

MINUTES

TECHNICAL COORDINATING COMMITTEE

Wednesday, January 18, 2012

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

Members:

Dan Mikkelson
Joe Wilson
Dan Peters
Kris Krider
Jonathan Marshall
W.S. Rowland
Josh Watkins
David Pugh
Barry Moose
Pat Ivey
Ed Muire
Linda Dosse

City of Salisbury
City of Concord
Town of Granite Quarry
City of Kannapolis
Cabarrus County
Town of Landis
Town of Harrisburg
Town of Midland
NCDOT-Div. 10
NCDOT-Div. 9
Town of Cleveland & Rowan County
NCDOT-TPB

Others:

Marc Morgan
Phil Conrad
Loretta Barren
Connie Cunningham

NCDOT-Div.10
CRMPO Director
FHWA
CRMPO Staff

Call to Order

TCC Chairman Dan Peters called the January 18, 2012 meeting of the Cabarrus Rowan MPO TCC to order. TCC Chairman Peters welcomed the members and introduced and welcomed Ms. Loretta Barren, FHWA, Mr. Barry Moose, NCDOT-Division 10 and Mr. Pat Ivey, NCDOT-Division 9. Chairman Peters then requested that all those present introduce themselves. After introductions were made, TCC Chairman Peters asked if there were any additions or corrections to the agenda. With none heard, TCC Chairman Peters continued on to the next item of business.

Approval of Minutes

Chairman Peters called TCC member's attention to the minutes of the October 19, 2011 TCC meeting included in the agenda packets. He proceeded by asking TCC members for any comments or corrections to the minutes. With none heard, Mr. Josh Watkins made a motion to accept the minutes as presented. Mr. David Pugh seconded the motion and TCC members followed with a unanimous vote to approve the minutes.

Nomination and Election of TCC Vice-Chair

Phil Conrad, CR MPO Director reminded TCC members that the Cabarrus Rowan Metropolitan Planning Organization's Bylaws state that a new TCC Vice-Chairman must be elected each year. The TCC Vice Chairman rotates to the Chairman position automatically in the next year. Phil continued by stating that the TCC Chairman must also rotate between jurisdictions in Cabarrus and Rowan Counties. With that in mind, Phil advised the TCC members that they would need to nominate and elect a Vice Chairman from Cabarrus County for 2012. With no questions or comments being heard, Mr. Joe Wilson made a motion to nominate Mr. Jonathan Marshall as Vice Chairman for 2012. Mr. Marshall stated that he would accept the position if elected. Director Conrad asked for any other nominations

from the floor and with none being heard, Mr. Joe Wilson closed the nominations. TCC members voted unanimously to approve Mr. Jonathan Marshall as Vice Chairman for 2012.

Title VI

MPO Director Phil Conrad reported to TCC members that NCDOT's Office of Civil Rights has informed all of the MPO's in the state for a greater need to comply with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. Phil continued by stating that Mr. Shantray Dickens from NCDOT's OCR was scheduled to present at the meeting today, but had to reschedule to the March 2012 meeting due to scheduling conflicts. Phil requested that TCC Chairman Dan Peters table the item until the March meeting. Chairman Peters asked TCC members for any objections and with none heard, tabled this item to the March meeting.

Draft FY 2012-2013 UPWP

Phil Conrad reminded TCC members that each year, the Cabarrus Rowan MPO is required to prepare and adopt a Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) which is the MPO's budget according to state fiscal year 2012-2013. Phil called TCC members attention to Attachment 5A in their packets. Phil stated that the UPWP outlines planning tasks, the responsible agencies for those tasks and the funding sources for regional transportation planning activities to be conducted within the planning area during the next fiscal year. Phil continued by saying that these projects include MPO planning activities untaken by local agencies, the NCDOT and that there is also a line item for Regional Model and LRTP Maintenance. It also Phil continued, includes urbanized area transit related planning activities conducted by the Concord Kannapolis Area Transit System.

Phil went on to review the budget line by line with the TCC members and reported to them that the budget is not due until April 2012 and this is for their review and will be brought back before them before the submittal deadline for their recommendation to TAC. Phil continued by calling TCC members' attention to Attachment 5B a Draft 5 Year Planning Calendar required by NCDOT. Phil stated that CR MPO staff has developed the required calendar in coordination with the UPWP.

FY 2012-2013 MTIP Amendment #1

Phil informed TCC members that NCDOT is requesting various amendments to the MTIP's from MPO's throughout North Carolina. When the adoption of the amendment to the 2035 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) and recent TIP Conformity approved, the MPO can begin to submit amendments to the MTIP for Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) approval. Phil called TCC members' attention to Attachment 6 in their packets. This draft resolution will modify the MTIP for the following projects; S-5106 – NC Scenic Byways Land Conservation initiative, C-5554 – DENR School Bus Replacement Program, W-5508-Highway System Data Collection, C-4918-Intersection Improvements in Concord, C-4919 McEachern Greenway and Y-5500 a Traffic Separation Study. These amendments Phil stated, have already been made by NCDOT in the State TIP through the NC Board of Transportation. Phil asked for questions or comments.

With no further discussion, Mr. Dan Mikkelson made a motion to recommend to the CR MPO TAC that they endorse and approve Amendment #1 to the FY 2012-2013 MTIP. Mr. Ed Muire seconded the motion and TCC members voted unanimously to approve.

