

# MINUTES

## TECHNICAL COORDINATING COMMITTEE

Wednesday, March 18, 2026

### NC Research Campus Kannapolis City Hall 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Executive Conference Room Kannapolis, NC 28081

Members:

Phillip Graham	City of Concord
Jason Hord	Town of Granite Quarry
Ed Muire	Rowan County & Town of Cleveland
Fred Haith	NCDOT Division 9
Teresa Barringer	Town of China Grove
Victoria Trexler	City of Salisbury
Marty Sung	NCDOT – TPD
Beth Hassenfritz	City of Kannapolis
Theo Ghitea	NCDOT Division 10
Dr. George Jackson	Town of East Spencer

Others:

Phil Conrad	CRMPO Director
Scott Miller	NCDOT-Div. 10
Wendy Miller	MPO Staff
Brielle Hartney	City of Concord
Andy Bailey	NCDOT - TPD
Anthony Tagliaferri	City of Concord
Sean Epperson	NCDOT-Div. 10
Mezak Tucker	NCDOT-Div. 9
George Eckart	NCDOT- TPD
James Varnell	NCDOT- TPD

Mr. Phillip Graham called the March 18, 2026 meeting of the Cabarrus Rowan MPO TCC to order at approximately 10:00 am. Mr. Graham called the roll of eligible TCC members and determined that a quorum had been met. Mr. Graham 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, Mr. Graham moved to the next item of business.

### Approval of Minutes

Mr. Graham noted the minutes of the January 21, 2026 TCC meeting included in their packets. Mr. Graham asked if there were any corrections or additions to the minutes. With no corrections or additions heard, Ms. Victoria Trexler made a motion to accept the minutes as presented. Mrs. Beth Hassenfritz seconded that motion and the TCC members voted unanimously to approve.

### FY 2026-2035 MTIP Modification #3

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: TM-6111, TM-6112, TM-6113, M-O552ADIV, M-O552AREG, M-O552ASW, M-O552BDIV, M-O552BREG, M-O553BSW, and TQ-

6954. The second project modification is to purchase replacement vehicles for Rider Transit (TA-5173). The third project is to modify funding in FY 26 thru FY 35 for Section 5310 operations program projects (TA-5128B). The fourth project modification is to delay construction to FY 27 commercial terminal expansion by Concord-Padgett Regional Airport (AV-5731). The fifth project modification is to add a project break for the traffic signal and pedestrian accommodations at Cox Mill High School (HS-2610R). The sixth project modification is to add a project break for the pedestrian hybrid beacon and sidewalk relocation on Cox Mill Road (HS-2610S). The seventh project modification is to add a project break for rumble stripes on Shiloh Church Road (HS-2610W). The eighth project modification is to add a project break for rumble stripes on Kannapolis Parkway (HS-2610X). The ninth project modification is to add a project break for rumble stripes on NC 49 (HS-2610Z). The tenth project modification is to accelerate construction to FY 29 for the Bruton Smith Blvd sidewalk (EB-5732). The eleventh project modification is to delay right-of-way and utilities to FY 27 for the Caldwell Road extension (HL-0063). The twelfth project modification is to delay construction to FY 29 for the Winecoff School Road pedestrian accommodations (HS-2410A). The thirteenth project modification is to delay construction to FY 27 for the Kannapolis Amtrak station improvements (P-5725). The fourteenth project modification is to modify funding for routine capital for Rider Transit (TA-5130A). The fifteenth project modification is to modify funding for bus stop shelters for Rider Transit (TA-5103A). The sixteenth project modification is to modify funding for operations for ADA services for Rider Transit (TG-5103B). The seventeenth project modification is to modify funding for operations for preventative maintenance (TG-5103C). The eighteenth project modification is to modify the project scope for the Poplar Tent Road widening (U-3415A). Phil Conrad noted the multimodal aspect of Modification #3, and specifically TA-5128B and AV-5731 for Concord-Padgett Regional Airport. Wendy concluded with a resolution modifying the MTIP for these projects and stated that the new STIP was effective October 1, 2023.

With a little discussion, Mr. Phillip Graham made a motion to recommend that the CRMPO TAC consider endorsing modification #3 to the FY 2026-2035 MTIP. Ms. Victoria Trexler seconded that motion and the TCC members voted unanimously to approve.

