

MINUTES

TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Wednesday, April 20, 2011 – 5:30 pm

J. Newton Cohen Sr. Rowan County Administration Building

130 West Innes Street
Salisbury, North Carolina 28144

Members:

Charles Wingerson	Town of Rockwell
Reid Walters	Town of Spencer
Bill Feather	Town of Granite Quarry
Rick Burleyson	Town of Mount Pleasant
Carl Ford	Rowan County
Tom Kincaid	City of Kannapolis
Tony Hilton	Town of Landis
Jim Ramseur	City of Concord
Maggie Blackwell	City of Salisbury
Elizabeth Poole	Cabarrus County
Ralph Womble	NCDOT Board Member

Others:

Phil Conrad	MPO Director
Pat Ivey	NCDOT – Division 9
Richard Hancock	NCDOT- Division 10
Darin Waller	NCDOT – Division 9
Connie Cunningham	MPO Staff
Alex Rankin	Cabarrus Chamber
Carolyn Carpenter	CCSC
Robert Van Geons	Rowan Works

Call to Order

TAC Chairman Rick Burleyson called the April 20, 2011 meeting of the Cabarrus Rowan MPO TAC to order. Chairman Burleyson read the roll call of members and determined that a quorum had been met. Chairman Burleyson then requested that all members and guests introduce themselves.

When introductions were complete, TAC Chairman Burleyson asked if there were any corrections or additions to the agenda. At that time, Cabarrus Rowan MPO Director Phil Conrad requested to move the first two items under Reports/MPO Business section to follow Item 2 on the agenda due to the fact that there was a scheduling conflict with some of the Reports/MPO Business presenters needing to leave the meeting early for other obligations. With no additional corrections or additions heard, Commissioner Elizabeth Poole made a motion to accept the amended agenda. Alderman Bill Feather seconded the motion and TAC members followed with a unanimous vote to approve.

TAC Chairman Burleyson asked for updates from the Cabarrus Regional Chamber of Commerce and the Rowan County Chamber of Commerce representatives respectively. No representatives were in attendance from either group.

Chairman Burleyson asked for any speakers from the floor. With none heard, Chairman Burleyson moved on to the next order of business.

Approval of Minutes

TAC Chairman Burleyson asked for comments or corrections to the minutes from the March 2, 2011 TAC meeting. With none heard, Commissioner Carl Ford made a motion to approve the minutes as they appear and Councilman Maggie Blackwell seconded the motion. The TAC followed with a unanimous vote to approve the minutes.

CONSENT AGENDA

All items on the consent agenda are considered to be routine and may be enacted by one motion. If a TAC member requests discussion on any item, the item will be removed from the consent agenda and considered separately. The following items are presented for TAC consideration on the Consent Agenda;

FY 2011-2020 TIP Conformity and LRTP Amendment

With no comments or questions being heard, Councilman Jim Ramseur made a motion to release the Air Quality Conformity Analysis and Determination for the 2011-2020 TIP for a thirty (30) day public comment period. Councilman Tom Kincaid seconded the motion and the TAC members voted unanimously to approve.

THIS CONCLUDES THE CONSENT AGENDA

Reports / MPO Business

- Local Reports - MPO/TPB/NCDOT Division 9 & 10 – Mr. Pat Ivey with NCDOT Division 9 presented and reviewed a handout on the Rowan County projects. Mr. Richard Hancock with NCDOT Division 10 also provided TAC members with a handout of Division 10 projects and reviewed their status with TAC members.
- NCDOT Yadkin River Bridge Presentation – Mr. Darin Waller with NCDOT provided an excellent and very descriptive Powerpoint presentation to the TAC members outlining every step of the project thus far. Mr. Pat Ivey, NCDOT Division 9 Engineer and Mr. Waller answered questions for TAC members after the presentation.

TIP Priority Methodology

Phil Conrad reported to the CR MPO TAC members that due to the fact that NCDOT recently applied a new statewide methodology to rank projects for the FY2011-2020 TIP, CRMPO staff has been working on the development of a methodology to rank highway projects in the CRMPO area. Phil reminded TAC members that the Cabarrus Rowan TIP Priority Methodology was presented and reviewed by the TCC and TAC at their respective January 2011 meetings with minimal discussion.

Phil called TAC members attention to Attachment 4A in their packets which was a copy of the Draft TIP Priority Methodology and also a spreadsheet labeled Attachment 4B which included local projects which were scored using this methodology. Phil also called TAC members' attention to a series of slides identified as Attachment 4C in their packets that outlined the schedule for submitting projects for the 2014-2020 TIP. After little discussion, Alderman Bill Feather made a motion to approve the Draft TIP Priority Methodology using the Local Input Ranking – Control Total w/Equal Points (1300). Commissioner Elizabeth Poole seconded the motion and all TAC members voted unanimously to approve.

Draft FY 2011-2012 Unified Planning Work Program

CR MPO Director Conrad reported to TAC members that each year the Cabarrus Rowan MPO develops and adopts a unified planning work program (UPWP). The UPWP, Phil continued, is the MPO budget and follows the state fiscal year 2011-2012. Phil called TAC members' attention to Attachment 5A in their agenda packet.