NC Mobility Fund Project Solicitation

MPO Director Conrad reported to the members that NCDOT has issued a call for Mobility Fund candidate projects and have sent the CR MPO an application to submit projects. The deadline for

project submittals Phil continued, is February 29, 2012 and each organization can submit no more than five candidate projects for review. He went on to say that projects must be on the statewide or regional tier and must also be ready to have funds obligated for construction within the next five years.

Phil called TCC members' attention to Attachment #7 in their packets which was a completed application for project I-3802 or the I-85 Widening Project. Projects that are selected by NCDOT will be funded from unused gap funds and reduction in the amount of money transferred from the Highway Trust fund to the General Fund but will not be subject to the NC Equity Formula. Phil stated, NC legislation designated that the first project to be funded is the I-85 Corridor Improvement Project Phase II in Davidson County.

Phil reviewed the Project Selection Criteria with members that is included in their agenda packets. Mr. Barry Moose, NCDOT Division Engineer for Division 10 and Mr. Pat Ivey, NCDOT Division Engineer for Division 9 informed TCC members that both Divisions are working together to maximize potential for securing a project for the region. Mr. Ivey stated that some rail projects are scoring very highly so it will be very important to maximize the number of points for each submitted project. Mr. Moose reported that candidate projects can also include future HOV lanes. Barry also reported that each Division can use equity money to help with funding selected Mobility projects.

After all discussion, Mr. Joe Wilson made a motion to recommend that the CR MPO TAC consider endorsement of project I-3802, the widening of I-85, as a potential candidate project. Mr. Jonathan Marshall seconded the motion and TCC members voted unanimously to approve.

New Ozone Standard Non-Attainment Boundary

Phil called TCC member's attention to Attachment #8, a letter included in their packets to the Mayor of Kannapolis, Mr. Bob Misenheimer, from the NC Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DNER) in regard to ozone standard boundaries. The letter Phil reported, states that NCDENR will hold two public meetings in Mecklenburg County to discuss boundary recommendations for the new federal 8 hour ozone standard on January 18, 2012. One was being held in downtown Charlotte during the same time as the CR MPO TCC meeting, and the second one was being held later that evening in Cornelius. Mr. Conrad said he would be attending the second on behalf of the CR MPO.

Phil explained that during the Bush Administration, this new standard was set and that NCDENR is required to propose non-attainment boundaries each time a new standard is promulgated. The Charlotte Region would be the only non-attainment area in the state under this new standard. Phil continued by pointing out that due to violating monitors in Mecklenburg and Rowan Counties, most likely all or part of Cabarrus and Rowan Counties will remain non-attainment. Phil called TCC members attention to four charts in their packets; 1) Population Density by Township, 2) Mecklenburg County ACS Incoming, 3) Metrolina Design Values and 4) NOx Point Sources. After review with TCC member's, Phil did report that NCDNER has indicated a willingness to exempt a few rural townships from the proposed non-attainment boundary based on their low population density.

After all discussions were heard, Mr. Ed Muire made a motion to recommend that TAC endorse townships meeting criteria to be considered for attainment. Mr. Dan Mikkelson seconded the motion. Before a vote could be taken, additional questions came up regarding CMAQ funding for attainment areas. Mr. David Pugh with the Town of Midland related to members that representatives for Midland were currently attending the meeting being held in downtown Charlotte to lobby for Midland to be classified as attainment due to the fact that neighboring Stanley County was already attainment. NCDOT Division Engineers from Division 9 and Division 10 informed Mr. Pugh that those areas designated as attainment could no longer qualify for CMAQ funding and the Town of Midland would lose funding for their current CMAQ funded project.

As discussions continued, more and more questions came up and it was determined that someone from NCDENR really needed to answer these questions. Mr. Ed Muire withdrew his motion and Mr. Dan Mikkelson withdrew his second to that motion.

Mr. Ed Muire made a second motion to let MPO Director Conrad advise the TAC at their next meeting regarding discussions that came up at the TCC meeting over this issue and the need for more information from NCDENR. Mr. Mikkelson seconded the motion and TCC members voted unanimously to accept.

Reports / MPO Business

- Local Reports - MPO/TPB/NCDOT Division 9 & 10 – Mr. Pat Ivey from NCDOT Division 9 provided TCC members with a spreadsheet of updates on the Rowan County projects and reviewed them. Mr. Marc Morgan provided TCC members with a handout of Division 10 project updates and reviewed them.
- 2040 Statewide Long Range Transportation Plan – Linda Dosse reported the study is pretty much complete. NCDOT staff will present a formal report to the MPO at a future meeting.
- CTP Index Update – Phil Conrad distributed copies of the updated CTP cross-sections for TCC members' review. Linda Dosse advised members that she is finishing up bridge and crash maps to be included in the Plan. All TCC members are to have any corrections or additions to the Index or maps prior to the March 2012 meeting.
- TIP Priority SPOT Results – Phil Conrad called TCC members attention to a spreadsheet in their packet that shows all the priority scores for CR MPO priority projects. He reviewed with members. Final scores will come to the CR MPO by end of month.
- 2040 MPO Long Range Transportation Plan Update – Phil informed TCC members that work will begin soon on updating the LRTP and he will be asking for feedback.

Information Items

- Concord Express, Salisbury Transit, Rowan Express and RIDER Transit Ridership Information - Phil called the TCC members' attention to the ridership information included in their packets.
- Catawba College Air Quality Panel Discussion _ January 19th – 5 pm.
- Centralina COG Freight Forum – January 30th – 5 pm

Adjournment

With no other business to consider, Mr. David Pugh made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Mr. Jonathan Marshall followed with a second.

The next meeting will be February 15, 2012.