

MINUTES

TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Wednesday, January 18, 2006 – 6:30 pm

Salisbury City Hall

Members:

Bill Feather	Town of Granite Quarry
Don Bringle	Town of China Grove
Mark Lewis	City of Salisbury
Maura Eberhardt	Town of Mt. Pleasant
Phil Cowherd	Town of Harrisburg
Darrell Page	Town of Midland
Ken Geathers	City of Kannapolis
Carolyn Carpenter	Cabarrus County
Sam Morgan	Town of Spencer
Jim Ramseur	City of Concord
Beau Taylor	Town of Rockwell

Others:

Phil Conrad	MPO Planner
Butch Bivens	Town of China Grove
Jake Fisher	Town of Granite Quarry
Mike Nunn	MPO Director
Connie Cunningham	MPO Staff
Tom Huntley	Town of Harrisburg
Linda Dosse	NCDOT – TPB
Rockne Bryant	NCDOT - TPB
Mary Ponds	Town of Granite Quarry
Pat Ivey	NCDOT- Division 9

Call to Order

TAC Chairman Don Bringle called the January 18, 2006 TAC meeting to order. TAC Chairman Bringle welcomed the members and asked if there were any additions to the agenda. With no changes being heard, Mr. Ken Geathers made a motion to accept the agenda and that motion was seconded by Mr. Jim Ramseur. Chairman Bringle asked for updates from the Cabarrus Regional Chamber of Commerce and the Rowan County Chamber of Commerce representatives respectively. Mr. Alex Rankin and Mr. Bob Wright both reported that their respective Chambers continue to work with and support the CRMPO on all transportation issues. TAC Chairman Bringle then asked for any speakers from the floor. With none heard, Chairman Bringle moved on to the next order of business.

Approval of Minutes

TAC Chairman Bringle asked for comments or corrections to the minutes from the October 19, 2005 TAC meeting. Mr. Phil Cowherd made a motion to approve the minutes as presented and Ms. Carolyn Carpenter seconded the motion. The TAC followed with a unanimous vote.

Nomination and Election of TAC Vice-Chair

TAC Chairman Bringle informed TAC members that per the bylaws of the Cabarrus-Rowan MPO, a new Vice-Chair must be elected each year and that the TAC Vice-Chair rotates to the Chairman position automatically the following year. Also per the bylaws, the Vice-Chair must be rotated between jurisdictions in Cabarrus and Rowan counties. This year's Vice-Chair will need to be elected from Cabarrus County. Mr. Jim Ramseur proceeded to nominate Ms. Carolyn Carpenter for the position of TAC Vice-Chair. Mr. Phil Cowherd nominated Mr. Tom Huntley. During his nomination of Mr. Huntley, Mr. Cowherd recognized Mr. Huntley's abilities and reviewed his years of dedication to the MPO. At

that point, Ms. Carolyn Carpenter requested to withdrawn as a nominee for the position of TAC Vice-Chair and Mr. Ramseur withdrew his nomination of Ms. Carpenter. By consensus, Mr. Tom Huntley was elected Vice-Chair of the CR TAC.

MPO Typical Cross Sections

Mr. Phil Conrad reported to the TAC members that staff has been working with a subcommittee of the TCC to develop some additional typical cross sections to use for future thoroughfares. These typical cross sections would be added to a partial listing of NCDOT typical cross sections that will be included in the Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) as an appendix. Phil continued by explaining that the TCC subcommittee devised nine additional cross sections all of which have accommodations for pedestrians and cyclists. Phil also reported that CR TCC members unanimously recommended that these cross sections be added to the LRTP as an appendix. With no further questions or discussion, Mr. Jim Ramseur made a motion to endorse the nine additional cross sections and add them as an appendix to the LRTP. Mr. Beau Taylor seconded the motion and the TAC members followed with a unanimous vote.

City of Salisbury Bicycle Plan Grant Application

TCC Chairman Mr. Dan Mikkelson reported to the TAC members that the City of Salisbury has completed an application for grant funding for a municipal Bicycle Plan. TCC Chairman Mikkelson explained that as part of this grant application process, North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) is requesting that the Cabarrus-Rowan MPO support their application with a resolution in support of the City of Salisbury's Bicycle Plan. Mr. Ken Geathers made a motion to endorse the City of Salisbury's Grant application for a Bicycle Plan and authorize a letter of support from the MPO. Mr. Mark Lewis seconded the motion and the TAC members followed with a unanimous vote.

