

MINUTES

TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Wednesday, April 22, 2026

**NC Research Campus
Kannapolis City Hall
401 Laureate Way
Kannapolis, NC 28081**

Members

Terry Crawford	City of Concord
Justin Simpson	Town of Mt. Pleasant
Larry Pittman	Cabarrus County
Chris Cranford	Town of Rockwell
Greg Edds	Rowan County
Ron Smith	Town of Harrisburg
Deloris High	Town of East Spencer
Naomi Hatchell	City of Kannapolis
Mike Tallent	Town of Midland
Wayne Starnes	Town of China Grove
Rich Luhrs	Town of Granite Quarry
Tamara Sheffield	City of Salisbury
Stephen Rosenburgh	NCDOT Board
Steve Miller	Town of Spencer

Others

Daniel Johnson	NCDOT Secretary
Phil Conrad	CR MPO Director
Lori Clay	City of Concord
John Rhyne	NCDOT- Division 9
Albert Smith	Town of East Spencer
Karla Leonard	Rowan Chamber
Marty Sung	NCDOT-TPD
George Eckart	NCDOT-Division 9
Mezak Tucker	NCDOT- Division 9
Isaac Davis	Town of Midland
Andy Bailey	NCDOT-TPD
Rashid Muhammad	Town of Spencer
Wendy Miller	CRMPO staff
Felix Obregon	NCDOT Division 10
Phillip Graham	City of Concord
Jared Mathis	City of Salisbury
Wilmer Melton	City of Kannapolis

Call to Order

TAC Chair Smith called the meeting of the Cabarrus Rowan Metropolitan Planning Organization (CRMPO) TAC to order after a meal provided by Cabarrus County at approximately 5:40 pm. TAC Chair Smith welcomed those in attendance and asked all present to stand and recite the Pledge of Allegiance to a flag displayed. After the pledge was recited, TAC Chair Smith went on to call the roll of eligible voting TAC members and determined that a quorum had easily been met.

CRMPO Executive Director Phil Conrad read the NC State Ethics Commission Ethics Awareness and Conflict of Interest requirement and stated that if a conflict should arise during any part of the meeting, members should recuse themselves from that portion of the meeting.

TAC Chair Smith then recognized NCDOT Secretary Daniel Johnson, who reported about department goals of innovation and technology and workforce challenges that the department faces. He stated the Hurricane Helene relief was still a big effort by the Department. He noted the need to improve project delivery as a priority as well as the response times at DMV. County Commissioner Larry Pittman thanked Secretary Johnson for his service to the country and asked about the US 70 east improvements. Secretary Johnson noted the SPOT scoring for the Kinston Bypass as the biggest gap. NCDOT Board Member Stephen Rosenburgh noted the MPO members' role in meeting with state legislators for more funding thru fees, tolls, and public/private partnerships. He offered his services to help as the NCDOT Board member.

TAC Chair Smith continued with the meeting and asked for any Chamber of Commerce updates. Mrs. Karla Leonard representing the Rowan Chamber reported to the TAC members that the Chamber continues to support the recently submitted Build Grant application by the Town of East Spencer for \$25 million.

TAC Chair Smith then asked if there were any speakers from the floor. With none heard he moved onto the consent agenda.

TAC Chair Smith reported there were no items in the Consent Agenda for the night's meeting.

Approval of March 25, 2026 Minutes

TAC Chair Smith highlighted the minutes from the March 25, 2026 TAC meeting included in their meeting packets. Chair Smith asked if there were any corrections or additions to the minutes. With no corrections or additions heard, Mr. Justin Simpson made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Ms. Deloris High seconded the motion, and the TAC members followed with a unanimous vote to approve.

