

# MINUTES

## TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

**Wednesday, January 28, 2015**

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

**Members:**

Al Brown  
Bill Feather  
Maggie Blackwell  
Elizabeth Poole  
Ryan Dayvault  
H.A. Hilton  
Jake Alexander  
Otis Gibson  
Jeff Phillips  
Lee Withers  
Richard Wise

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

**Others:**

Phil Conrad CRMPO Director  
Deborah Carter Cabarrus Chamber  
Carolyn Carpenter CCSC  
Connie Cunningham CRMPO Staff  
Elaine Spalding Rowan Chamber  
Pat Ivey NCDOT Div 9  
Stuart Basham NCDOT Div 10  
Warren Cooksey NCDOT Div 10  
Scott Cole NCDOT-Div. 10  
Rodney Harrison Salisbury Transit  
Linda Dosse NCDOT-TPB  
Bobby Moore Town of Rockwell

### **Call to Order**

TAC Chair Jeff Phillips called the January 28, 2015 meeting of the Cabarrus-Rowan MPO TAC to order. Chairman Phillips welcomed everyone to the meeting and asked that those present stand and recite the Pledge of Allegiance. After the Pledge was recited, Chairman Phillips proceeded by calling the roll of eligible voting members and determined that a quorum had been met. He then requested that everyone present introduce themselves. Once introductions were complete, Chairman Phillips moved onto the next item.

Chairman Phillips informed the TAC members of 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 excuse themselves from that portion of the meeting.

Continuing on, Chairman Phillips asked for any updates from the Rowan or Cabarrus Chamber of Commerce's. Ms. Elaine Spalding with the Rowan County Chamber reported that Rowan Chamber representatives will be making a scheduled trip to Raleigh to continue to promote transportation needs in the CRMPO area. Mr. Alex Rankin with the Cabarrus Regional Chamber addressed the TAC members and reported that the Chamber appreciates all of the work the MPO has done concerning the transportation needs of the region.

TAC Chairman Phillips then asked if there were any speakers from the floor. With none heard, Chairman Phillips asked for any adjustments to the agenda and consent agenda. Cabarrus

Rowan MPO Director Phil Conrad requested that the third item under Reports/MPO Business, "Signage for Southbound I-85 to the Transportation Museum and Town of Spencer" be tabled since the Town of Spencer representative was not in attendance. With no other adjustments being heard, Mr. Lee Withers made a motion to accept and approve the agenda as amended. Mrs. Liz Poole seconded the motion and the 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 November 19, 2014 Minutes**

Chairman Phillips called members' attention to the minutes of the November 19, 2014 TAC meeting included in their agenda packets. He asked if there were any adjustments or corrections to the minutes. With no adjustments or corrections being heard, Mr. Al Brown made a motion to approve the minutes as presented and Mr. Bill Feather seconded the motion. The TAC members followed with a unanimous vote of approval.

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

TAC Chairman Phillips reported that the Cabarrus-Rowan MPO TAC Bylaws state that a new TAC Vice-Chairman must be elected each year and that the jurisdiction representatives must alternate between Cabarrus and Rowan Counties. He stated that the TAC would need to nominate and elect a Vice-Chair from Rowan County for 2015. Mrs. Liz Poole addressed the members and said she had planned to nominate Mr. Reid Walters from the Town of Spencer for the 2015 TAC Vice Chair position but was unsure as to whether or not to do so since he was not in attendance due to a recent knee surgery. After discussion, Mrs. Liz Poole nominated Mr. Reid Walters to be the Vice-Chair for 2015 and Mr. Tony Hilton seconded the motion. There were no other nominations and members voted unanimously to approve.

### **DRAFT 2016-2025 TIP and Conformity**

CR MPO Director Phil Conrad reported to members that NCDOT has applied their methodology to rank all modes of transportation projects across North Carolina and incorporated the quantitative scores with the local input (MPO) points and Division Engineer rankings/points. The DRAFT FY 2016-2025 TIP was released to the public at the December Board of Transportation meeting. The TIP includes highway, bicycle, pedestrian, rail and transit projects for the fiscal

years 2016 to 2025. The final State TIP is expected to be adopted by the NCDOT Board of Transportation in the spring of 2015.

