

# MINUTES

## TECHNICAL COORDINATING COMMITTEE

**Wednesday, August 19, 2015**

NC Research Campus  
UNC Building  
500 Laureate Way  
Kannapolis, North Carolina 28081

**Members:**

Joe Wilson	City of Concord
Zac Gordon	City of Kannapolis
Susie Morris	Cabarrus County
Wendy Brindle	City of Salisbury
Macon Sammons	Town of East Spencer
Linda Dosse	NCDOT-TPB
Ed Muire	Rowan County, Town of Cleveland, Town of Spencer
Marc Morgan	NCDOT-Div 10
Diane Hampton	NCDOT-Div 9
Josh Watkins	Town of Harrisburg
Richard Flowe	Town of Midland

**Others:**

Phil Conrad	CRMPO Director
Connie Cunningham	CRMPO Staff
Rodney Harrison	City of Salisbury
John Sofley	City of Salisbury
Stuart Basham	NCDOT-Div 10
Anthony Tagliaferri	VHB Engineering
Michelle Nance	CCOG
Jessica Hill	CCOG
Chase Aiken-Brown	NCDOT-TPB

### **Call to Order**

The August 19, 2015 meeting of the Cabarrus Rowan MPO TCC was called to order by TCC Chairman Joe Wilson. Chairman Wilson welcomed everyone to the meeting. He began the meeting by calling the roll of eligible TCC members. Once he determined a quorum had been met, Chairman Wilson asked that everyone present introduce themselves since there were some in attendance who were guests or presenters. After introductions, Chairman Wilson asked if there were any additions or corrections to the agenda. With none heard, he continued by asking if there were any speakers from the floor. With no response from anyone in attendance, Chairman Wilson moved forward with the meeting.

### **Approval of Minutes**

TCC Chairman Wilson called members' attention to the minutes of the May 20, 2015 TCC meeting included in their meeting packets. He asked for any comments or corrections to those minutes. With no comments or corrections being heard, Mr. Ed Muire made a motion to accept the minutes as presented. Mrs. Susie Morris seconded the motion and TCC members followed with a unanimous vote to approve.

## **FY 2016-2020 TIP Conformity and MTP Amendments**

MPO Director Phil Conrad reminded TCC members that the Cabarrus Rowan MPO (CRMPO) and the Metrolina Regional Partners have been working together on the Air Quality Conformity Analysis and Determination Report for the 2016-2020 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). Phil explained that the TIP Conformity Report demonstrates that the financially constrained Metropolitan Transportation Program (MTP) in the Metrolina Region meet national ambient air quality standards. Phil went on to say that Conformity Report also certifies that the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) is a subset of the 2040 MTP and that the Conformity Report is consistent with the State Implementation Plan (SIP).

Phil called members' attention to Attachment 3 in their packets which was an excerpt from the TIP Conformity Report. Phil reviewed for members the relationship of the MTP and TIP as well as the other highlighted items in the excerpt. He also reviewed the emission comparison summary tests by location and pollutants calling attention to the Cabarrus and Rowan counties emission comparisons. After reviewing the attachment, Phil explained that due to an acceleration of several projects in the Cabarrus Rowan MPO area using state transportation funds, The CRMPO is now required to amend the MTP to reflect the new schedules for these projects. Phil asked for any questions or comments.

Phil then proceeded by calling members' attention to three *Draft* resolutions in their packets. 1) Resolution Adopted by The Cabarrus Rowan Metropolitan Planning Organization Transportation Advisory Committee Approving An Amendment To the 2040 Metropolitan Transportation Plan; 2) Resolution Finding the Cabarrus Rowan Urban Area amended 2040 Metropolitan Transportation Plan and 2016-2020 Transportation Improvement Program in Compliance with the Provisions of the Clean Air Act Amendments of 1990 and the Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Act (MAP 21); and 3) Resolution Adopting The FY 2016-2020 Cabarrus Rowan MPO Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program (MTIP).

