

MINUTES

TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Wednesday, August 27, 2025

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

Members

J.C. McKenzie	City of Concord
Carlton Jackson	City of Salisbury
Larry Pittman	Cabarrus County
Ron Smith	Town of Harrisburg
Greg Edds	Rowan County
Brittany Barnhardt	Town of Granite Quarry
Deloris High	Town of East Spencer
Ryan Dayvault	City of Kannapolis
Meredith Bare Smith	Town of Landis
Justin Simpson	Town of Mt. Pleasant
Wayne Starnes	Town of China Grove
Dillon Brewer	Town of Rockwell
Steve Miller	Town of Spencer
Mike Tallent	Town of Midland
Dale Peeler	Town of Faith

Others

Phil Conrad	CRMPO Director
Sean Epperson	NCDOT Division 10
John Rhyne	NCDOT Division 9
Connie Cunningham	CRMPO Staff
Albert Smith	Town of East Spencer
Karla Leonard	Rowan Chamber
Jared Mathis	City of Salisbury
D Randall Barger	Town of Faith
Beth Hassenfritz	City of Kannapolis
Ryan Nelms	Town of Landis
Terry Crawford	City of Concord
Rich Luhrs	Town of Granite Quarry
Doug Wilson	City of Kannapolis
Scott Miller	NCDOT-Division 10
Phillip Craver	NCDOT-Division 9
Craig Powers	Rowan County
Jason Hord	Town of Granite Quarry
Emily Stupka	NCDOT-TPB
Roger Castillo	NCDOT-TPB
Felix Obregon	NCDOT-Division 10

Call to Order

The CRMPO TAC Chairman Ron Smith called the meeting of the Cabarrus Rowan Metropolitan Planning Organization (CRMPO) TAC to order after a meal provided by the Town of Faith. CRMPO Director Phil Conrad acknowledged and thanked the Town of Faith officials for the meal.

CRMPO TAC Chairman 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 Chairman Smith went on to call the roll of eligible voting TAC members and determined that a quorum had been met. He then asked everyone to go around the room and introduce themselves.

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.

CRMPO TAC Chairman 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 interchange project for the Town of East Spencer has not been federally funded. This was on the Rowan Chambers list of priority projects they had lobbied for.

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

TAC Chairman Smith then requested any adjustments to Consent Agenda for the night's meeting. The first item under the Consent Agenda was FY 2024-2033 MTIP Modification #11. The second item was the RIDER Public Transportation Agency Safety Plan. With no adjustments being heard, Mr. Dillon Brewer made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Mrs. Meredith Bare Smith seconded the motion and after no questions or discussion, the TAC members voted unanimously to approve.

Approval of May 26, 2025 Minutes

TAC Chairman Smith called members' attention to the minutes from the May 26, 2025 TAC meeting included in their meeting packets. Chairman Smith asked if there were any corrections or additions to the minutes. With no corrections or additions heard, Mr. Ryan Dayvault made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Mrs. Brittney Barnhardt seconded the motion, and the TAC members followed with a unanimous vote to approve.

FY 2026-2029 TIP Conformity

CRMPO Director Phil Conrad reported to the TAC members that the Cabarrus-Rowan MPO and the Metrolina Regional Partners are working on an Air Quality Conformity Analysis and Determination Report for the 2026-2029 TIP. A copy of that report will be posted on the CRMPO website. Director Conrad went on to say that the TIP Conformity Report demonstrates that the financially constrained MTP's in the Metrolina Region meet national ambient air quality standards. He continued by stating that the report also certifies that the Transportation Improvement Program is a subset of the 2050 MTP and the Conformity Report is consistent with the State Implementation Plan (SIP). Director Conrad informed the members that a public comment period concluded on August 20th. No comments have been received to date.

Phil went on to highlight Attachment #5 which was an excerpt from the TIP Conformity Report for their review. Phil reminded the members that this Conformity Report is done every two years and includes the four transit systems in the CRMPO area.

With no questions or discussion Mrs. Brittney Barnhardt made a motion to endorse resolution 5A which was the Air Quality Conformity Analysis and Determination for the 2026-2029 TIP. Mr. Justin Simpson seconded the motion. The CRMPO TAC members voted unanimously to

approve. Mr. JC McKenzie then made a motion to adopt the CRMPO MTIP for 2026-2029. Mrs. Delores High seconded that motion and the TAC members voted unanimously to approve.

