

# MINUTES

## TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Wednesday, March 23, 2022

### VIRTUAL MEETING DUE TO COVID-19 PANDEMIC

#### Members

Meredith Bare Smith	Town of Landis
Lori Furr	Town of Mt. Pleasant
JC McKenzie	City of Concord
Greg Edds	Rowan County
Ryan Dayvault	City of Kannapolis
Brittany Barnhardt	Town of Granite Quarry
Karen Alexander	City of Salisbury
Ron Smith	Town of Harrisburg
Steve Miller	Town of Spencer
Charles Seaford	Town of China Grove
Andrew Perkins	NCDOT Board
Blake Kiger	Cabarrus County
Mike Tallent	Town of Midland
Deloris High	Town of East Spencer

#### Others

Phil Conrad	CRMPO Director
Pat Ivey	NCDOT Div 9
Connie Cunningham	CRMPO Staff
Stuart Basham	NCDOT Div 10
Jeff Littlefield	NCDOT Div 10
Alex Rankin	Cabarrus Chamber
Phillip Craver	NCDOT Div 9
Loretta Barren	FHWA
Roger Castillo	NCDOT TPD
Ashley Stewart	Town of Landis
Elaine Spaulding	Rowan Chamber
Terry Crawford	City of Concord
Diamond Staton-Williams	Town of Harrisburg
Carolyn Carpenter	CCSC
Mike Stanley	NCDOT
Wendy Brindle	City of Salisbury
Eddie McFalls	NCDOT Rail Div
Wendy Miller	Landscape Architecture LLC
Darrell Hinnant	City of Kannapolis
Wilmer Melton	City of Kannapolis

#### Call to Order

TAC Chair Meredith Bare Smith called the March 23, 2022 meeting of the Cabarrus Rowan MPO TAC to order at approximately 5:35 pm. Chairwoman Smith welcomed all in attendance and asked all present to recite the Pledge of Allegiance to a flag displayed on their screens. After reciting the pledge, Chair Smith called the roll of eligible voting TAC members and determined that a quorum had been met.

She 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, TAC members should recuse themselves from that portion of the meeting.

Chairwoman Smith asked for any Chamber of Commerce updates. Mrs. Elaine Spaulding from the Rowan Chamber reported on upcoming events with the Rowan Chamber which included A Job Fair on April 1, the Power in Partnership meeting on April 21, and the Dragon Boat Race on July 23. Mr. Alex Rankin with the Cabarrus Chamber reported to TAC members that the Chamber's Legislative Breakfast is being held on April 8<sup>th</sup> and that registration can be done online. Moving on, TAC Chairwoman Smith asked if there were any speakers from the floor who would like to speak. With none heard, she moved on to the next order of business.

CRMPO Director Phil Conrad introduced Mr. Eddie McFalls with NCDOT's Rail Division. Mr. McFalls provided a power point presentation to the TAC members. The presentation covered the status on the Southeast Corridor Planning, then Piedmont Corridor Service Enhancements, an explanation of the Phase 1 and 2 of the plans for the Charlotte Gateway Station and in closing reported on funding opportunities for these initiatives. With few questions or discussion Director Conrad thanked Mr. McFalls for his presentation and information.

Chair Smith asked if there were any adjustments to the meeting agenda including the Consent Agenda. Director Conrad made a request to add an item to the bottom of the list under Reports regarding the NC Ethics Commission requirements. Without any further adjustments Mr. Ron Smith made a motion to approve the agenda with adjustments including the Consent Agenda and Mr. Charles Seaford seconded the motion. The TAC members voted unanimously to approve.

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

All items on the consent agenda are considered 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:

### **FY 2020-2029 MTIP Modification #11**

The first project modification is the delay right-of-way to FY 2023 for EB5732 Bruton Smith Blvd sidewalk. The second project is to add project segmentation to P-5726A Salisbury Train station second platform and pedestrian underpass at the request of the Rail Division. The third project is to add project segmentation to P-5726B Salisbury Norfolk Southern crossover relocation.

### **RIDER Public Transportation Agency Safety Plan**

The Public Transportation Agency Safety Plan (PTASP) final rule (49 C.F.R. Part 673) requires certain operators of public transportation systems that are recipients or subrecipients of FTA grant funds to develop safety plans that include the processes and procedures necessary for implementing Safety Management Systems (SMS). The PTASP was approved by the Concord Kannapolis Area Transit Commission on February 1, 2022 and will go to the Concord City Council for approval following action by the MPO. The PTASP can be found at: [www.ckrider.com/resources/documents/](http://www.ckrider.com/resources/documents/)

### **Connect Beyond Study**

The CRMPO was a funding partner in the recently completed Connect Beyond Transit Study. Much of the material for this study came from the recently completed Cabarrus

County Public Transportation Master Plan and from the remaining three transit systems in the CRMPO area. The Study can be found at the following link: <http://www.connect-beyond.com/plan/>.

## **THIS CONCLUDES THE CONSENT AGENDA**

### **Approval of January 26, 2022 Minutes**

Chairwoman Smith called members' attention to the minutes from the January 26, 2022 meeting included in their meeting packets. Chairwoman Smith asked if there were any corrections or additions to the minutes. With none being heard, Mr. J.C. McKenzie made the motion to approve the minutes as presented. Mr. Ron Smith seconded the motion and the TAC members followed with a unanimous vote to approve.

### **2050 MTP and Transportation Conformity Update**

Director Phil Conrad reminded TAC members that the Cabarrus-Rowan MPO and the Metrolina Regional Partners have been working on the Transportation Conformity Analysis and Determination Report. This report demonstrates that the financially constrained MTP's in the Metrolina Region meet national ambient air quality standards. He explained that it also certifies that the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) is a subset of the 2050 MTP, and that the Conformity Report is consistent with the approved State Implementation Plan (SIP) by EPA.