With no further discussion, Mr. Richard Flowe made a motion to recommend that the CRMPO TAC consider adopting the 1) Resolution Adopted By The Cabarrus Rowan Metropolitan Planning Organization Transportation Advisory Committee Approving An Amendment To the 2040 Metropolitan Transportation Plan; 2) Resolution Finding the Cabarrus Rowan Urban Area amended 2040 Metropolitan Transportation Plan and 2016-2020 Transportation Improvement Program in Compliance with the Provisions of the Clean Air Act Amendments of 1990 and the Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Act (MAP 21); and 3) Resolution Adopting The FY 2016-2020 Cabarrus Rowan MPO Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program (MTIP). Mr. Josh Watkins seconded the motion and TCC members voted unanimously to approve.

## **New TIP Priority Projects**

Phil Conrad explained to members that with the expected adoption of the 2016-2020 TIP, the CRMPO staff has been working and has prepared a schedule for identifying and adopting the STI list for the CRMPO area. Phil called members' attention to Attachment 4 in their packets and reviewed the projects included on the attachment. Phil explained that the first step in the schedule is to issue a call for new projects from all modes of transportation to be considered for funding. After review, Phil closed by stating that the deadline for submitting new projects to be considered is August 18, 2015.

Mr. Ed Muire asked if all jurisdictions had an opportunity to submit their new projects, which was affirmed. With no additional questions or comments being heard, Mr. Ed Muire made a motion to recommend that the CRMPO TAC consider endorsing the NEW TIP Priority projects for submittal to the NCDOT for quantitative review. Mr. Zac Gordon seconded the motion and members voted unanimously to approve.

### **Proposed FY2017 CMAQ Schedule**

Director Conrad reported to the TCC members that the Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) funds are a federal funding source for areas designated non-attainment by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). CMAQ funds do require a local sponsor and a twenty percent match. Phil explained that eligible projects must demonstrate an emissions reduction benefit to the local area. Phil called members' attention to Attachment 5 in their packets and explained that there are currently six existing CMAQ Project Proposals in the NCDOT system that were outlined on this attachment. Phil reminded TCC members that at their May 2015 meeting, it was recommended that the FY2016 balance be applied to projects in Kannapolis, Concord, and Salisbury.

In reviewing the list of the six projects, Phil reported that some of the projects on the list had since been funded using other funding sources. Phil also reported that NCDOT has indicated that the CRMPO may receive about \$1.5 million in CMAQ funds in FY2017 which could possibly fund the bike lanes in Salisbury. But Phil cautioned that with the current federal budget uncertainties, there is no guarantee that the federal CMAQ program will still exist in future years.

After discussion, Mrs. Wendy Brindle made a motion to recommend that the CRMPO TAC review and support the eligible projects on the CMAQ application list to include the Catawba College bike lanes and the Woodrow Wilson Area sidewalks. Mr. Josh Watkins seconded the motion and TCC members voted unanimously to approve.

### **Proposed TAP Program Selection Process**

Phil reminded members that he provided them information at their May meeting on a new program called the Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP). Phil explained that this new program is very similar to the STP-DA sub-allocation program and does require a twenty percent local match for bicycle and pedestrian eligible projects. Phil reported that the Cabarrus Rowan MPO's ten year allocation is a total of \$2.2 million. At this point in the meeting, Phil reminded members that at their May 2015 meeting they requested that staff to draft a Competitive Selection Process. He then called members attention to Attachment 6 *Draft* Competitive Selection Process in their packets.

Phil reviewed Attachment 6 with the members calling attention to the minimum eligibility requirements, the project selection process, and project evaluation criteria. After review, Phil gave Ms. Linda Dosse and Mrs. Loretta Barren opportunity to give input or feedback to the members. Ms. Dosse explained that NCDOT-TPB just wants the document to have on file in their offices. Mrs. Barren suggested that the *Draft* should go out for public comment before going to the CRMPO for any kind of approval or adoption. With no additional comments or suggestions, Mr. Ed Muire made a motion to recommend TAC approval of the *Draft* Competitive Selection

Process subject to any input during a public comment period. Mr. Macon Sammons seconded the motion and TCC members voted unanimously to approve.

