

MINUTES

TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Wednesday, March 27, 2024

NC Research Campus
Kannapolis City Hall
401 Laureate Way
Kannapolis, NC 28081

Members

JC McKenzie	City of Concord
John Bradford	Town of Cleveland
Dale Peeler	Town of Faith
Justin Simpson	Town of Mount Pleasant
Mike Tallent	Town of Midland
Brittany Barnhardt	Town of Granite Quarry
Dillon Brewer	Town of Rockwell
Ron Smith	Town of Harrisburg
Lee Withers	Town of China Grove
Meredith Bare Smith	Town of Landis
Ryan Dayvault	City of Kannapolis

Others

Phil Conrad	CRMPO Director
Brett Canipe	NCDOT Division 10
Pat Ivey	NCDOT Division 9
Wendy Brindle	City of Salisbury
Phillip Craver	NCDOT Division 9
Scott Miller	NCDOT Division 10
Wilmer Melton	City of Kannapolis
Connie Cunningham	CRMPO Staff
Michael Ambrose	Town of Landis
Theo Ghitea	NCDOT Division 10
Rob Donham	Town of Harrisburg
Travis Summit	Town of Cleveland
Sean Epperson	NCDOT Division 10
Ryan Brumfield	NCDOT
John Rhyne	NCDOT Division 9

Call to Order

The March 27, 2024 meeting of the Cabarrus Rowan MPO TAC was called to order by TAC Chairman Brittany Barnhardt. Chairman Barnhardt welcomed those in attendance and asked all present to recite the Pledge of Allegiance to a flag displayed. At that time, CRMPO Director Phil Conrad recognized the Town of Cleveland for providing a meal that was served prior to the start of the meeting. TAC Chairman Barnhardt continued by calling the roll of eligible voting TAC members and determined that a quorum had been met. Chairman Barnhardt then requested that all those in attention to please introduce themselves to the group.

CRMPO Executive Director Phil Conrad welcomed the group and read the NC State Ethics Commission Ethics Awareness and Conflict of Interest requirement and stated that should a conflict arise during any part of the meeting; members should recuse themselves from that portion of the meeting.

Chairman Barnhardt proceeded on with the meeting and asked for any Chamber of Commerce updates. With no other reports heard, Chairman Barnhardt asked if there were any speakers from the floor. With none being heard she moved on to the next order of business.

TAC Chairman Barnhardt asked if there were any adjustments to the meeting agenda including the Consent Agenda. CRMPO Director Conrad addressed the members and requested that two projects be added to item number 4 (HV-0001 and ER-5600). With no other adjustments being heard Mr. Lee Withers made a motion to approve the agenda including the Consent Agenda, with the addition of the items to number 4. Mr. Dillon Brewer seconded the motion and TAC members voted unanimously to approve.

CONSENT AGENDA

All items on the consent agenda are considered routine and may be enacted by one motion. If a TAC member requests discussion on an item, the item will be removed from the consent agenda and considered separately. The following items were presented for TAC consideration on the Consent Agenda:

CTP Amendment

The City of Concord would like to add some multi-use path designations to the CRMPO's Comprehensive Transportation Plan (CTP) Index. The City of Concord has already incorporated this information into their own locally adopted plans. The Town of Spencer also added some CTP links to the highway map. Those segments are now proposed as part of the CTP Index.

The TAC approved the release of the CTP index amendments for public comment.

THIS CONCLUDES THE CONSENT AGENDA

Approval of January 24, 2024 Minutes

Chairman Barnhardt called members' attention to the minutes from the January 24, 2024 meeting included in their meeting packets. Chairman Barnhardt asked if there were any corrections or additions to the minutes. With none being heard, Mr. Dillon Brewer made the motion to approve the minutes as presented. Mr. Ryan Dayvault seconded the motion and the TAC members followed with a unanimous vote to approve.