### **2055 MTP and Transportation Conformity Update**

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

Without any further questions, Mr. Ed Muire made a motion to recommend that the CRMPO TAC consider endorsing the 2055 MTP and Transportation Conformity Reports as presented. Mr. Jason Hord seconded the motion and the TCC members voted unanimously.

### **Town of Midland Express Design Request**

The Town of Midland has been working towards the concept of a bypass or connector around their main congested intersection of NC 24-27 and US 601. Their Town Board has adopted a Town Goal for FY 2025-26 in support of the analysis of a parkway/connector project to prevent congestion along the NC 24-27 and US 601 corridor. NCDOT staff has indicated that there are 3 open slots for the MPO. (The Divisions get 6 slots each across the state). Prior slots submitted by the MPO were occupied by P8 projects, approved in the fall of 2025. The new project submittals for P8 were numbered at 16 per mode of transportation. The TCC also discussed the need to submit a CTP amendment along with supporting documentation for the proposed project. Mr. Jason Hord made a motion to table this item until staff can bring back additional projects eligible for the 3 remaining Express Design open slots and Ms. Victoria Trexler seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous. TCC members asked that the Town of Midland staff attend the next meeting for this item.

### **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 budget and follows the state fiscal year 2026-2027. Phil stated 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 upcoming fiscal year. He highlighted some of the tasks in the planning source table. He referenced a letter from NCDOT indicating that the allocation in FY 27 to the CR MPO is \$532,375. He also noted a new template that the Federal government is requiring all MPO's to use to certify their respective transportation planning process. He noted the checklist table to certify the MPO transportation planning process. He also mentioned the local match table included in the packet and adopting resolutions for the UPWP. Ms. Victoria Trexler made a motion to recommend the UPWP to the TAC for approval and Mr. Jason Hord seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

### **2026 Draft Local Priority Methodology**

Director Conrad noted NCDOT staff 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 tiers. He noted that the draft of the Cabarrus-Rowan local input methodology was submitted to NCDOT for content review, which was conditionally approved on

February 24th. He noted that the conditional approval is subject to public input, which concluded on March 18<sup>th</sup>, and MPO Board approval.

After review and no comments or questions being heard, Mr. Phillip Graham made a motion to recommend the Draft Local Priority Methodology to the TAC for approval. Ms. Victoria Trexler seconded the motion and the TAC members voted unanimously to approve.

### **Funding Swap Request**

Director Conrad noted that NCDOT is proposing the swapping of funding sources for several projects within the CRMPO, which could potentially help NCDOT secure additional federal funding for North Carolina. The funding swap involves switching \$3.8 million of CRMPO's Surface Transportation Block Grant-Direct Attributable (STBG-DA) federal funds for \$3.8 million in other flexible federal funds in the years the STBG-DA funds were programmed. He noted that there are no impact to schedules, local matches, or project management requirements resulting from the swap. He referenced an email from NCDOT staff explaining the request and proposed swap.

After review and no comments or questions being heard, Mr. Ed Muire made a motion to recommend the Funding Swap Request to the TAC for approval. Mr. Phillip Graham 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. Mezak Tucker, 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. Marty Sung reviewed the TPD Newsletter for the TCC membership.

**2. Proposed Policy for Express Design Future Selections** – Director Conrad noted that this item was tabled from the earlier discussion on the Local Methodology.

**3. MPO Staffing RFLOI** – Mr. Graham noted that the interviews for the shortlisted RFLOI participants will be upcoming and hope to have a firm under contract by July 1.

**4. 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.

**5. 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.

**6. Federal BASICS Act** – Phil Conrad noted the progress on the BASICS Act to replace IJJA, which expires on Sept. 30, 2026. He also explained the emphasis on formula funds and local project administration.

**7. April or May Meetings** – Phil Conrad noted that the April meeting could potentially be a joint meeting with TAC to host the new NCDOT Secretary.

### **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.

CRAFT Meeting Minutes – provided as information in the packets.

NCAMPO Conference – May 6-8

### **Next scheduled meeting: April 15, 2026**

With no further business to discuss, Mr. Phillip Graham asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Dr. George Jackson made the motion and Mr. Graham seconded it. The TCC was adjourned at approximately noon.