

MINUTES

TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Wednesday, May 28, 2025

**Rowan County Community Center
1935 Jake Alexander Blvd
Salisbury, NC 28147**

Members

J.C. McKenzie	City of Concord
Tamara Sheffield	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

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
Rodney Phillips	Town of China Grove
Aaron Church	Rowan Co. Manager
Harry Warren	NC State Rep
Doug Wilson	City of Kannapolis
Grant Campbell	NC State Rep
Jonathan Almond	NC State Rep
Chris Measmer	NC Senate
Beth Hassenfritz	City of Kannapolis

Call to Order

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

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.

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 and guests that a Rowan Chamber delegation attended an Economic Summit in Washington, DC earlier in the month. They were able to meet with USDOT representatives to discuss the transportation needs. She went on to inform the members that the Chamber will be holding its annual Dragon Boat Festival on July 26, 2025, and invited everyone to attend.

TAC Chairman Smith then asked if there were any speakers from the floor. Director Conrad called upon the guests from the NC House and Senate and asked them to give any updates they would like to share with the members. NC State Representative Harry Warren was the first to address the TAC members. He reported that the House was working very hard on getting bill and budget recommendations by the deadlines. NC State Representative Jonathan Almond introduced himself and said he was a first time Representative and was focusing on the budget. NC State Representative Dr. Grant Campbell reported that there will be a lot of discussion regarding the healthcare portion of the budget, and neither House nor Senate budgets will pass on first attempt, but negotiations will follow until they can come to an agreement. NC State Senator Chris Measmer reported to the members that budgets are very difficult to negotiate but feels confident that both sides will work on them until there is an agreement.

TAC Chairman Smith then requested any adjustments to Consent Agenda for the night's meeting. The item under the Consent Agenda was FY 2024-2033 MTIP Modification #10. With no adjustments being heard, Mrs. Brittney Barnhardt made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Mr. Ryan Dayvault seconded the motion and the TAC members voted unanimously to approve.

Approval of March 26, 2025 Minutes

TAC Chairman Smith asked members to review the minutes from the March 26, 2025 TAC meeting which was 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. JC McKenzie 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.

Functional Classification System Review

CRMPO Director Phil Conrad reported to TAC members that functional classification is the process by which streets and highways are grouped into classes, or systems according to the character of service they are intended to provide. He went on to state that highways fall into one of four broad categories: principal arterials, minor arterials, collector roads, and local roads and are based on whether the area is urban or rural. He explained that following the 2020 US Census and designation of urban area boundaries, NCDOT must conduct a review of the functional classification system.

Director Conrad explained that NCDOT staff have provided maps and AADT point shapefiles to conduct this review. He highlighted a list of the proposed functional classification system changes included in their packets as attachment 4. Director Conrad also provided a Power Point presentation to review the information in the attachment.

After the presentation was complete, with no further questions or discussion, Ms. Tamara Sheffield made a motion to endorse the proposed Functional Classification System changes and forward them to NCDOT for final approval. Mrs. Brittney Barnhardt seconded the motion and the TAC members voted unanimously to approve.

TAP/CRP Program Project Call

Director Conrad reported to the TAC members that the Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) is a federal program to fund bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure. This program he went on to state is like the STP-DA suballocation program, requiring a 20 percent local match for those eligible bicycle and pedestrian projects.

He stated that the CRMPO issued a call for project proposals on March 20, 2025, that concluded on May 9, 2025. He stated that a total of 2 projects proposals were submitted by 2 project sponsors. He reported the total cost of these projects is \$5.682 million. He stated that NCDOT has indicated that the CRMPO can anticipate receiving about \$2.85 million in federal TAP funds through FY 2030 and that CRMPO staff would propose using this balance for these projects.

Director Conrad called TCC members' attention to attachment 5A which was a summary table of the projects. He noted Attachment 5B, which was the supporting documentation for these project proposals. CRP or Congestion Reduction Program funds are a federal funding source for areas across the state to reduce transportation emissions under the recent Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL). Director Conrad explained to the members that since the call went out for CRP project submittals, these funds are no longer available and therefore only TAP funds can be applied to projects.

Mrs. Beth Hassenfritz with the City of Kannapolis and Mr. Jared Mathis with the City of Salisbury both were asked to explain and review their jurisdictions proposed projects. Mr. Mathis presented a Power Point presentation for the members. Discussions occurred within the members regarding both projects to determine which project was able to utilize the funds. NCDOT representatives in attendance reported that the CRMPO should receive \$1-2 million for TAP funds but that was not a definite amount.

After all questions and discussion had ended, Mr. Ryan Dayvault made a motion to endorse using TAP funds for the City of Salisbury's Brenner Avenue Safety project for inclusion in the MTIP. Mr. JC McKenzie seconded the 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 packets. He also informed the members that drop-in meetings will be held at the Salisbury Train Station on June 2, 2025 and in Kannapolis on June 10, 2025 and that the information is included in their packets.

Mr. Sean Epperson, 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.

2. 2026-2035 STIP Conformity – Director Conrad reported that information is included in their meeting packets and additional information will be forthcoming this summer.
3. 2055 MTP Update – Director Conrad noted ongoing work on the MTP Update including an upcoming survey.
4. DRAFT 2028-2037 TIP Project Call – Director Conrad reported that the call for P8.0 projects has concluded.
5. Rowan Transit System Section 5310 Grant Application Letter of Support – Director Phil Conrad reported to the members that Rowan Transit is requesting a letter of support from the CRMPO for their grant funding application. With no discussion heard, Mrs. Brittney Barnhardt made a motion to provide Rowan Transit with a letter of support from the CRMPO. Mr. Ryan Dayvault seconded that motion and the TAC members voted unanimously to approve.
6. City of Kannapolis FY26 Community Project Letter of Support – CR MPO Director Phil Conrad reviewed the project for the members. After the review and with no questions or discussions heard, Ms. Tamara Sheffield made a motion to provide the City of Kannapolis with a letter of support from the CRMPO. Mrs. Brittney Barnhardt seconded that motion and the TAC members voted unanimously to approve.
7. 2024 Bicycle and Pedestrian Planning Grant Applications/Deadline May 12, 2025 – Director Conrad reported that no applications were received.
8. Section 5310 Grant Awards – Director Conrad called members attention to information in their packets on the recently awarded projects to Rowan County and Cabarrus County.
9. CMAQ Priority Submittal and Funding Update - Director Conrad reported that he is continuing to work with NCDOT and project sponsor on this item.
9. STPB Project Call – Director Conrad reported that this item will be discussed at the August 2025 meeting.

Informational Items

- RIDER Transit and Salisbury Transit Ridership Information - Phil highlighted the ridership information included in the TAC packets.
- NCDOT Statewide Multimodal Freight Plan Update – Information included in their TAC packets.
- NC Rail Public Meetings - Information included in their TAC packets.
- Senator Elizabeth Dole Highway Dedication on June 6, 2025

Next Meeting : June 25, 2025

Adjournment

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