FY 2024-2033 MTIP Modification #3

Director Phil Conrad, called the TAC members' attention to the 2024-2033 MTIP Modification #3 document included in their packets. He explained that CRMPO staff typically brings amendments or modifications from recent NCDOT Board of Transportation agendas to the TCC/TAC for consideration.

Director Conrad continued by stating that the first project modifications were statewide project additions: M0563E. The second project modification is the delay of construction to FY 25 for the Brenner Avenue intersection project (HL-0049). The third project modification is to delay

construction to FY 26 for the second platform and pedestrian underpass at the Salisbury Amtrak Station (P-5726). The fourth project modification is to delay to FY 25 for the Norfolk Southern Crossover Relocation (P-5726B). The fifth project is to add right-of-way and utilities for the Division 9 ADA intersection improvements (BO-2409). The sixth project is to add right-of-way and utilities for the Division 10 ADA intersection improvements (BO-2410). The seventh project is to delay right-of-way to FY 24 for the Beth Page Road sidewalk project. The eighth project is to delay construction to FY 25 for the Little Texas Road sidewalk project. The ninth project is to delay construction to FY 26 for the NC 49/Zion Church Road RCI (HS-2010H). The tenth project is to delay construction to FY 26 for the Piedmont Corridor trains and maintenance facility (P-5719C).

Director Conrad explained that two additional projects had been added to the modification. Project HV-0001 and ER-5600, which were statewide projects. HV-001 is preliminary engineering and construction funds for electrical vehicle supply equipment and EB-5600 is preliminary engineering for vegetation management.

Director Conrad noted that Attachment 4 was included in their packet which was a draft resolution modifying the MTIP for these projects. He reported to the TAC members that the new STIP was effective October 1, 2023.

With no questions or comments heard, Mr. Justin Simpson made a motion to endorse modification #3 to the FY 2024-2033 MTIP. Mrs. Meredith Bare Smith seconded the motion and the TAC members voted unanimously to approve.

2024 Draft Local Priority Methodology

CRMPO Director Conrad reported to the TAC members that NCDOT staff has indicated that Session Law 2012-84 requires the Department to develop a process for standardizing or approving MPO local input methodology. Given recent changes in the way that points can be flexed between tiers, CRMPO staff submitted a draft of the Cabarrus-Rowan local input methodology to NCDOT for content review.

Because the content did not change, the NCDOT staff granted conditional approval to the CRMPO's methodology on February 28th subject to public input and CRMPO Board approval. Director Conrad called the members' attention to Attachment 5 which was the local priority methodology. He reviewed the attachment with the members and noted the CRMPO's local schedule.

After review and with no questions or comments, Mr. Lee Withers made a motion to adopt the Draft Local Priority Methodology as presented. Mrs. Meredith Bare Smith seconded that motion and the TAC members voted unanimously to approve.

FY 2024-2025 Draft UPWP

CRMPO Director Phil Conrad reminded the TAC members that each year the Cabarrus-Rowan MPO develops and adopts a unified planning work program (UPWP). The UPWP is the CRMPO's budget and follows the state fiscal year 2024-2025. Director Conrad highlighted Attachment 6A in their meeting packet which was the *Draft* budget.

Director Conrad explained 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. These projects include CRMPO planning activities undertaken by local agencies, the N.C. Department of Transportation, and a line item for Regional Model and MTP Maintenance. Director Conrad closed by stating that in the fall of 2023, NCDOT indicated that the allocation in FY 25 to the CRMPO is \$471,775. He also stated that there are no more unobligated balances for PL funds to MPO's in the state of North Carolina.

Director Conrad then reviewed the Draft UPWP line item by line item for the TAC members. He also reviewed the funding sources available. Director Conrad informed the members that a Long Range Plan update would be due in the spring of 2026.

With no questions or comments heard, Mrs. Meredith Bare Smith made a motion to certify the CRMPO Transportation Planning Process and adopt the FY2024-2025 UPWP. Mr. Lee Withers seconded the motion and the TAC members voted unanimously to approve.