FY 2026-2035 MTIP Modification #4

Mr. Phil Conrad, CRMPO Director, addressed the TAC members and reported that CRMPO staff regularly brings amendments or modifications from recent NCDOT Board of Transportation agendas to the TCC/TAC for consideration. Director Conrad reported that the first project modifications are statewide project additions: C-5702D, C-5702E, and RX-2600. The second project modification is to upgrade a traffic signal at the intersection of Jake Alexander Blvd and Lincolnton Road (HS-2609A). The third project modification is to add rumble strips on Old Beatty Ford Road (HS-2609C). The fourth project modification is to add a project break for the installation of rumble strips with long life pavement markings on Irish Potato Road (HS-2610AE). The fifth project modification is to delay construction to FY 27 for the Little Texas Road sidewalk project (EB-5844). The sixth project modification is to delay right-of-way to FY 27 for the Poplar Tent and Harris Road intersection improvements (HL-0001). The seventh project modification is to delay construction to FY 27 for the Concord Citywide Signal System software project (HL-0123). Director Conrad closed by stating attachment 3 is a draft resolution modifying the MTIP for these projects.

With little discussion or comments, Ms. Tamara Sheffield made a motion to endorse modification #4 to the FY 2026-2035 MTIP. Mr. Justin Simpson seconded that motion and the TAC members voted unanimously to approve.

Reports/CRMPO Business

1. **Local Reports** - NCDOT Division 9 & 10 – Mr. John Rhyne, NCDOT Division 9 reported to the TAC members that Division 9 updates were included in their meeting packet and highlighted 2 projects: NC 153 roundabout and Airport Parkway CP3 meeting and Alternative 2 agreement. Mr. Felix Obregon noted the Division 10 updates in the packet including the recent let for the Union Cemetery Road realignment.
2. **Poplar Tent and Harris Intersection Update** – Director Conrad noted the federal award by the MPO to this project sponsored by the City of Concord and asked City Transportation Director Phillip Graham to update the TAC. Director Graham provided a slide presentation on the scope of the project and schedule. He also noted economic development opportunities with the completion of the project as well as private developer contributions toward the non-federal match. Phil noted the most recent newsletter that highlighted the federal STBG award of \$24 million to many projects in the MPO area with both county governments submitting successful application. A total of \$50 million federal has been awarded over the past 4 years by the MPO Board.
3. **P8/STIP Schedule** – May 2026 Quantitative Data Release – Director Conrad reported that the next STIP quantitative data release is scheduled for the end of May. It could impact the schedule of meetings necessitating a June 24th meeting by the TAC. (There were no new projects submitted by the MPO members this cycle.)
4. **Rowan Transit System Section 5310 Grant Application Letter of Support** – Director Conrad noted the letter in the packet for the annual request by Rowan Transit for support of their 5310 Grant Application. County Commissioner Greg Edds made a motion to approve the letter of support and Mr. Terry Crawford seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.
5. **Section 5310 Grant Requests: Cabarrus County - \$274,000 and Rowan County - \$36,000** – Director Conrad noted the recent requests by both counties to the City of Concord for Section 5310 funds, which were for capital and operating assistance to the elderly and disabled populations in both counties.
6. **FY 26 Bike and Ped Demonstration Planning Studies** – Director Conrad noted some small special study funds for bicycle and pedestrian planning studies still available in this fiscal year. (This item had been on multiple meeting agendas.)
7. **FY 27 Special Studies** – Director Conrad noted potential availability of special study funds in FY 27 that require a 20 percent local match. He noted the previous corridor study in the Town of China Grove funded by the MPO Board.

Informational Items

- RIDER Transit and Salisbury Transit Ridership Information - Phil highlighted the ridership information included in the TAC packets.
- SEI Filing Deadline April 15th

- Metrolina Region AQ Conformity Determination
- Funding Swap of \$3.8 million
- NCMPO Conference May 6-8
- Federal BASICS Act
- Western NC Rail Corridor Stakeholder Steering Committee
- Statewide Freight Plan Factsheet

Next Meeting : May 27, 2026

Adjournment

With no other business to bring before the TAC, Chair Smith asked for a motion to adjourn the April TAC meeting which was made by Mr. Justin Simpson and seconded by Mr. Terry Crawford. The April TAC meeting was adjourned.