, Mrs. Susie Morris made a motion to recommend that the CRMPO TAC consider endorsing the CRMPO STBG Eligibility Criterial Methodology with changes Phil is to make to paragraph #3. Vice Chairman Wendy Brindle seconded the motion and all TCC members voted unanimously to approve.

FY 2019-2020 UPWP Amendment #1

Director Phil Conrad informed the TCC members that NCDOT had sent an email on July 3, 2019 to let the CRMPO know that they are eligible to receive up to \$206,098 in additional PL

funds for FY 2019-2020. Phil reminded TCC members that they currently have \$30,000 budgeted currently in special study funds that not been assigned to fund any project. Phil then called members' attention to two FY 2020 SPR Funding Request Applications included in their packets from the Town of China Grove. Mr. Franklin Gover addressed the TCC members and explained that since the packets were sent out, the Town of China Grove had withdrawn the application for the China Grove Main Street Corridor Study and were only requesting funding assistance on the China Grove/US 29 Interchange and Corridor Study. Mr. Gover reported that the Town of China Grove would be covering the local match required. After all discussion was complete, Mr. Ed Muire made a motion to recommend that the CRMPO TAC consider adopting amendment #1 regarding the China Grove request. Mr. Sushil Nepal seconded the motion and the TCC members voted unanimously to approve.

Phil continued by reporting that the second project funding request was from RIDER Transit System to participate in a regional transit study. Mr. L.J Weslowski, RIDER Transit Director provided members with a power point presentation which outlined their request. The amount being requested as reported by Mr. Weslowski, is to participate in the regional study and not fund the whole study. After the presentation was complete, Phil called members' attention to Attachment #5 A which was a breakdown of the local match that would be required by all jurisdictions to provide for this project. Phil closed by calling members' attention to Attachment #5B which was a draft Resolution of support for both requests.

With no further discussion or comments, Vice Chair Wendy Brindle made a motion to recommend that the CRMPO TAC consider adopting amendment #1 for the RIDER Transit System request. Mr. Phillip Graham seconded the motion and TCC members voted unanimously to approve.

Title VI Plan

CRMPO Director Phil Conrad informed the TCC members that NCDOT's Office of Civil Rights (ORC) started in 2011 requiring MPO's to comply with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. MPO's across the state were required to take steps to provide assurances that they would not discriminate based on race, color, sex, age, national origin or disability in authorizing of funds or selection of projects. As part of the task, policies and procedures were established to address discrimination complaints lodged against the MPO's.

Phil went on to say that in the Fall of 2018, NCDOT's Transportation Planning Division (PTD) provided all MPO's with a template and requested all MPO's use it to revise their respective Title VI Program Plan by December 3, 2018. Once the revisions were complete the CRMPO's Plan was reviewed by the Office of Civil Rights and the CRMPO received suggested edits from TPD on May 30, 2019. Those edits were added into the document. Phil closed in calling members' attention to Attachment #6 which was a copy of the CRMPO Title VI Program Plan for their final review with all edits incorporated. Mr. Andy Bailey added that the Plan should be adopted as soon as possible to meet required deadlines.

With no further discussion, Mrs. Susie Morris made a motion to recommend that the CRMPO TAC consider adopted the CRMPO's Title VI Program Plan. Mrs. Erin Burris seconded the motion and the TCC members voted unanimously to approve.

FY 2018-2027 MTIP Modification #2

Director Conrad reminded the members that periodically MPO Staff brings amendments or modifications to them and the CRMPO TAC from the latest NCDOT Board of Transportation agendas for consideration. Phil stated that the first modification being brought before them is a delay in the right-of-way schedule to FY 2021 project AV-5820, the Aircraft Apron/Helipad Project. The second project being brought to them Phil explained, is to add right-of-way funds in FY 2020 for project EB-5732, the Bruton Smith Blvd sidewalk project. The third project is to delay right-of-way to FY 2020 and construction to FY 2021 for the Little Texas Road sidewalk project, EB-5844. The fourth project P-5726, included in this modification Phil explained, is to delay the construction schedule to FY 2021 for track improvements to the Kannapolis Amtrak Train Station. The fifth project U-5956, would call for a delay in the construction schedule to FY 2022 for the Union Cemetery Road realignment project. And the sixth and final modification Y-4810K, calls for a delay in the construction schedule to FY 2020 for the Rogers Lake Road grade separation project. Phil closed by calling members attention to Attachment #7 in their packets which was a *Draft* Resolution modifying the MTIP for these projects.

