

MINUTES

TECHNICAL COORDINATING COMMITTEE

Wednesday, March 21, 2012

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

Members:

Dan Mikkelson
Joe Wilson
Dan Peters
Wilmer Melton
Jonathan Marshall
W.S. Rowland
Josh Watkins
David Pugh
Marc Morgan
Brett Abernathy
Ed Muire
Linda Dosse
Macon Sammons, Jr.
Ken Deal

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
Town of East Spencer
Town of China Grove

Others:

Shane Stewart
Phil Conrad
Loretta Barren
Connie Cunningham
L.J. Weslowski
Jack Flaherty
Rob Walter
Shantray Dickens
Sharon Lipscomb
Vagn Hansen

Rowan County
CRMPO Director
FHWA
CRMPO Staff
RIDER
NCDOT-Transit
Concord Airport
NCDOT-Title VI
NCDOT-Title VI
CMR Services

Call to Order

The March 21, 2012 meeting of the Cabarrus Rowan MPO TCC was called to order by TCC Chairman Dan Peters. Chairman Peters welcomed the members and guests. 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 being heard, TCC Chairman Peters moved on to the next item of business.

Approval of Minutes

Chairman Peters called TCC member's attention to the minutes of the January 18, 2012 TCC meeting. He proceeded by asking TCC members for any comments or corrections to the minutes. With no comments or corrections being heard, Mr. Jonathan Marshall made a motion to accept the minutes as presented. Mr. Wilmer Melton seconded the motion and TCC members followed with a unanimous vote to approve the minutes.

Title VI

Phil Conrad, CR MPO Director, reminded 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 went on to report that compliance would provide assurances that the MPO will never discriminate on the grounds of race, color, sex, age, national origin or disability. Phil then introduced Ms. Sharon Lipscomb from NCDOT's Office of Civil Rights, to provide a presentation to the TCC members. Ms. Lipscomb introduced herself and Mr. Shantray Dickens, also with the NCDOT Office of Civil Rights. Ms. Lipscomb went on to explain in a power point presentation who and what the NCDOT Office of Civil Rights is and what their duties and responsibilities are. She continued by explaining the

material provided in members' packets on what is the purpose of the Title VI program. Ms. Lipscomb explained the intent of the Title VI program, the general requirements, who must comply, sub-recipient responsibilities, consequences of non-compliance, and what must be included in the CRMPO Title VI Assurance documents.

After the presentation was complete, Ms. Lipscomb opened the floor to questions. Mr. Ed Muire asked what areas the CRMPO are currently in non-compliance. She explained that an audit of NCDOT's Title VI program had brought to light some areas that needed some improvement and that improvements were also to be assessed at the MPO level. Ms. Lipscomb went on to say that a desk audit had been done with the CRMPO by Mr. Dickens via phone and email and that CRMPO staff was working with them to make updates to the Title VI documents but that no on-sight reviews have been scheduled or completed.

After discussion, TCC Chairman Peters commented that TCC staff may need to assist their respective TAC members in understanding what the Title VI Assurances are. With no further discussion, Mr. Wilmer Melton made a motion to forward all the Title VI documents that are in their agenda packets to TAC members for their review. Mr. Dan Mikkelson seconded the motion and TCC members voted unanimously to approve.

Draft Comprehensive Transportation Plan Index

CRMPO Director Conrad reminded TCC members that they have spent the past several months working on a DRAFT Comprehensive Transportation Plan (CTP) Index initiated by NCDOT Transportation Planning Branch. This index would replace the currently adopted CRMPO Street Appendix and would serve as the MPO's Street Appendix to compliment the currently adopted CTP maps. Phil then called TCC members attention to Attachment #4 in their packets which was a memo outlining the CTP adoption schedule and also included additional background information on the development and completion of the CTP.

Ms. Linda Dosse, NCDOT-TPB reported to TCC members that she is missing information from each jurisdiction that needs to be included in the CTP Index. TCC members voiced concerns as to why this is the first time they had been told about this missing information. Mr. Joe Wilson voiced serious concerns as to why this process has taken so long and why after all of these months of work on the part of staff that she has not mentioned this needed information before now. Other TCC members voiced concerns as to who is really responsible for gathering this information since this is not an MPO initiative. Ms. Dosse replied that she still needs figures/info for pavement width, number of lanes, speed limits, and current right of way for all streets and thoroughfares from each jurisdiction. Mr. Ed Muire expressed concern that it seems like every time staff completes and provides data for the CTP, a new request for different information is made that was never previously requested. Mr. Joe Wilson asked Ms. Dosse if he provided her with the additional information she is now requesting, how long would it take her to complete the CTP Index and she replied that she could complete it in a month from the day she receives it. Mr. Wilmer Melton requested that Ms. Dosse send out an email specifically outlining all information that is needed to completely finish the Draft CTP Index.