Phil continued by explaining that the UPWP identifies the planning tasks, responsible agencies, and the funding sources for regional transportation planning activities to be conducted within the planning area during the next fiscal year. Phil reported to TAC members that as part of the UPWP, the Federal government is requiring all MPO's to certify their transportation planning process on an annual basis. Phil then called TAC members attention to Attachment 5B in their packets which was a checklist for the CR MPO to certify the MPO transportation planning process. These projects Phil stated, include MPO planning activities undertaken by local agencies, the NCDOT, and a line item for Regional Model and LRTP Maintenance. It also includes urbanized area transit related planning activities conducted by the CK Rider Transit system. Phil also informed TCC members that NCDOT requires a 5 Year Planning Calendar be developed in coordination with the annual UPWP and that a Draft copy of the calendar is included in their agenda packets labeled Attachment 5C. Phil reviewed all of the attachments with TAC members.

Commissioner Elizabeth Poole made a motion to approve certifying the CR MPO transportation planning process and adopt the 2011-2012 UPWP. Councilman Jim Ramseur followed up with a second to the motion, and TAC members voted unanimously to approve.

Motor Vehicle Emission Budgets

Phil Conrad reviewed the Emissions Comparison Summary for Cabarrus and Rowan counties included in the TAC members' packets. The comparison showed the NOx and VOC emissions for each county separately. TAC members had the option to keep emission budgets separate by county or to combine and use one consolidated emissions budget for the CR MPO. After limited discussion, Commissioner Elizabeth Poole made a motion to support a combined two County budget for the CR MPO area and Alderman Tony Hilton seconded the motion. TAC members voted unanimously to approve

Reports / MPO Business

- Yadkin River Veterans Memorial Bridge – Phil Conrad reported to TAC members that area North Carolina legislators are trying to get the new bridge being constructed over the Yadkin River renamed to the Yadkin River Veterans Memorial Bridge. TAC members quickly agreed that this would be a fitting name for the bridge. Councilman Maggie Blackwell made a motion to send a letter of support for the proposed name to area legislators. Alderman Tony Hilton seconded the motion and TAC members voted unanimously to approve the motion.
- Resolution Opposing the Transfer of Secondary Roads to Local Governments – Phil Conrad called members' attention to a resolution included in their packets regarding the opposition of the transfer of State-owned secondary roads to local governments. After review, Commissioner Elizabeth Poole made a motion to support signing the resolution Opposing the Transfer of Secondary Roads to Local Governments. Commissioner Carl Ford seconded the motion and TAC members voted unanimously to approve.

- HB 635 Adjust Highway Equity Formula – Phil Conrad called TAC members' attention to information regarding House Bill 635 included in their packets. The bill would adjust the distribution formula for funds expended on the intrastate system and to the transportation improvement program. After review of the Bill, Alderman Tony Hilton made a motion to send letters of support for House Bill 635 to not only the sponsors of the Bill, but also to the NC House and the NC Senate delegation. Alderman Bill Feather seconded the motion and TAC members voted unanimously to approve.
- Rowan Express – Phil Conrad reported to TAC members that the Rowan Express Route will be seeking funding to continue the service in the new fiscal year. The services have been funded by a CMAQ grant through NCDOT, but the three year funding grant is due to expire at the end of June 2011. The Rowan Express staff has made a request that the CR MPO write a letter of support for the Rowan Express Route to continue operations. With no discussion, Alderman Bill Feather made a motion to send a letter of support for the Rowan Express Route to the Rowan County Commissioners. Commissioner Elizabeth Poole seconded the motion and TAC members voted unanimously to approve.
- March CRAFT Executive Committee Meeting in Rock Hill – CR MPO Director Phil Conrad reported that the CRAFT Executive committee met in Rock Hill, SC in March and that a presentation made at that meeting is on the CR MPO website.
- Centralina Transportation Planning Organization Study - TAC Chairman Burleyson reported to TAC members that he and CR MPO Director Phil Conrad have attended three meetings regarding this study and that a fourth and final meeting will soon be held. Chairman Burleyson and Mr. Conrad both reported that attendance at these meetings have decreased significantly and interest and support for the study seems to be dwindling. Some CR MPO TAC members expressed a desire to completely withdraw CR MPO from any further meetings or discussions. But by consensus, TAC members decided to allow Chairman Burleyson and Phil Conrad to attend the final meeting to continue to make clear that CR MPO has no desire to participate in any of the options moving forward.

Information Items

- ✓ NC Logistics Task Force Recommendations – This draft of the recommendations was provided as information.
- ✓ Concord Express, RIDER and Salisbury Transit, Rowan Express, Cabarrus Links and RIDER Para-Transit Ridership - Phil highlighted ridership information included in their packets.

Adjournment

With no other business before this committee, Alderman Bill Feather made a motion to adjourn the meeting of the CR MPO TAC. Councilman Jim Ramseur seconded the motion and meeting was adjourned.

Next Meeting: May 25, 2011

Agenda items for May TAC meeting