Director Conrad proceeded to show the TAC members a power point presentation which explained what the Transportation Plan is and the elements of the Plan. He also provided information on the financial constraints, funding sources and revenue forecasts. Information on key projects funded by 2025, 2035, 2045, and 2050 as well as what transit projects are funded. Phil also went on to explain what Conformity is and how it relates to the Transportation Plan while also reviewing motor vehicle emission budgets. He further noted that the draft 2050 MTP report is posted on the MPO website at [www.crmmpo.org/Plans/Mobility](http://www.crmmpo.org/Plans/Mobility), with an executive summary provided in the packet. He noted that the public comment period has concluded with no comments received.

He called members' attention to Resolution 6B for endorsing the 2050 MTP and Resolution 6C to endorse the Metrolina Conformity Determination Report. With no questions or discussion, Mr. JC McKenzie made a motion to endorse the 2050 MTP. Mrs. Karen Alexander seconded the motion and the TAC members voted unanimously to approve. Following this item, Mr. JC McKenzie made another motion to endorse the Metrolina Conformity Determination Report. Mr. Ryan Dayvault seconded that motion and the TAC members voted unanimously to approve.

### **Proposed Statewide CMAQ Project Submittal**

Director Phil Conrad reported to the members that CMAQ or Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality funds are a federal funding source for areas designated non-attainment by the EPA. CMAQ funds require a local sponsor and a 20 percent local match. He explained that eligible projects must demonstrate an emissions reduction benefit to the local area. NCDOT has issued a call for new project applications that must be submitted by the end of March 2022. He highlighted a CMAQ project proposal for improvements to the waiting room at the Salisbury Amtrak rail station submitted by the City of Salisbury. Mrs. Wendy Brindle with the City of Salisbury provided the members with a power point presentation that reviewed the request and the project itself. Mr. McKenzie complimented the City of Salisbury on this application. With no additional comments, Director Conrad called members' attention to Resolution 7B in their packets which would support this new CMAQ project for statewide funds and noted that this competitive category of CMAQ funds is in addition to the funds suballocated by NCDOT directly to the CR MPO and other non-attainment MPO's. Chairwoman Smith made a motion to endorse the statewide CMAQ Project submittal as presented. Mr. Ryan Dayvault seconded that motion and the TAC members voted unanimously to approve.

### **FY 2022-2023 DRAFT UPWP**

Director Conrad reminded the members that each year the Cabarrus-Rowan MPO develops and adopts a unified planning work program (UPWP), which is the MPO budget and follows the state fiscal year 2022-2023. He stated 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 said that these projects include MPO planning activities undertaken by local agencies, the N.C. Department of Transportation, and a line item for Regional Model and MTP Maintenance. He noted that NCDOT has published an allocation in FY 23 to the MPO in the amount of \$354,600. He also explained that the Federal government require all MPO's to certify their transportation planning process on an annual basis. He referenced Attachment 8B in their packet which was a checklist for the CR MPO to certify the MPO transportation planning process. He also noted that the local match table in their meeting packet or Attachment 8C is using the 2010 Census numbers. Director Conrad then reviewed the UPWP line item by line item with the members. In closing he called members' attention to Attachment 8D which was a resolution adopting the UPWP.

With no questions or comments, Mrs. Karen Alexander made a motion to adopt the FY 2022-2023 UPWP. Mr. Ron Smith seconded her motion and the TAC members voted unanimously to approve. Mr. Ron Smith then made a motion to certify the CRMPO Transportation planning process with Mr. Charles Seaford seconding the motion. The TAC members voted unanimously to approve.

### **Reports/CRMPO Business**

1. Local Reports - NCDOT Division 9 & 10 – Mr. Pat Ivey, NCDOT Division 9 informed TAC members that Division 9 Updates are included in their meeting packet. He offered to discuss any projects on the list with members.

Mr. Stuart Basham, NCDOT Division 10 representative called TAC members' attention to a spreadsheet of Division 10 project updates. He reviewed some of the ongoing projects in Division 10. Mr. Basham also informed members that the deadline for Bike and Pedestrian Planning Grant applications is May 9, 2022 and that volunteers are needed once again for the NCDOT Litter Sweep between April 16 to 30<sup>th</sup>.

2. STBGP Fund Transfer – Mr. Mike Stanley, NCDOT TIP Unit provided information on this item and referenced a copy of an email from him included in their packets for the transfer of STPBGP funds related to the Coach Deal Drive/Kimball Road Extension project.
3. Special Studies Update – Rowan County, Town of China Grove, and 2050 MTP Assistance - Director Conrad gave a brief update on the 3 special studies that are ongoing in the fiscal year.
4. FY26 STBGP Balance and 2022 Project Call – CRMPO Director Conrad reported that information was included in the packet for their information and review.
5. SEI Filing Deadline April 18, 2022 and NC Ethics Commission Newsletter – Director Conrad called the TAC members' attention to this information included in their packets as a reminder to complete the NC Ethics Commission requirements by the deadline.

### **Informational Items**

- ✦ RIDER Transit and Salisbury Transit Ridership Information - Phil referenced the ridership information included in their packets.
- ✦ TPD Newsletter- Included in the meeting packet

Next Meeting is April 27, 2022

### **Adjournment**

With no other business to bring before the TAC, Mr. Ryan Dayvault made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Mrs. Karen Alexander followed with a second and the meeting was adjourned.