Reports & Updates

- Local Reports – MPO/TPB/NCDOT Division 9 & 10 – Mr. Pat Ivey, NCDOT Division 9 updated the TAC members on the revised completion dates of pressing area projects and discussed funding option sources.
- US Highway 52 Update – Mike Nunn reported that due to environmental delays, NCDOT has been unable to reach a consensus on the preferred alignment for the US Highway 52 relocation project in southeastern Rowan County. NCDOT has decided not to proceed any further on the project until they can gather feedback from the MPO for their recommendations on how they would like to see NCDOT proceed. Mike reviewed a memo from NCDOT that outlines four options NCDOT is suggesting the MPO consider for the project and explained that the options are most closely tied to the scope and purpose/need for the project as opposed to selecting a preferred alignment. Each of the four options will result in some additional study for this project before an alignment can be determined. He reminded TAC members that at the October 19, 2005 meeting they had voted to table the decision of choosing an option until the next meeting of the CR MPO TAC to give the Towns of Granite Quarry and Rockwell time to hold town meetings. Mr. Bill Feather representing the Town of Granite Quarry and Mr. Beau Taylor representing the Town of Rockwell advised TAC members that their respective town's decision is to support Option 4 of the NCDOT's

list of proposed options. They also recommended that the current TIP # remain effective for the project. Mr. Bill Feather made a motion to recommend that the CR MPO TAC support Option 4 in a recommendation to NCDOT. Mr. Beau Taylor seconded the motion and TAC members voted unanimously to approve.

- Motor Vehicle Emission Budget – NC DAQ Letter – Mike Nunn reviewed a letter from the NC Department of Environment and Natural Resources (NCDENR) in regard to the development of motor vehicle emissions budgets. The letter explains that the NC Division of Air Quality (NC DAQ) is in the process of determining motor vehicle emissions budgets (MVEB'S) for the state. The letter refers how these budgets are determined and allocated. Mike went on to reference the three reasons stated in the letter why it is the recommendation of NC DAQ that MVEB'S should be set at the county level. Mr. Phil Cowherd voiced his concern that maintaining county budgets would not support a regional initiative in improving air quality. With no additional comments or questions, Mr. Mark Lewis made a motion that CRMPO support NC DAQ's recommendation to maintain county level MVEB's. Mr. Ken Geathers seconded the motion. TAC members, with the exception of Mr. Phil Cowherd who voted no, approved the motion.
- Metrolina Regional Model Maintenance Update – Mike Nunn informed the TAC members that the Metrolina Regional Model was completed in late 2005. Now the model must be maintained and as new data becomes available it must be updated. The data within the model came from NCDOT, SCDOT and the four MPO's in the Metrolina region. It is up to the staff from these agencies to provide updated data from several sources. Mike went on to explain and provide examples of different scenarios for sharing the costs involved in maintaining the model. After careful review of the options by TAC members, Ms. Carolyn Carpenter made a motion for the TAC members to endorse the Urbanized Area population based cost sharing for maintenance of the model or \$7500. Mr. Mark Lewis seconded the motion and the TAC members followed with a unanimous vote.
- Draft 2006-2006 UPWP - Mr. Mike Nunn reported that staff and TCC members are currently reviewing and preparing a FY 2006-2007 draft Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP). Mike explained to the TAC members that they will not be required to take any action on the budget until sometime in early March. Mike also presented the CR MPO Local Match budget which allocates a percentage to each member jurisdiction. The percentage allocation is based on the 2000 Census population for each member jurisdiction. With no questions or comments regarding the allocations, Mr. Ken Geathers made a motion to approve the jurisdiction allocations and this motion was seconded by Mr. Beau Taylor. TAC members followed with a unanimous vote.
- CRAFT Executive Committee Meeting/ January 30, 2006 Hosted by the Gaston MPO – Mike Nunn called the TAC members attention to the CRAFT agenda included in their meeting packets. He informed TAC members that the primary focus of the meeting will be on funding issues. He invited all TAC members to attend.

Information Items

- Concord Express Ridership - Mike Nunn called the TAC members attention to the ridership information included in their packets

Adjournment

With no other business before this committee, TAC Chairman Don Bringle adjourned the meeting of the CR MPO TAC. The next meeting is scheduled for February 15, 2006 and will be held at the Cabarrus Regional Chamber of Commerce.