CMAQ Project Funding

CRMPO Director Conrad reported to the TAC members that CMAQ or Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality funds are a federal funding source for areas designated non-attainment by the EPA. He went on to state that CMAQ funds require a local sponsor and a 20 percent local match. Eligible projects must demonstrate an emissions reduction benefit to the local area. NCDOT issued a call for new project applications using a continuous process with quarterly deadlines that began in calendar 2023.

Director Conrad reported that the CRMPO received and submitted a total of 6 CMAQ projects, with 5 already funded previously with CMAQ funds. He called members' attention to a list of projects in attachment 7A. Director Conrad went on to say that the TCC has recommended funding the Old Concord Road sidewalk (C-5603D), which is seeking construction authorization this April (next month). NCDOT staff has indicated that the CRMPO must prioritize the remaining projects to be considered for funding. The TCC, he stated has recommended a subcommittee to handle this prioritization task. Attachment 7B in the packet is a draft resolution of support for funding for this existing CMAQ project.

After reviewing the project list and calling attention to project C-5603D, Director Conrad asked for any questions or comments. Mrs. Wendy Brindle with the City of Salisbury added information regarding the project for the members. Chairman Barnhardt then read aloud a letter from the City of Salisbury asking CRMPO for a resolution of support for their project. At that time, Mr. Lee Withers made a motion to endorse project C-5603D as the number one priority CMAQ project at that time. Mr. JC McKenzie seconded that motion and the TAC members voted unanimously to approve.

Reports/CRMPO Business

1. Local Reports - NCDOT Division 9 & 10 – Mr. Pat Ivey, NCDOT Division 9 reported to the TAC members that Division 9 updates are included in their meeting packet. He called attention to projects that had current updates.

Mr. Brett Canipe, NCDOT Division 10 noted a spreadsheet of Division 10 project updates as well. He reviewed updates for the members.

2. Strategic Initiatives CMAQ/CRP Program Update – Mr. Ryan Brumfield with NCDOT provided members with a power point presentation on the latest updates within the Strategic Initiatives and CMAQ/CRP Program.

3. Special Study Update – Director Conrad reported that the Town of China Grove is conducting a study on the NC 152 Corridor and that they have selected a firm to do the work.

4. P7.0 Schedules – Director Conrad reported to the TAC members that the 2024 Quantitative data for P7.0 will be released in May.

5. 2024 Bicycle and Pedestrian Planning Grant Application - Director Conrad reported to the TAC members that the City of Salisbury has requested a resolution of support for the Bike and Ped project application that they are submitting. After review of the project, Mr. Lee Withers made a motion to provide a resolution of support to the City of Salisbury for their project. Mr. Withers also added that all other future applicants will be provided the same resolution of support. Mrs. Meredith Bare Smith seconded the motion and the TAC members voted unanimously to approve. Director Conrad reported that the deadline for submitting applications is March 25, 2024.

6. Bike and Ped Demonstration Planning Studies – Director Conrad directed members to information in their packets regarding completion of bike and ped planning studies for the Town of Landis and the Town of Faith.

Informational Items

- ✦ RIDER Transit and Salisbury Transit Ridership Information - Phil called the TAC members' attention to the ridership information included in their packets.
- ✦ NC Transportation Summit – May 21-22, 2024 – Mr. Brett Canipe provided members with a handout containing information on the annual Transportation Summit.
- ✦ 2024 Litter Sweep – April 13-27, 2024 – Director Conrad reminded members about the upcoming litter sweep.
- ✦ SPOT Mobility and SPOT Safety Analysis – Director Conrad called members attention to a copy of a power point presentation in their packets regarding state funding opportunities for intersection projects.

Upcoming Meeting : April 24, 2024 and Director Conrad reminded members that there will be a meeting in June as well.

Adjournment

With no other business to bring before the TAC, Mr. JC McKenzie made a motion that the meeting be adjourned. Mrs. Meredith Bare Smith seconded the motion and the meeting was adjourned.