

# MINUTES

## TECHNICAL COORDINATING COMMITTEE

Wednesday August 17, 2005 – 12 Noon

### Salisbury City Hall

#### Members:

Ed Muire  
Jeff Young  
Linda Dosse'  
Aldie Whitmore  
Dan Mikkelson  
Richard Smith  
Roger Lentz, Chair  
  
Brett Abernathy

Rowan County  
City of Concord  
NCDOT – TPB  
NCDOT – Division 10  
City of Salisbury  
City of Kannapolis  
Cabarrus Co., Harrisburg  
& Mt. Pleasant  
NCDOT – Division 9

#### Others:

Phil Conrad MPO Planner  
Mike Nunn MPO Director  
Rob Walter City of Concord  
Ritchie Hearne NCDOT – Division 10  
Joe Wilson City of Concord  
Wilmer Melton City of Kannapolis  
Rodney Harrison City of Salisbury  
Rick Mason NCDOT – Division 10  
Benton Payne NCDOT – Division 10  
Leah Wagner NCDOT – Division 10  
Connie Cunningham MPO Staff

#### Call to Order

TCC Chair Roger Lentz called the August 17, 2005 TCC meeting to order. TCC Chair Lentz welcomed the members and introduced Mr. Rodney Harrison, newly appointed Transit Manager for the City of Salisbury. Chairman Lentz then asked if there were any additions or corrections to the agenda. There being none, TCC Chairman Lentz continued on to the next item of business.

#### Approval of Minutes

TCC Chairman Lentz asked for comments or corrections to the minutes from the June 29, 2005 TCC meeting. Mr. Jeff Young made a motion to approve the minutes as presented and Mr. Wilmer Melton seconded the motion. The TCC followed with a unanimous vote.

#### 2006-2012 TIP Conformity and LRTP Amendment

Mr. Phil Conrad reported to the TCC members that Cabarrus-Rowan MPO Staff and the Metrolina Regional Partners have been working on another Air Quality Conformity Analysis and Determination Report. Due to the delay of the I-85 widening project over the Yadkin River (I-2304), the CR MPO is required to amend their Long Range Transportation Plan to show the new schedule for this project. This report demonstrates that the financially constrained Long Range Transportation Plan's (LRTP) in the Metrolina Region meet national ambient air quality standards. The report also certifies that the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) is a subset of the 2030 LRTP and the Conformity Report is consistent with the State Improvement Plan (SIP). Phil informed the TCC members that the Public Comment Period has been extended to September 6, 2005 so that the public can review the amended Plan and make comments. Pending any public comments that TAC would need to consider, the report will be sent on September 6, 2005 to FHWA for the Federal Conformity finding.

After review of the report, Mr. Wilmer Melton made a motion to endorse the report and forward it on to the TAC members for their approval. Mr. Dan Mikkelson seconded the motion and the TCC members followed with a unanimous vote.

### **CMAQ Project Update**

Phil Conrad updated TCC members about the current status of the 37 projects submitted to NCDOT for Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) funds. He explained that CMAQ funds are a federal funding source for areas designated non-attainment by the EPA which the Cabarrus-Rowan MPO area is in. Phil went on to tell the TCC members that initially the expected annual allocation to the CR MPO was \$1 million or \$7 million over a seven year period. He went on to explain that NCDOT has issued a memo to the CRMPO requesting to delay several of the projects submitted.

He reported to TCC members that a subcommittee had met on July 20, 2005 to discuss the NCDOT request and to determine a potential revised schedule of project year completions. He explained that these changes requested by NCDOT would require an amendment to the 2006-2012 TIP. Many TCC members voiced this disapproval of manner in which the CMAQ funding was handled by NCDOT. In particular, TCC members were unhappy with the time constraints placed on CRMPO to make the requested modifications and the lack of information and cooperation from NCDOT regarding the CMAQ funding process. In making a motion to reluctantly recommend that TAC approve the modifications to the CMAQ projects, Mr. Dan Mikkelson requested that the TAC be asked to send a letter to NCDOT voicing their concerns. Ms. Linda Dosse' seconded the motion which was followed with a unanimous vote by the TCC members.