Phil called TAC members' attention to Attachment #4A in their packets which was the MPO Supplement for the Draft TIP, a summary table of the existing and new projects, and a schedule for completing the conformity analysis on the TIP document. He asked NCDOT Division 9 to come forward and give a presentation in the Division 9 projects. Mr. Pat Ivey noted the \$780 million in the Draft TIP for Division 9 minus the bridge projects. He noted the I-85 project as well as the widening of Julian Road, extension of Newsome Road, and Runway Extension for Rowan County Airport. Pat also highlighted a few unmet needs: widening of NC 150 west, Old Beatty Ford Road Interchange, and Main Street widening in southern Rowan. It was noted that the majority of the project revenue was on the statewide tier for the I-85 project. Mr. Scott Cole noted that there was \$1.4 billion for Division 10 projects in the Draft TIP, which is about 15 percent of the statewide pot. He highlighted the committed projects: U-3440, U-4910B, I-3802A, and R-2246B. He noted that there were no statewide eligible projects in Cabarrus County. He revealed the progress of the following new projects: EB-5732, AV-5731, AV-5732, U-5806, AV-5760, U-5773, and R-5706. He also mentioned a series of projects as unmet needs: U-4910A, R-2246A, U-3415, etc. He paused for questions and stated that the MPO receives about \$3 million annually in Direct Allocation funds that could be considered for these unmet need projects. (DA funds can only be spent on major collector or above projects and NCDOT would consider providing the non-federal match.) He concluded that the Division likes the Derita Road and Poplar Tent projects because they are already in the project planning process. Phil informed members that a TIP Conformity Schedule was in their packets. He stated that there would be an interagency meeting at the end of February to discuss final project lists.

### **FY 2012-2018 MTIP Amendment #11**

MPO Director Conrad reported that there had been a series of amendments from a recent NCDOT Board of Transportation agenda. These project amendments are to expedite planning and environmental study on the following new STI projects: AV-5754 Rowan County Airport Runway Extension, U-5738 Julian Road Widening, U-5820 Newsome Road Extension, R-5706 NC 73 Widening, U-5761 NC 3 Intersection Improvements, U-5773 Concord Lake Road Widening, and U-5806 Concord Mills Blvd Flyover. Mr. Bill Feather made a motion to approve the resolution endorsing MTIP Amendment #11 and Mr. Lee Withers 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 projects update list included in the members packets. Mr. Scott Cole, NCDOT Division 10 provided current updates on Division 10 projects.
- ✓ Ramp Meter Study Update/NCDOT – Mr. Scott Cole reported that the study should begin in early February 2015.
- ✓ Signage for Southbound I-85 to the Transportation Museum and Town of Spencer – This items was tabled.

- ✓ Air Quality Update/New Proposed 8 Hour Ozone Standard – Mr. Phil Conrad called members attention to map in their packets showing counties where measured ozone is above the proposed range or level of measured 8 hour ozone. He explained that a new 8 hour ozone standard has been proposed nationwide and that the US EPA is taking comments until March 17, 2015. After reviewing the map, Mr. Conrad continued on by calling attention to a *Draft* Resolution in Support of the Current National Ambient Air Quality Standards for Ozone. After review of the *Draft* resolution, Mr. Al Brown made a motion to support the Resolution. Mrs. Maggie Blackwell seconded the motion and members voted unanimously to approve.
- ✓ Draft 2015-2015 Planning Work Program – Mr. Phil Conrad reported to members that a spreadsheet outlining the *Draft* 2015-16 Planning Work Program was included in their packets as information and will be brought back to the group at a future meeting.
- ✓ MPO Member Spotlight: City of Salisbury – Phil Conrad provided TAC members with background information and a presentation on the City of Salisbury. He reported on the progress the City has made over the years and highlighted their accomplishments.
- ✓ Salisbury Transit Funding Request – Mrs. Maggie Blackwell, representative for the City of Salisbury addressed the TAC members and explained that the City has been working to complete a series of steps required by FTA to make application to become a New Grantee for FTA funds. Maggie explained that the area Salisbury Transit serves has been absorbed into an existing large urbanized area as a result of the 2010 Census and MAP-21. As a result of these changes, the types of funding that the Salisbury Transit is eligible has also changed making it necessary for the City to seek other federal funding avenues.

Mrs. Blackwell explained that the City of Salisbury would like to request that the CRMPO support the City by recognizing them as a direct recipient for FTA funds. Their request is to be considered for all types of FTA funding for which they may be eligible. Mr. Rodney Harrison with Salisbury Transit explained the consequences to the system by not being eligible for the funds they have received in the past. Members discussed in detail the impact this would have on other area systems who also depend heavily on this funding as well. Without specific data, TAC members were reluctant to make a decision on the request. It was pointed out, that the request from the City of Salisbury at this time was only for support from the MPO in preparing and submitting their application to become a direct recipient. The City's request was not for specific funds at this time. If their application is approved by FTA, then eligible funding would be discussed at future meetings.

With no further discussion, Mr. Tony Hilton made a motion to support the City of Salisbury's application to become a new grantee and direct recipient of FTA funds. Mr. Bill Feather seconded the motion and TAC members voted unanimously to approve.

### **Informational Items**

- Concord Express, Salisbury Transit, Rowan Express, Cabarrus Links and RIDER Transit Ridership Information - Phil called the TAC members' attention to the ridership information included in their packets.
- Division 9 STIP Public Meeting – April 21<sup>st</sup> 4:00-7:00 pm at PTCOG Office in Kernersville, NC
- Division 10 STIP Public Meeting – April 9<sup>th</sup> 4:00-7:00 pm at Stanley County Commons in Albemarle, NC
- Next meeting is February 25, 2015.

### **Adjournment**

With no other business to bring before the TAC, Mrs. Liz Poole made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Ryan Dayvault seconded the motion and the meeting was adjourned.