### **Request from Cabarrus County Transit**

Phil reported to members that Mr. Bob Bushey with Cabarrus County Transportation was scheduled to make a presentation to the TCC members in regard Cabarrus County pursuing federal direct recipient status from the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) in order to receive Section 5303, 5304, 5339, 5307 and 5310 funds in federal fiscal year 2016. Mr. Bushey was not in attendance so Chairman Wilson and Phil Conrad deferred to Mrs. Susie Morris, Cabarrus County's alternate representative to the TCC. Mrs. Morris explained that Cabarrus County is bringing this item before the TCC in the same manner as the City of Salisbury did at a recent meeting. Phil Conrad called members' attention to a *Draft* Authorizing Resolution included in their packets for supporting Cabarrus County's application for direct recipient status with FTA.

With no further discussion, Mrs. Wendy Brindle made a motion to recommend the *Draft* Authorizing Resolution to the CRMPO TAC for consideration and approval. Mrs. Susie Morris seconded the motion and the TCC members voted unanimously to approve.

### **FY 2012-2018 MTIP Amendment #13**

Director Conrad informed TCC members that Amendment #13 is being brought before them as a result of a recent NCDOT Board of Transportation meeting for their consideration. The first project in the amendment was in regard to a new FY 2016 STI project which was the I-85 pavement rehabilitation from US 601 to .5 miles south of US Hwy 52. The second project was the delay of right-of-way and construction by one fiscal year for the replacement of a bridge on Stokes Ferry Road. The third project is an acceleration of right-a-way and construction for the I-85 widening on southern Rowan County to FY 2016 using GARVEE Bonds. Phil called members' attention to Attachment 8 in their packets, which was a Draft of the Resolution Adopting Amendment #13 for their review.

With no discussion, Mr. Ed Muire made a motion to recommend that the CRMPO TAC consider endorsing Amendment #13 to the FY2012-2018 MTIP. Mrs. Susie Morris seconded the motion and the TCC followed with a unanimous vote of approval.

### **FY 2012-2018 MTIP Amendment #14**

Mr. Rodney Harrison, Salisbury Transit Director addressed the TCC members and reported that the City of Salisbury is requesting the MPO's support on a STIP amendment to authorize federal funding in FY 2015. Rodney explained that the City has worked with NCDOT-PTD to create a project list to be included in the 2012-2018 STIP as an amendment. The modifications to the STIP will be presented to the Board of Transportation for approval at their August/September meeting. Phil Conrad called members' attention to Attachment #9 which was a description of the amendment and resolution.

With no questions or comments heard, Mrs. Susie Morris made a motion recommend that the CRMPO TAC consider endorsing Amendment #14. Mrs. Wendy Brindle seconded the motion and TCC members voted unanimously to approve.

## **Reports/CRMPO Business**

As Chairman Wilson was beginning with the local reports, Mr. Zac Gordon addressed the Chairman and members and stated that his schedule would not allow him to stay for the remainder of the meeting. He did want to let the members know that he was in support of the Centralina Council of Government's request for funding for the Community Viz and Regional Freight Study initiatives that were going to be presented later under this item.

