

MINUTES

TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Wednesday, April 24, 2013 – 5:30 pm

Concord Fire Station #9 Community Rooms
1020 Ivey Cline Road
Concord, NC 28027

Members:

Charles Wingerson	Town of Rockwell
Reid Walters	Town of Spencer
Bill Feather	Town of Granite Quarry
Richard Burleyson	Town of Mount Pleasant
Maggie Blackwell	Town of Salisbury
Jeff Phillips	Town of Harrisburg
Craig Pierce	Rowan County
Elizabeth Poole	Cabarrus County
Al Brown	City of Concord
Tom Kincaid	City of Kannapolis
John Bradford	Town of Cleveland
Lee Withers	Town of China Grove
Jake Alexander	NCDOT Board Member

Others:

Phil Conrad	MPO Director
Alex Rankin	Cabarrus Chamber
Pat Ivey	NCDOT Div. 9
Jonathan Marshall	Cabarrus County
Connie Cunningham	MPO Staff
Ryan Dayvault	City of Kannapolis
Marc Morgan	NCDOT Div. 10
Jim LaFever	Granite Quarry
Louis Mitchell	NCDOT Div. 10
John Cox	Cabarrus Chamber

Call to Order

TAC Chair Elizabeth Poole called to order the April 24, 2013 meeting of the Cabarrus Rowan MPO. Chairman Poole called the roll of eligible TAC members and confirmed that a quorum had been met. Chairman Poole proceeded by asking that all present introduce themselves.

Chairman Poole continued by reading the NC Ethics requirements and asked that anyone having a conflict of interest with any item during the meeting to refrain from participating in that item. Moving on to the next item, TAC Chair Poole asked if there were any corrections or additions to the agenda. MPO Director Phil Conrad made a request to add an item to number 5 Reports. The item is the Governors newly announced Funding Formula Proposal. Mrs. Maggie Blackwell made a motion to add the item under reports and Mr. Bill Feather seconded the motion. TAC members voted unanimously to approve. Chairman Poole continued to the next item of business.

Chairman Poole asked for Commerce updates. Mr. Alex Rankin, representative for the Cabarrus Regional Chamber of Commerce relayed to the TAC members that the Cabarrus Regional Chamber continues to support the Cabarrus Rowan MPO in all of their endeavors to meet transportation needs.

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

Approval of Minutes

Chairman Poole called TAC members' attention to the minutes of the March 27, 2013 TAC meeting included in their agenda packets. With no comments or corrections being heard, Mr. Tom Kincaid made a motion to approve the minutes as presented and Mr. Craig Pierce seconded the motion. The TAC followed with a unanimous vote to approve.

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 an 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:

NO ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION

Surface Transportation Program (STP) Funds

Phil Conrad reported to TAC members that due to the recent growth of the urbanized area in Cabarrus and Rowan counties, the CRMPO surpassed the 200,000 population mark with the completion of the 2010 US Census. Because of the growth, the CRMPO is now designated as a larger MPO by the federal government and is able to program some Surface Transportation Program (STP) funds. Phil explained that CRMPO member jurisdictions can now use their local selection process to program these funds.

Phil continued by saying that NCDOT staff has provided MPO staff with data to indicate that the CRMPO's annual allocation of STP funds will be approximately \$2 million out of the statewide budget of STP funds. Phil informed the TAC members that there would still be a requirement of a 20% local match and emphasized that these funds are not new funds. The change is that the MPO will have more flexibility in allocation where the STP funds are used. Phil called members' attention to Attachment 3A in their packets which was a table of STP funds.

After review, Phil then called members' attention to Attachment 3B. This attachment was a letter describing a scenario for the possible use of these funds. After discussion, TAC members decided that the best use of their STP funds was to request that NCDOT consider accelerating the Kimball Road Extension project with construction dollars to begin in FY 2019. With no further questions or discussion, Mr. Craig Pierce made a motion to support the use of STP funds for the Kimball Road Extension project. Mr. Tom Kincaid seconded the motion and TAC members voted unanimously to approve.

Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)

Director Conrad called members' attention to the MOU included in their agenda packets. The MOU, Phil explained, outlines the roles and responsibilities of the MPO and its member jurisdictions. Phil went on to say that MPO staff presented this *Draft* MOU to the TCC and TAC for review and discussion at their respective February and March meetings. Phil reminded members that emails had been sent out during this timeframe as well requesting any suggestions for the MOU content with a March 11, 2013 deadline for submittals. Phil reported that none had been received as of March 27, 2013. Phil added that the CRMPO TCC had voted unanimously at their March meeting to recommend approval.

Phil continued by reminding members that this item had been tabled at the March meeting for further questions and discussion due to requests by TAC members Mr. Lee Withers and Mr. Tony Hilton. Mr. Withers thanked the TAC members for tabling the approval of the MOU until he could be present and discuss his concerns and questions. Mr. Withers explained that he felt from time to time it might be advisable or desirable to change the Lead Planning Agency (LPA) and give other jurisdictions an

opportunity to serve. Discussion among the other TAC members lacked any support for changing the LPA as the consensus was that the City of Concord had always done an outstanding job and have the resources to complete the tasks required. The other concern Mr. Withers shared was the fact that MPO staff is hired by the Lead Planning Agency and perhaps that should be done by the MPO membership. After explanation of the rigorous requirements in place to hire MPO staff, this suggestion also lacked support by other TAC members. Mr. Al Brown, TAC representative from the City of Concord, explained the City's history and position concerning the CRMPO and offered to answer any questions from CRMPO member jurisdictions. By consensus, TAC members reiterated that Concord had done an outstanding job as the LPA and should remain in this capacity.

With no further discussion, Mr. Lee Withers made a motion to approve the Cabarrus Rowan MPO Memorandum of Understanding and that motion was seconded by Mr. Bill Feather. TAC members voted unanimously to approve.

Reports & Updates

- Local Reports – MPO/TPB/NCDOT Division 9 & 10 – Mr. Pat Ivey of NCDOT Division 9 reviewed project updates for TAC members. He also reported that the final inspection on the Yadkin River Bridge project was to be complete next week. Mr. Marc Morgan provided a handout to TAC members on Division 10 projects and reviewed them with the members. Mr. Louis Mitchell also of Division 10 provided additional information on Division 10 projects, specifically recent developments on the re-design of exit 60.
- Senate Bill 411/MPO Ethics Requirements – Phil called members' attention to a copy of Senate Bill 411 included in their packets. Phil explained the bill sets out the penalties for not following the Ethics guidelines by MPO representatives.
- House Bill 104/Regional Airport (s) Update - Phil directed TAC members to a copy of a letter to Senator Fletcher Hartsell from the City of Concord regarding House Bill 104 which is an act to create the Charlotte Regional Airport Authority. This bill could negatively impact the Concord Regional Airport. Mr. Al Brown provided TAC members with information regarding the development and operation of the Concord Airport and the detrimental impacts this bill could have on the City of Concord. Mr. Brown also provided some summary of the federal funding for contract tower employees located at the airport.
- MPO Member Spotlight: Town of China Grove – Phil Conrad explained to the TAC members that staff thought it would be beneficial to other jurisdictions to see highlights of their counterpart jurisdictions. The Town of China Grove is the first to be highlighted. Phil provided a power point presentation to show important improvements that have been completed on China Grove's behalf by the MPO. Chairman Poole stated she liked this idea.
- TAC Member Info: Metropolitan Transportation Planning – This item was tabled until the next TAC meeting.
- Governor's Strategic Mobility Funding Formula Proposal – Phil provided handouts to the TAC members which was a Fact Sheet of the Strategic Mobility Formula from NCDOT. Staff provided a summary of the key aspects of the new formula. Additional information should be forthcoming on this initiative.

Information Items

- ✓ Winecoff/Mt. Olivet Road Overpass Letter and Resolutions – Provided as information.
- ✓ Concord Express, RIDER and Salisbury Transit, both Rowan Express routes, Cabarrus Links and RIDER Para-Transit Ridership - Ridership information provided.

Adjournment

With no other business before this committee, Mr. Charles Wingerson made a motion to adjourn the meeting of the CR MPO TAC. Mr. Bill Feather seconded the motion and the meeting was adjourned. Chairman Poole thanked everyone for attending.

Next Meeting: May 22, 2013