### **2007-2013 TIP Priority Needs List and Process**

Phil Conrad reported to TCC members that NCDOT Board of Transportation did adopt the 2006-2012 TIP in July 2005. With the completion of this TIP, NCDOT will initiate the process for developing the draft 2007-2013 TIP. He went on to say that the list of priority projects submitted by the Cabarrus-Rowan MPO to NCDOT for 2006-2012 mostly remain unfounded in the current TIP. Phil told the TCC members that a subcommittee of the TCC had met in July 2005 to review the draft TIP Priority List and made several recommended changes. The Priority Projects List will be submitted to NCDOT by November/December 2005. Phil called the TCC members attention to two attachments in their packets for their review, the draft 2007-2013 TIP Priority List for Division 9 and the draft 2007-2013 TIP Priority List for Division 10. Phil pointed out to the TCC members that on the Division 9 List, project numbers U-3803 and B-3236 had been completed and were removed from their list. There was one project added to their list. This project will call for improvements to Main Street from Concord to China Grove including logical interconnections with intersection streets. He went on to explain that Division 10 Priority Project List had two projects on it's list that had been completed as well and removed from their list. Project number U-3828 and the project to widen US 29/601 from I-85 to Rocky river bridge have been completed. Division 10 had added the following three projects to their Priority Project list. They are 1) Improvements to main Street from Concord to China Grove including logical interconnections with intersecting street, 2) Improvements to Dale Earnhardt Blvd and US 29 intersection, and 3) Rocky River Road widened north from I-485 to NC 49. It was also determined to move project number R-2246 to the number 2 position on Division 10 Priority Project List. The last change to the Division 10 Priority list was switching the priority of U-3440 down the list and moving U-2009 up the priority list. After review and with little discussion, Mr. Jeff Young made a motion to recommend both 2007-2013 TIP Priority Lists be presented to TAC for their review and adoption. Mr. Dan Mikkelson seconded the motion and TCC members voted unanimously to approve.

## **Reports / MPO Business**

- Local Reports -MPO/TPB/NCDOT Division 9 & 10 – NCDOT Division staff reported on pending projects and also provided a handout for Division 9 and Division 10 that provided updates on each TIP project underway. Mr. Benton Payne, NCDOT – Division 10 announced to TCC members that he would be retiring on January 1, 2006 and thanked everyone for the opportunity he has had to work with this group. He praised the current MPO staff and the local TCC staff and thanked the group for their support over the years.
- MPO Typical Cross Sections – This report was requested to be held over to the next meeting.
- TCC/TAC Presentation Request Form – After review, TCC members approved by consensus the format and use of the Agenda Request Form and asked that it be forwarded to TAC for their approval.
- NEPA Merger Process – Phil Conrad and Linda Dosse reported to TCC members that the resolution before them is a more formal way of reinforcing the current procedure regarding MPO's involvement in the Project Development Process for Transportation Improvement Program Projects. TCC approved Phil Conrad and Mike Nunn to serve as the MPO staff to attend the merger meetings. By consensus, TCC members recommended passing the resolution on to the TAC.
- SAFETEA Update – A press release was included in the TCC packets for their information.
- NC 73 Transportation/Land Use Corridor Plan MOU – Rodger Lentz gave TCC members an update of the last meeting.
- Concord/Kannapolis Area Transit Commission Update (minutes and ridership data included)

## **Information Items**

- Concord Express Ridership - Phil Conrad called the TCC members attention to the ridership information included in their packets

## **Adjournment**

With no other business to consider, Ms Linda Dosse made a motion that the meeting be adjourned. Chairman Rodger Lentz seconded the motion and all TCC member voted unanimously their approval. The next scheduled meeting will be Wednesday, September 21 , 2005 at the Cabarrus Regional Chamber of Commerce.