- ✓ Local Reports - MPO/TPB/NCDOT Division 9 & 10 – Mrs. Diane Hampton from NCDOT Division 9 reviewed a spreadsheet of updates that she provided on the Rowan County projects. Mr. Marc Morgan from Division 10 also provided a handout and provided updates on Division 10 Projects
- ✓ CTP Update – Ms. Linda Dosse, NCDOT TPB reported to TCC members the status of the updating of the CTP which is currently underway. She reported that the *Draft* CTP internal NCDOT review has still not been completed. When Chairman Wilson requested some sort of timeframe for the review, Ms. Dosse reported that the document was on the desk of Earlene Thomas and that there were six other CTPs ahead of the CRMPO to be reviewed. Ms. Dosse did report that she found three questions/discrepancies on the CTP maps that she wanted to bring to the TCC's attention. She summarized her three findings and reported that she would send an email out to all with her finding for TCC review and feedback.
- ✓ Section 5307 Urbanized Area Formula Funding Allocation Split – Phil Conrad called members attention to a letter from City of Concord Manager Brian Hiatt as information for how the federal funding is allocated.
- ✓ NC Legislative Update – Phil directed members to a spreadsheet in their packets labeled Draft Candidate Projects \$1.3 Billion. He called members' attention to three projects on the list in the MPO area that are being considered for funding under the Senate's new Connect initiative.
- ✓ Metrolina 2008 Ozone Standard Maintenance Plan – Phil called members' attention to information included in their packets from the Federal Register.
- ✓ Community Viz Presentation – Ms. Michelle Nance of Centralina Council of Governments addressed the members of the TCC and reported that CCOG is proposing the Metrolina Region Community Viz initiative to develop a consistent method for creating population and employment data across the region in an effort to increase efficiencies and create more accurate data for the Metrolina Regional Travel Demand Model. She explained that the project will be focused on methods to allocate population and employment across Traffic Analysis Zones (TAZ's). After Ms. Nance's presentation TCC members asked if there would be any cost to the MPO for joining this initiative. She reported that yes, the MPO would be required to provide funding for the project. The lump sum cost would be \$22,000 to the CR MPO and it is similar to a software license with an ongoing maintenance

cost. TCC members asked questions about who would house the data (ie custodian) and future relicensing fees. TCC members also voiced concerns that this project would be a duplication of services already provided by CRMPO staff. Phil Conrad explained that staff has always provided this service of collecting data on population and employment within the MPO area and has proven to be accurate and precise for use in the Metrolina Regional Model. TCC members present stated they could not make any recommendations without speaking with their jurisdictions first, since funding would be required to participate. By consensus TCC members could not provide a recommendation on the project.

- ✓ Regional Freight Plan Presentation – Ms. Jessica Hill with Centralina Council of Governments began her presentation by explaining that the Greater Charlotte Regional Freight Mobility Plan will be a collaborative economic development-based project to better understand how we can more efficiently move goods within and through the region. She then had Mr. Ken Petty from Federal Highway Administration speak with the group via conference call to explain the project in detail. After Mr. Petty was finished with this portion of the presentation, Ms. Hill reported to TCC members that CCOG is requesting the CRMPO join the freight plan collaborative effort and provide funding for the project.

Members' present voiced concerns about how this Plan would be more beneficial than the one being done by NCDOT that requires no funding participation from the MPO's. There was also concern from members regarding a statement made by Mr. Petty that projects that don't reflect coordination, including shared datasets, performance metrics, and planning across MPO boundaries are less likely to receive future federal planning funds. TCC members stated that the statement appeared threatening. In addition it was noted that the one time lump sum request of \$25,000 was on top of any individual participation by a municipality or county, and this amount was described as a subset to cover the CRMPO freight MTP needs/chapter. By consensus TCC members wanted more information regarding the NC Freight Plan and also to have an opportunity to speak with their respective jurisdictions since funding would be required as well.

At this point, Mrs. Wendy Brindle made a motion to table this item until the next meeting. Mr. Ed Muire seconded the motion and members voted unanimously to approve.

### **Informational Items**

- Concord Express, Salisbury Transit, Rowan Express, Cabarrus Links and RIDER Transit Ridership Information - Phil called the TCC members' attention to the ridership information included in their packets.
- Next scheduled meeting is September 16, 2015.

### **Adjournment**

With no other business to be considered, TCC Chairman Joe Wilson adjourned the meeting.