

MINUTES

TECHNICAL COORDINATING COMMITTEE

Wednesday, March 16, 2022

VIRTUAL MEETING DUE TO COVID-19 PANDEMIC

Members:

Phillip Graham	City of Concord
Susie Morris	Cabarrus County
Ed Muire	Rowan County & Town of Cleveland
Stuart Basham	NCDOT Div. 10
Jason Hord	Town of Granite Quarry
Fred Haith	NCDOT Div. 9
Peter Francese	Town of Spencer
Richard Smith	City of Kannapolis
Wendy Brindle	City of Salisbury
Franklin Gover	Town of China Grove, Chair
Erin Burris	Town of Mt. Pleasant

Others:

Phil Conrad	CRMPO Director
Teresa Robinson	NCDOT
Phil Collins	Cabarrus County
Loretta Barren	FHWA
Scott Miller	NCDOT
Alex Rotenberry	NCDOT IMD
Burt Tsaico	NCDOT
Mike Stanley	NCDOT
Andy Bailey	NCDOT TPD
Jeff Littlefield	NCDOT Div10
Roger Castillo	NCDOT TPD
Andy Christy	Concord
Terry Benfield	
Grant Jacob	

TCC Chairman Franklin Gover called the March 16, 2022 meeting of the Cabarrus Rowan MPO TCC to order at approximately 10:00 am. Chairman Gover welcomed the members and called the roll of eligible TCC members and determined that a quorum was met. Chairman Gover went on to ask if there were any adjustments to the meeting agenda and noted that the January TCC minutes would be available at the next TCC meeting. Chairman Gover continued by asking if there were any speakers from the floor. With no speakers being heard, Chairman Gover moved to the next item of business.

FY 2020-2029 MTIP Modification #11

CRMPO Director Conrad explained that MPO staff typically brings amendments or modifications from recent NCDOT Board of Transportation agendas to the TCC/TAC for consideration. The first project modification is the delay right-of-way to FY 2023 for EB-5732 Bruton Smith Blvd sidewalk. The second project is to add project segmentation to P-5726A Salisbury Train station second platform and pedestrian underpass at the request of the Rail Division. The third project is to add project segmentation to P-5726B Salisbury Norfolk Southern crossover relocation.

With there being no more questions or comments on the proposed MTIP Modification as presented, Mr. Phillip Graham made a motion to recommend that the CRMPO TAC consider adopting MTIP Modification #11. Mr. Richard Smith seconded the motion and the TCC members voted unanimously to approve.

2050 MTP and Transportation Conformity Update

Director Phil Conrad reminded TCC members that the Cabarrus-Rowan MPO and the Metrolina Regional Partners have been working on the Transportation Conformity Analysis and Determination Report. This report demonstrates that the financially constrained MTP's in the Metrolina Region meet national ambient air quality standards. He explained that it also certifies that the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) is a subset of the 2050 MTP, and that the Conformity Report is consistent with the approved State Implementation Plan (SIP) by EPA. He further noted that the draft 2050 MTP report is posted on the MPO website at www.crmppo.org/Plans/Mobility, with an executive summary provided in the packet. He noted that the public comment period has concluded. Mrs. Wendy Brindle made a motion to recommend that the CRMPO TAC consider endorsing the 2050 MTP and Metrolina Conformity Determination. Mrs. Susie Morris seconded the motion and the TCC members voted unanimously to approve.

FY 2029-2029 MTIP Amendment #6

Director Phil Conrad stated that the following STIP amendments to the 2020-2023 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) for U-5956, R-5706B, U-3415A, U-6032, Y-4810, and P-2918 have been proposed by NCDOT due to a cost increase exceeding \$2 million and the 25% threshold. The first project is the realignment of Union Cemetery Road to US 29 at Rock Hill Church Road (U-5956). The second project is the widening of Odell School Road Concord Mills Blvd to I-485 (U-6032). The third project is a CMAQ project for equipment and capital yard maintenance facility for the Piedmont train operations between Charlotte and Raleigh (P-2918). The fourth project is the widening of Poplar Tent Road from George Liles Pkwy to east of I-85 (U-3415A). The fifth project is the grade separation project at Rogers Lake Road (Y-4810). The sixth project is the widening of NC 73 from Poplar Tent Road to US 29 (R-5706B). The seventh project is the intersection improvements for NC 3 and US 29/601 (U-5761) and has been delayed to FY 24 for construction. He noted that FHWA staff has indicated that these amendments were not needed with the proposed new MTP and action. Mrs. Loretta Barren confirmed that the new MTP would cover the cost increases and project schedule changes if included. Director Conrad noted that it was the case. No action taken.

Proposed Statewide CMAQ Project Submittal

Director Phil Conrad reported to the members that CMAQ or Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality funds are a federal funding source for areas designated non-attainment by the EPA. CMAQ funds require a local sponsor and a 20 percent local match. He explained

that eligible projects must demonstrate an emissions reduction benefit to the local area. NCDOT has issued a call for new project applications that must be submitted by the end of March 2022. He highlighted a CMAQ project proposal for improvements to the waiting room at the Salisbury Amtrak rail station submitted by the City of Salisbury. He referenced a resolution of support for this new CMAQ project for statewide funds and noted that this competitive category of CMAQ funds is in addition to the funds suballocated by NCDOT directly to the CR MPO and other non-attainment MPO's.

With no comments heard, Mr. Richard Smith made a motion to recommend that the CRMPO TAC consider endorsed the proposed statewide CMAQ project from the City of Salisbury. Mr. Ed Muire seconded the motion and the TCC members voted unanimously to approve.

