

MINUTES

TECHNICAL COORDINATING COMMITTEE

Wednesday, January 21, 2026

**NC Research Campus
Kannapolis City Hall
2nd Floor Executive Conference Room
Kannapolis, NC 28081**

Members:

Phillip Graham	City of Concord
Phil Collins	Cabarrus County
Ed Muire	Rowan County & Town of Cleveland
Fred Haith	NCDOT Division 9
Franklin Gover	Town of China Grove
Victoria Trexler	City of Salisbury
Marty Sung	NCDOT – TPD
Richard Smith	City of Kannapolis
Theo Ghitea	NCDOT Division 10
Devin Huston	Town of Harrisburg
Mattison Miller	Town of Midland
Michael Ambrose	Town of Landis

Others:

Phil Conrad	CRMPO Director
Connie Cunningham	MPO Staff
Wendy Miller	MPO Staff
Brielle Hartney	City of Concord
Andy Christy	CK Rider
Tony Tagliaferri	City of Concord
Jonathan Young	Town of Harrisburg
Teresa Barringer	Town of China Grove
Andy Bailey	NCDOT - TPD
Scott Miller	NCDOT-Div. 10
Beth Hassenfritz	City of Kannapolis

TCC Chairman Michael Ambrose called the January 21, 2026 meeting of the Cabarrus Rowan MPO TCC to order at approximately 10:00 am. TCC Chairman Ambrose called the roll of eligible TCC members and determined that a quorum had been met. He asked Phil Conrad to introduce the service recognition for Connie Cunningham. Phil provided a summary of Connie's contributions for the past 25 years noting the start of the CK Rider Transit System and other notable accomplishments. TCC members also recounted her efforts over the years and appreciative of her contributions to meetings and the MPO operations. She was given a standing ovation. TCC Chairman Ambrose then asked if there were any adjustments to the meeting agenda. With none heard, he asked if there were any speakers from the floor. With no speakers being heard, TCC Chairman Ambrose moved to the next item of business.

Approval of Minutes

TCC Chairman Ambrose noted the minutes of the October 15, 2025 TCC meeting included in their packets. Chairman Ambrose asked if there were any corrections or additions to the minutes. With no corrections or additions heard, Mr. Richard Smith made a motion to accept the minutes as presented Ms. Victoria Trexler seconded that motion and the TCC members voted unanimously to approve.

Nomination and Election of TCC Chair

CRMPO Executive Director Phil Conrad addressed the TCC members and reminded them that the bylaws of the CRMPO TCC requires that every year in January a new Vice Chairman must be elected. He went on to say that the newly elected Vice Chair will rotate to the Chair position automatically beginning 2027. Also according to the by-laws the TCC Chair and Vice Chair must be rotated between jurisdictions in Cabarrus and Rowan Counties. Since the new Chair is from Rowan County, a Vice Chair from Cabarrus County would need to be elected today.

With little discussion, Mr. Phillip Graham nominated Mr. Devin Huston from the Town of Harrisburg as the Vice Chair for 2026. With no other nominations being heard, Mr. Ed Muire made a motion to close the nominations and elect Mr. Devin Huston as CRMPO TCC Vice Chair. Mr. Phillip Graham seconded that motion and the TCC members voted unanimously to approve.

FY 2026-2035 MTIP Modification #2

Mrs. Wendy Miller, CRMPO staff planner, addressed the TCC members and reported that CRMPO staff regularly brings amendments or modifications from recent NCDOT Board of Transportation agendas to the TCC/TAC for consideration. Mrs. Miller reported that the first project modifications were statewide projects: BO-2426, M-0417, TA-6665, TC-0018, TC-0021, TM-0028, TM-0029, TM-0032, TO-0004, TQ-6954, and TU-0011. The second project modification is to install rumble strips and pavement markings on NC 152 (HS-2409F). The third project modification is to delay construction to FY 26 for the Old Concord Road Sidewalk project (C-5603D). The fourth project modification is to delay construction to FY 26 for the Brenner Avenue safety project (C-5603H). The fifth project modification is to delay construction to FY 26 for the Grants Creek Greenway at Catawba College (EB-5619B). The sixth project modification is to delay construction to FY 27 for the Grants Creek Greenway at Kelsey Scott Park (EB-5619C). The seventh project modification is to delay utilities to FY 26 and construction to FY 27 for the Main Street Sidewalk project (HL-0064). The eighth project modification is to add the E. Franklin Street sidewalk project with construction in FY 29 (BN-0033). The ninth project modification is to delay construction to FY 27 for the Brenner Avenue safety project (HL-0049). Phil Conrad noted that the E. Franklin Street sidewalk project had been in the works for some time and would conclude the CMAQ project call from 2024. He mentioned the Town's state allocation that is driving the schedule for the project. Wendy noted a resolution modifying the MTIP for these projects and stated that the new STIP was effective October 1, 2023.

With a little discussion, Mr. Ed Muire made a motion to recommend that the CRMPO TAC consider endorsing modification #2 to the FY 2026-2035 MTIP. Mr. Devin Huston seconded that motion and the TCC members voted unanimously to approve.

Rider Transit Program of Projects (POP)

Andy Christy from Rider Transit noted that the Program of Projects is a list of proposed FTA grant requests to support the operations of Rider Transit in Fiscal Year 2026. He stated that Rider has elected to use the MPO Public Involvement procedures to process this

annual requirement. He referenced a meeting to coordinate the STIP schedules for the 3 transit systems in the MPO area that was held in August. He mentioned that the CK Rider POP is a subset and supports the STIP schedules. He noted the public comment period that had concluded without any comments.