Phil directed TCC members' attention back to the schedule and reported to members that MPO Staff would like to release the Draft CTP Index for a thirty (30) day comment period and hold two public workshops. One would be held in Salisbury for Rowan County residents and the other in Concord for Cabarrus County residents to come and voice their comments regarding the Draft CTP Index. With no further discussion, Mr. Dan Mikkelson made a motion to forward the Draft CTP Index to the TAC and recommend that they consider releasing the Draft CTP Index for a thirty (30) day public comment period. Mr. Joe Wilson seconded the motion and TCC members voted to approve with Ms. Linda Dosse voting against.

2040 Statewide Long Range Transportation Plan

Phil informed TCC members that Mr. Tyler Bray with NCDOT was on the agenda to present a report on the 2040 Statewide Long Range Transportation Plan, but had to cancel at the last minute and was unable to attend. Phil proceeded to present Mr. Bray's power point presentation to TCC members. He explained that NCDOT is in the process of developing an updated Long Range Multimodal Statewide Transportation Plan (2040 Plan). The Plan which will focus on policies and programs that are needed to improve safety, improve mobility and reduce congestion for NC, will address highway, aviation, ferries, rail, bicycle, walking and public transit forms of transportation.

Mr. Conrad went on to say that the draft 2040 Plan will be released for review to all planning partners, stakeholders, and the general public throughout the state in the spring of 2012. The Board of Transportation is scheduled to adopt the final 2040 Plan by the summer of 2012.

FY 2012-2018 MTIP Amendment #2

MPO Director Conrad introduced Mr. L.J. Weslowski, RIDER Transit System Director. Mr. Weslowski addressed TCC members by explaining that RIDER Transit System needs to modify the current MTIP in order to reallocate funds from Project TG-5103B ADA Services as Capital Expense from \$32, 000 annual maximum to \$150,000 annually, and Project TO-5183 Operation Assistance from \$1,098,000 annual maximum to \$1,300,00 annually. Mr. Weslowski explained this is not a request for any additional funds but will allow for more flexibility under the current 5307 allocation to RIDER Transit System. The amendment would allow for moving some monies currently allocated for capital projects to help offset the rising cost of fuel and ADA service provider's increased costs.

With little discussion, Mr. Jonathan Marshall made a motion to recommend that TAC consider endorsing amendment #2 to the FY 2012-2018 MTIP. Mr. Ed Muire followed with a second and TCC members voted unanimously to approve the motion.

FY 2012-2013 UPWP

Phil Conrad informed the TCC members that each year the Cabarrus Rowan MPO is required to develop and adopt a unified planning program (UPWP) which is the MPO budget and follows the state fiscal year 2012-2013. Phil called TCC members' attention to Attachment 7A in their packets which was the detailed budget for their review.

Phil continued by explaining that the UPWP identifies the planning tasks, responsible agencies, and funding sources for regional transportation planning activities to be conducted within the planning area during the next fiscal year. Phil reviewed the budget line item by line item and explained each projected expenditure. He went on to say that as part of the UPWP, the Federal government requires all MPO's to certify their transportation planning process on an annual basis. Phil called members' attention to Attachment 7B which was a checklist for the CR MPO to certify the MPO transportation planning process.

Mr. Conrad called TCC members' attention to a Special Studies section of the budget and reported that the City of Salisbury has made a request for some special study funds to complete a corridor study on East Innes Street in the amount of \$96,000. Phil also mentioned Attachment 7C and 7D in the agenda packet which included a letter from Mayor Paul Woodson making a formal request for the funds and a summary of probable scope and cost for the project. After review of the letter and supporting documentation, Mr. Joe Wilson made a motion to recommend that the TAC adopt the 2012-2013 UPWP inclusive of the \$96,000 of the Special Studies line item for the Salisbury corridor study on East

Innes Street. Mr. Jonathan Marshall seconded the motion with TCC members voting unanimously to approve.

As a final comment, Phil informed TCC members that NCDOT now requires a 5 Year Planning Calendar to be developed in coordination with the annual UPWP and called members' attention to Attachment 7E. The UPWP is due to NCDOT no later than April 13, 2012. Phil asked for any questions or comments. With no other discussion, Mr. Jonathan Marshall made a motion to recommend that TAC consider certifying the CR MPO transportation planning process. Mr. Josh Watkins seconded the motion and TCC members voted unanimously to approve.

Reports / MPO Business

- Local Reports - MPO/TPB/NCDOT Division 9 & 10 – Mr. Brett Abernathy 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 as well.
- 2040 MPO Long Range Transportation Plan – Phil Conrad referred TCC members to the 2040 LRTP Draft Goals and Objectives and indicated that it would be appropriate to receive public input on these items.
- New Ozone Standard Non-Attainment Letters – Phil Conrad called members' attention to correspondence to US EPA regarding the new 8-hour ozone standard boundary.
- NC Railroad Study – Phil reported to TCC members that information on the NC commuter railroad was included in their packets for their review.

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.

Adjournment

With no other business to consider, TCC Chairman Dan Peters adjourned the March 21, 2012 meeting of the CR MPO TCC.

The next meeting will be April 18, 2012.