

MINUTES

TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Wednesday, March 2, 2011 – 4:30 pm

Contractor's Conference Room

105 Jacobs Lambe Lane
Salisbury, NC 28146

Members:

| | |
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| Charles Wingerson | Town of Rockwell |
| Reid Walters | Town of Spencer |
| Bill Feather | Town of Granite Quarry |
| Rick Burleyson | Town of Mount Pleasant |
| Carl Ford | Rowan County |
| Kenneth Geathers | City of Kannapolis |
| Tony Hilton | Town of Landis |
| Lee Withers | Town of China Grove |
| Maggie Blackwell | City of Salisbury |

Others:

| | |
|-------------|------------------------|
| Phil Conrad | MPO Director |
| Jim Sides | Rowan County |
| Linda Dosse | NCDOT-TPB |
| Dan Peters | Town of Granite Quarry |

Call to Order

The March 2, 2011 meeting of the Cabarrus Rowan MPO TAC was called to order by TAC Chair Rick Burleyson. TAC Chairman Burleyson read the roll call of members and determined that a quorum had been met.

After introductions, Chairman Burleyson asked if there were any corrections or additions to the agenda. Cabarrus Rowan MPO Director Phil Conrad stated that the agenda would stand as presented.

Chairman Burleyson asked for any speakers from the floor. With none heard, Chairman Burleyson moved on to the next order of business.

Approval of Minutes

TAC Chairman Burleyson asked for comments or corrections to the minutes from the January 26, 2011 TAC meeting. Councilman Kenneth Geathers made a motion to approve the minutes as they appear and Mayor Pro-Tem Maggie Blackwell seconded the motion. The TAC followed with a unanimous vote to approve the January 26, 2011 minutes.

Transportation Conformity MOA

MPO Director Phil Conrad called members' attention to Attachment #3 included in their agenda packets which was an FAQ for the Transportation Conformity MOA. He explained that US EPA is requiring that all MPOs that have non-attainment counties sign an interagency agreement for transportation conformity. The proposed agreement has been drafted by NCDENR and is an exact template for all those affected MPOs in the state. He stated that this agreement was first presented by NCDENR at a Cabarrus-Rowan MPO meeting in October 2009. He stated that the NCDOT, NCDENR, USDOT, and EPA have assigned duties as part of this agreement. He noted that the full agreement is posted on the

MPO website and that the TCC unanimously recommended this MOA to the TAC at their January meeting.

After little discussion, Councilman Kenneth Geathers made a motion to approve the Transportation Conformity MOA. TAC Vice-Chair Tony Hilton seconded the motion. The TAC followed with a unanimous vote to approve the Conformity MOA.

Reports & Updates

- Centralina Transportation Planning Organization Study – TAC Chair Burleyson and Vice-Chair Hilton provided the TAC membership with a summary of the recent Centralina COG meeting held on February 28th. Mr. Burleyson stated that he and the Vice-Chair were vocal participants in the meeting and expressed the CR MPO concerns. He was not confident in their effect or success. Mr. Hilton noted that less than half the invitees attended the meeting and that the moderator appeared less than objective. Objections were met with additional questioning and supportive commentary was met with validation by the moderator. (It was noted that the participants from City of Charlotte and Mecklenburg County were 40 to 45 minutes late for the meeting.) Phil stated that there appeared to be 2 main themes: regional Land Use Plan and a regional taxation plan/revenue generation. He also noted the concern over the location/site of Concord Mills Mall as a regional destination by the meeting moderator. Several references were made to the success of the Yadkin River Bridge project as a regional effort and need to find another signature project to unify the region and make the case for additional revenue. It was explained that discussion was limited at the end of the meeting to those in favor of moving forward. Commissioner Carl Ford expressed his concern in on-going participation with this study and subsequent meetings. Councilman Ken Geathers and Mayor Pro-Tem Lee Withers expressed support for continuing to participate as long as the meeting minutes reflect the CR MPO members' opinions. It is unclear of the direction of this effort or how the Study and Go-Forward meetings will fit into the COG annual work plan.
- Motor Vehicle Emission Budgets – Phil Conrad noted some slides in the TAC packet and the recent inquiry by NC DENR about the MPO's preference for the geographic extent of Motor Vehicle Emission Budgets. He stated that this is second time in about 5 years that the MPO has discussed this issue. He noted the advantages to MPO sub area versus county versus regional emission budgets. He distributed a handout of the current emission budgets for Cabarrus and Rowan. TAC members asked about timeframe and deadlines and Phil explained that NC DENR was expected a recommendation soon. TAC members asked for more time to discuss this issue.
- CRAFT Executive Committee Meeting – Phil noted the CRAFT Executive Committee meeting/conference set for Thursday March 31st at 4 pm in Rock Hill at the Baxter Hood Conference Center. He explained that the CR MPO was co-sponsoring the keynote speaker from the national MPO Association. He also noted that the NCDOT Lobbyist will also attend and speak.
- 2011 NC MPO Conference – Phil noted the dates for the 2011 NC MPO Conference in Fayetteville on April 27-29. This conference date will conflict with the April TAC meeting.

Information Items

- ✓ Letter to NCDOT regarding Kimball Road Extension
- ✓ Concord Express, RIDER and Salisbury Transit, Rowan Express, Cabarrus Links and RIDER Para-Transit Ridership

Adjournment

With no other business before this committee, Councilman Kenneth Geathers made a motion to adjourn the meeting of the CR MPO TAC. Mayor Pro-Tem Maggie Blackwell seconded the motion and the TAC members followed with a unanimous vote to adjourn at 5:33 pm.