STBGP Fund Decision

Director Phil Conrad reported to the members that the NCDOT has indicated recent cost overruns for the Kimball Road/Coach Deal Drive extension (U-5608) in the amount of \$568,400. He noted several attachments in the TCC packet and that this was a carryover item. He recognized Mike Stanley from the NCDOT TIP Unit. Mr. Stanley noted the presentation in January and explained that there was a little misunderstanding of the transmittal of information. The Department did not need an action from the MPO to make the transfer of funds. No action was taken.

FY 2022-23 DRAFT UPWP

Director Conrad noted that each year the Cabarrus-Rowan MPO develops and adopts a unified planning work program (UPWP), which is the MPO budget and follows the state fiscal year 2022-2023. He 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 next fiscal year. He said that these projects include MPO planning activities undertaken by local agencies, the N.C. Department of Transportation, and a line item for Regional Model and MTP Maintenance. He noted that NCDOT has published an allocation in FY 23 to the MPO in the amount of \$354,600. He also explained that the Federal government require all MPO's to certify their transportation planning process on an annual basis. He highlighted a checklist for the CR MPO to certify the MPO transportation planning process. He also noted the local match table in the TCC packet using the 2010 Census numbers.

With no comments heard, Mr. Phillip Graham made a motion to recommend that the CRMPO TAC consider certifying the MPO's transportation planning process and endorse the FY 2022-23 UPWP. Mrs. Wendy Brindle seconded the motion and the TCC members voted unanimously to approve.

Rider Public Transportation Agency Safety Plan

Director Conrad noted that the Public Transportation Agency Safety Plan (PTASP) final rule (49 C.F.R. Part 673) requires certain operators of public transportation systems that are recipients or subrecipients of FTA grant funds to develop safety plans that include the processes and procedures necessary for implementing Safety Management Systems (SMS). He stated that on 12/16/2019, Concord Kannapolis Area Transit/City of Concord notified NCDOT that they would not be drafting and certifying it's own Public Transportation Agency Safety Plan and choose to draft and certify their Public Transportation Agency Safety Plan under NCDOT's framework as allowed by FTA to do as a small (less than 100 bus) public transportation provider. He mentioned that the document was approved by the Concord Kannapolis Area Transit Commission on February 1, 2022 and will go to the Concord City Council for approval following action by the MPO. He stated that a request for approval by the NCDOT is the last step prior to final certification. The PTASP can be found at: www.ckrider.com/resources/documents/

With no comments heard, Mrs. Erin Burris made a motion to recommend that the CRMPO TAC consider approving the Rider Public Transportation Agency Safety Plan. Mrs. Susie Morris seconded the motion and the TCC members voted unanimously to approve.

Reports/CRMPO Business

1. Local Reports – MPO/NCDOT Division 9 and 10/PTD- Mr. Fred Haith, NCDOT Division 9 representative called members' attention to the Division 9 spreadsheet included in their packets. He reported he had no additional information to report.

Mr. Stuart Basham, NCDOT Division 10 representative called the TCC members' attention to a spreadsheet of Division 10 project updates and highlighted some of the ongoing projects in Division 10.

2. Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act – Mr. Burt Tasaico from NCDOT provided members with a power point presentation on the IIJA. He indicated the various discretionary and competitive grants thru the IIJA. He also noted the various federal agencies that would be involved in review of these grant proposals.

3. NCDOT Complete Streets – Mr. Fred Haith from NCDOT provided members with a power point presentation on the new Complete Streets Policy implementation guidelines. He provided summaries of the Complete Streets goals, implementation challenges, summary of guidance and project development, as well as the project evaluation methodology. He also noted the various work groups that continue to work on the Complete Streets policy implementation. MPO staff is a member of the maintenance work group. One important distinction is the per capita cost share for projects that are in an adopted Plan versus not in a Plan. He also reviewed the Complete Streets Project Sheet template.

4. Special Studies Update- Rowan County, Town of China Grove and 2050 MTP

Assistance – Rowan County Planning Director Ed Muire gave an update on the status of the Rowan County corridor study for Long Ferry Road, while Mr. Franklin Gover commented on the upcoming study for Main Street in China Grove. Both studies will likely be complete in the next fiscal year. Director Conrad thanked Mr. Andy Bailey and Mr. Roger Castillo for their assistance in helping get the process complete for the 2050 MTP assistance. Mapping and model runs are underway.

5. Update on the CRMPO Staffing RFLOI – Mr. Phillip Graham noted a schedule for releasing the RFLOI for MPO staffing. He hoped to have things well underway by the next TCC meeting. Mr. Ed Muire asked about review of the RFLOI by other TCC members. Mr. Graham agreed to distribute in the near future.

6. Update on Census Defined Urban Area – FY22 – Director Conrad noted the final Census criteria are pending Federal Register publication. (It was published on March 24th.) He still anticipated release of the UZA boundaries in the summer of 2022.

7. FY 26 STPBG Balance and 2022 Project Call – CRMPO Director Conrad reported there will be a call for projects in 2022 but no schedule has been released to date. He reminded members that project administration and a 20 percent local match would be required.

Informational Items

Director Conrad referenced the following informational items included in their packets:

- RIDER Transit, Salisbury Transit and MTC Ridership
- TPD Newsletter
- SPOT Workgroup Summary Notes
- CRAFT Meeting Minutes
- NC MPO Conference – April 20-22
- Next scheduled meeting is April 20, 2022.

With no further business to discuss, Mr. Richard Smith made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mrs. Erin Burris seconded the motion and the meeting was adjourned.