With no further discussion or questions, Mr. Phillip Graham made a motion to recommend that CRMPO TAC consider endorsing the CK Rider Program of Projects (POP). Mr. Phil Collins seconded the motion and the TCC members voted unanimously to approve the motion.

Performance-Based Planning: Safety Targets

Director Conrad stated that the federal transportation legislation requires that State DOTs and MPOs adopt performance-based planning as a component of the metropolitan transportation planning process annually. He noted that NCDOT has released the next round of safety targets for North Carolina and it would be up to each MPO to either adopt these targets or devise their own targets. He explained that this item was a carryover from October and stated that the proposed safety targets had been published on the MPO's website. He noted the public comment period that concluded on December 22, 2025 with no comments received.

After little discussion, Ms. Victoria Trexler made a motion to recommend that the TAC consider endorsing the Safety Targets as presented and Mr. Phil Collins seconded the motion. The TCC followed with a unanimous vote.

2055 MTP and Transportation Conformity Update

CRMPO Director Phil Conrad provided a powerpoint presentation to the TCC members on the 2055 MTP first and then the Transportation Conformity Analysis and Determination Report second. He noted the partnership with the Metrolina stakeholders including NCDOT and FHWA staff. He highlighted components of the 2055 MTP including horizon year projects and inclusion of the CK Rider Transit Master Plan. He also explained the relationship between the recently approved STIP and the 2055 MTP including the financial constraint component. He further noted that requirement to meet national ambient air quality standards due to the 2004 designation of the area as nonattainment for ozone. He mentioned the testing of project scenarios for the ozone tests and motor vehicle emission budgets, which were in the approved State Implementation Plan (SIP). He stated that the reports were available on the MPO website including all of the appendices. He stated that the federal review of the draft Conformity Report concluded in November. He noted the April deadline for MTP approval.

Without any further questions, Mr. Phillip Graham made a motion to recommend that the CRMPO TAC consider releasing the 2055 MTP and Transportation Conformity Report for public comment. Mr. Ed Muire seconded the motion and the TCC members voted unanimously.

FY 2026-27 DRAFT UPWP

Director Conrad provided a review of the FY 2026-27 Draft UPWP for the membership. He stated that each year the Cabarrus-Rowan MPO develops and adopts a unified planning work program (UPWP). The UPWP is the MPO annual budget and follows the state fiscal year 2026-2027. He illuminated that 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. He stated that the draft UPWP was for information purposes only and highlighted the local match table as individual jurisdictions begin to prepare their FY 27 budgets. He said that this item will be brought back before the TCC later this spring.

2026 Draft Local Priority Methodology

Director Conrad noted NCDOT staff has indicated that Session Law 2012-84 requires the Department to develop a process for standardizing or approving MPO local input methodology. The last time the MPO approved changes to the Local Priority Methodology was in 2021, which included changes in the way that points can be flexed between the tiers. He stated that the MPO would be submitting a draft of the Cabarrus-Rowan local input methodology to NCDOT for content review. After the content review, the NCDOT staff will hopefully grant conditional approval to the MPO's methodology subject to public input and the MPO Board approval. He noted that most of the changes were updates to the proposed dates in the methodology. He concluded that this methodology would be applied in 2026.

After review and no comments or questions being heard, Mr. Ed Muire made a motion to release the Draft Local Priority Methodology for public comment and NCDOT review. Mr. Richard Smith seconded the motion and the TAC members voted unanimously to approve.

Reports/CRMPO Business

1. Local Reports – CRMPO/NCDOT Division 9 and 10/TPD - Mr. Fred Haith, NCDOT Division 9 representative noted the updated Division 9 project spreadsheet which was included in the meeting packet.

Mr. Theo Ghitea from NCDOT Division 10 noted the updated Division 10 project spreadsheet from the packets.

Mr. Andy Bailey introduced Marty Sung as the new TPD Coordinator for the MPO.

2. Functional Classification System Update – Director Conrad noted the federal approval of the Functional Classification System.

3. CMAQ Priority Submittal and Funding Update – Director Conrad provided an update on the last CMAQ award in 2024 to the Town of Mount Pleasant or East Franklin Street sidewalk and referenced the award letter in the TCC packets.

4. BUILD Grant Letter of Support – Director Conrad explained that the Town of East Spencer and Rowan County have been working on a new BUILD Grant application using a federal grant writer. He noted that all letters of support are presented for consideration to the TCC/TAC. Mr. Devin Huston made a motion to endorse the letter of support for the Build Grant for the Town of East Spencer and Mr. Ed Muire seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

5. **FY 26 Special Studies** – Director Conrad reported that there are funds in the FY 26 budget for special studies as has occurred in prior fiscal years.

6. **Update on FY 26 Bike and Ped Demonstration Planning Studies** – Director Conrad noted that there are funds in the FY 26 budget for a couple of demonstration planning studies as has occurred in prior fiscal years.

Informational Items

Director Conrad highlighted the following informational items included in the TCC packets:

RIDER Transit, Salisbury Transit and MTC Ridership – Director Conrad noted the updated ridership data from Salisbury Transit.

MTIP Approval Letter from NCDOT Secretary – provided as information in the packets.

Next scheduled meeting: February 18, 2026

With no further business to discuss, TCC Chair Ambrose adjourned the meeting.