With little discussion, Mr. Phillip Graham made a motion to recommend that the CRMPO TAC consider endorsing modification #2 to the FY 2018-2027 MTIP. Mrs. Susie Morris seconded the motion and members voted unanimously to approve.

FY 2018-2027 MTIP Amendment #7

Phil reported to the members that NCDOT has requested a RIDER Transit STIP Amendment for Purchase of Replacement Buses be submitted for consideration with the following project: They are requesting to add a total project cost of \$8,500,000 to TA-5173 for purchase of replacement buses. Eight of these buses Phil explained would be purchased in FY2021 at a Federal share of \$5,440,000, the State share would be \$680,000 and local share would be \$680,000, Two additional buses would be purchased in FY 2022 at a Federal share of \$1,360,000, a State share of \$170,000 and a local share of \$170,000. Phil closed by stating that this modification to the STIP would be presented to the Board of Transportation for approval at their October/November meeting. A sample resolution was included in the packet from NCDOT as well.

With no discussion, Mrs. Susie Morris made a motion to recommend that the CRMPO TAC consider endorsing MTIP Amendment #7. Mr. Phillip Graham seconded the motion and all TCC members voted unanimously to approve.

CRAFT MOA Revision

Director Conrad explained that the MPO's in the region have been working to update the CRAFT Memorandum of Agreement (MOA). The original MOA for the group was adopted in 2001 as a reaction to HB 1288 or the MPO consolidation bill. The group includes a technical committee and an executive committee and is a regional forum to discuss transportation issues on a regional level. It was determined in 2017 that an update needed to be made to the original MOA. With some assistance from NCDOT TPD, the Draft update was completed prior to May 2018 at which time it was brought to the CRMPO TCC meeting for review.

Some of the revisions included a reduction in the voting membership of the Technical Committee and the Executive Committee. They also looked at the roles and responsibilities of CRAFT. Phil then directed members to Attachment #9 in their packets which was a *Draft* CRAFT MOA.

After Phil reviewed the CRAFT MOA and with no discussion, Vice Chair Wendy Brindle made a motion to recommend that the CRMPO TAC consider authorizing the TAC Chair to sign the revised CRAFT MOA. Mrs. Erin Burris seconded that motion and all TCC members voted unanimously to approve.

Reports/CRMPO Business

1. Local Reports - MPO/TPD/NCDOT Division 9 & 10 – Mr. Stuart Basham, representative for Division 10 provided the TCC members with a spreadsheet listing Division 10 updates. Stuart provided updates on projects I-3802A, U-3440, U-4910 A and B, as well as U-5806. Stuart also reported to members that P6.0 would be going to a three-year cycle.

Mr. Andy Bailey, NCDOT TPD reported to the TCC members that he is the permanent TPD Coordinator for the CRMPO.

2. 2045 MTP Amendment and Schedule – Phil called members' attention to information in their packets.

3. FY2023-2032 STIP Schedule– Phil called members' attention to a letter in their packet regarding the STIP schedule.

4. ITS Build Grant Letter of Support – Phil called members' attention to a letter included in their packets for review.

5. Rowan Transit System Section 5310 Grant Application Letter of Support- Phil again called members' attention to the letter in their packet for review.

6. Resolution Supporting Granite Quarry Bicycle and Pedestrian Planning Grant Application - Phil also called attention to the application included in their packets for review.

7. Letter Opposing the Fast Act Federal Rescission - Phil called members' attention to a letter in their packet to Senator Richard Burr as a sample of other letters to the congressional delegation.

After review of Items 4, 5, 6 and 7 under reports, Mrs. Erin Burris made a motion to recommend that the CRMPO considering endorsing and approving Items 4, 5, 6 and 7 under reports. Mr. Phillip Graham seconded her motion and TCC members voted unanimously to approve.

Informational Items

- RIDER Transit Ridership Information – Phil noted the ridership information included in their packets

- Phil noted the Prioritized Project List from the Triad ITS Regional Strategic Deployment Plan and minutes from the most recent CRAFT meeting.
- Next scheduled meeting is September 18, 2019.

Adjournment

With no further business to discuss, Vice Chair Wendy Brindle made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Mr. Phillip Graham seconded that motion. The meeting was adjourned.