STBG Program Project Call

CRMPO Director Phil Conrad reported to the CRMPO TAC members that the CRMPO issued a call for project proposals for the STPBG funding source. He went on to say that the call ended on August 8, 2025, and that Staff had received eight project requests from six project sponsors. The total cost of these projects is \$30.5 million.

CRMPO staff would propose using \$24.46 million in federal STPBG funds (80 percent) for all 8 projects. Director Conrad called members attention to Attachment 6A in their meeting packets. This attachment was a list of project proposals. Director Conrad directed members to Attachment 6B which was each application and information for each of the projects.

A power point presentation was provided by Mrs. Beth Hassenfritz while she reviewed the information on the two City of Kannapolis projects with members. Mr. Jared Mathis with the City of Salisbury also provided a power point presentation on the City's two projects. Power point presentations were also provided by Mr. Jason Hord, on the Town of Granite Quarry's one project, Craig Powers on Rowan County's project, JC McKensie on the City of Concord's projects and Mr. Sean Epperson on a Cabarrus County project. Director Conrad praised the staff from each of these jurisdictions on their hard work in putting these applications together and submitting them.

After lengthy discussions and questions regarding the eight project proposals, Mr. Ryan Dayvault made a motion to endorse all eight project application proposals as presented to the group. Mr. JC McKenzie seconded the motion and the CRMPO TAC members voted unanimously to approve.

DRAFT 2028-2037 TIP Project Call

Director Conrad informed the TAC members that with the recent adoption of the 2026-2035 TIP in July, CRMPO staff has prepared a schedule for identifying and adopting the next STI list for the CRMPO area. Director Conrad went on the state that the first step was to have a call for new projects (all modes) and the deadline for submitting new projects was May 9, 2025. Phil also noted that there were no new submittals due to the decrease in submittal slots by mode from 23 to 16 for the CRMPO area.

Phil highlighted Attachment 7 which was a list of the current projects to be evaluated in P8 by NCDOT for those limited slots. There was discussion around combining the NC 3 projects Dale Earnhardt to US 601 (U-5773) to create an opening for the Odell School Road widening. After review and lengthy discussion, Mr. Ryan Dayvault made a motion to endorse the project list with Odell School Road added, for quantitative review. Mr. J.C. McKenzie seconded that motion and the TAC members unanimously approved.

Funding Swap Request

CRMPO Director Phil Conrad reported to the TAC member that NCDOT is proposing the swapping of funding sources for several projects within the CRMPO area. He added this could potentially help NCDOT secure additional federal funding for North Carolina. Phil explained that the funding swap involves switching \$6.7 million of CRMPO's Surface Transportation Block Grant-Direct Attributable (STBG-DA) federal funds for \$6.7 million in other flexible federal funds in the years the STBG-DA funds were programmed.

Phil went on to say that there would be no impact on schedules, local matches, or project management requirements resulting from the swap. He directed members to Attachment 8 in their meeting packets which was an email from NCDOT staff explaining the request and proposed swap. After review, Mrs. Meredith Bare Smith made a motion to endorse the request from NCDOT for the fund swap as proposed. Mr. Justin Simpson seconded the motion and the CRMPO TAC members voted unanimously to approve.

Reports/CRMPO Business

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.

Mr. Felix Obregon, NCDOT Division 10 noted the Division 10's report included in their packet. He then went on to highlight a spreadsheet of Division 10 project updates.

1. Functional Classification Update – Mrs. Emily Stupka and Mr. Roger Castillo reported on the functional classification review as information.
2. 2055 MTP Update and Public Survey – Director Conrad called members' attention to information contained in their packets on the update and reported that they are working with a sub-contractor.
3. FY 26 Special Studies – Director Conrad reported that there are funds available.
4. FY 26 Bike and Ped Demonstration Planning Studies – Director Conrad reported that there are funds available.
5. CMAQ Priority Submittal and Funding Update – Director Conrad reported that CRMPO staff is still waiting on a couple of submittals from a project sponsor.

Informational Items

- RIDER Transit and Salisbury Transit Ridership Information - Phil highlighted the ridership information included in the TAC packets.

Next Meeting : September 24, 2025

Adjournment

With no other business to bring before the TAC, Mr. Ryan Dayvault made a motion that the meeting be adjourned. Mrs. Brittney Barnhardt seconded the motion, and the meeting was adjourned.