

MINUTES

TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Wednesday, May 22, 2024

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

Members

JC McKenzie	City of Concord
Steve Morris	Cabarrus County
Karen Alexander	City of Salisbury
Lee Withers	Town of China Grove
Greg Edds	Rowan County
Brittany Barnhardt	Town of Granite Quarry
Dillon Brewer	Town of Rockwell
Doug Wilson	City of Kannapolis
Deloris High	Town of East Spencer

Others

Phil Conrad	CRMPO Director
Brett Canipe	NCDOT Division 10
Pat Ivey	NCDOT Division 9
Connie Cunningham	CRMPO Staff
Phillip Craver	NCDOT Division 9
Scott Miller	NCDOT Division 10
Wilmer Melton	City of Kannapolis
Theo Ghitea	NCDOT Division 10
Albert Smith	Town of East Spencer
Tamara Sheffield	City of Salisbury
Rich Luhrs	Town of Granite Quarry
Wayne Starnes	Town of China Grove
Barbara Mallett	Town of East Spencer
Laurie Mack	Town of Granite Quarry
Karla Foster	Rowan Chamber

Call to Order

TAC Chairman Brittany Barnhardt called the May 22, 2024 meeting of the Cabarrus Rowan MPO to order at approximately 6:00 pm. Chairman Barnhardt welcomed those in attendance and asked all present to stand and recite the Pledge of Allegiance to a flag displayed. At that time, CRMPO Director Phil Conrad recognized the Town of China Grove 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 introduce themselves to the group.

Chairman Barnhardt 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. Ms. Karla Foster with the Rowan Chamber addressed the members and reported that the Rowan Chamber delegation has recently gone to Washington, DC to present their Priority Projects List hoping to highlight projects of importance to the area. 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 an explanation of Item 2 under the Consent Agenda be added or moved to Reports so that he could provide more information on the background of the item.

With no other requests being heard Mr. Greg Edds made a motion to approve the agenda including the Consent Agenda, with the change. Mrs. Deloris High 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 Salisbury would like to reclassify Julian Road as a major thoroughfare as part of the MPO's Comprehensive Transportation Plan (CTP) Highway Map. Julian Road serves as a connector between Jake Alexander Blvd and I-85/Old Concord Road. An insert of the highway map is included as attachment 2.

NO ACTION WAS TAKEN

THIS CONCLUDES THE CONSENT AGENDA

Approval of March 27, 2024 Minutes

TAC Chairman Barnhardt called members' attention to the minutes from the March 27, 2024 TAC meeting included in their meeting packets. Chairman Barnhardt asked if there were any corrections or additions to the minutes. With none being heard, Mr. Lee Withers made the motion to approve the minutes as presented. Mrs. Deloris High seconded the motion and the TAC members followed with a unanimous vote to approve.

FY 2024-2033 MTIP Modification #4

CRMPO Director Phil Conrad called the TAC members' attention to 2024-2033 MTIP Modification #4 included in their packets. He explained that CRMPO staff frequently brings amendments or modifications from recent NCDOT Board of Transportation agendas to the TCC/TAC for consideration.

Director Conrad went on to say that the first project modifications were previously covered at the March TAC meeting. The second project modification is the delay of construction to FY 26 for the US 601/Flowers Store Road intersection project (C-5603I). The second project modification is to delay construction to FY 24 for the Grants Creek Greenway, Catawba College multi-use path (EB-5619B). The third project modification is to delay construction to FY 26 for the Grants Creek Greenway, Statesville Blvd multi-use path (EB-5619C). The fourth project is to delay construction to FY 26 for the Third Street Greenway (EB-5861). The fifth project is to delay construction to FY 28 for the Winecoff School Road pedestrian accommodations (HS-2410A). The sixth project is to delay construction to FY 26 for the Poplar Tent and Harris Road intersection project (HL-0001). The seventh and final project request is to remove the North Washington Street sidewalk project (BL-0043). CRMPO Director Conrad called members' attention to Attachment 4 included in their packet which was a draft resolution modifying the MTIP for these projects.

With no questions or comments heard, Mrs. Karen Alexander made a motion to endorse modification #4 to the FY 2024-2033 MTIP. Mr. J.C. McKenzie seconded the motion and the TAC members voted unanimously to approve.

CMAQ Project Funding/Priorities

CRMPO Director Phil 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 continued by stating 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. He went on to report that NCDOT issued a call for new project applications for a continuous process with quarterly deadlines that began in calendar 2023. Director Conrad reported that the CRMPO recently submitted a total of 6 CMAQ projects, with 5 already funded previously with CMAQ funds. The CRMPO recommended additional funding for the Old Concord Road sidewalk (C-5603D) at the March meeting.

Director Conrad went on to state that NCDOT staff have informed CRMPO that they must prioritize the remaining projects to be considered for additional funding. He reported that a subcommittee of the TCC met and recommended a rank order of projects in attachment 5A.

Director Conrad provided a power point presentation on CMAQ and CRP and information to explain the rank order of the projects. Once his presentation was complete, he called members' attention to Attachment 5B which was a *Draft* resolution of support for funding these CMAQ projects

With no questions or comments, Mrs. Karen Alexander made a motion to endorse the prioritized list of CMAQ Project submittals as presented. Mr. J.C. McKenzie seconded the motion and the TAC members voted unanimously to approve.

Functional Classification System Request

Mr. Theo Ghitea with NCDOT Division 10 reported to the TAC members that functional classification is the process by which streets and highways are grouped into classes, or systems according to the character of service they are intended to provide. Mr. Ghitea explained that

highways fall into one of four categories: principal arterials, minor arterials, collector roads, and local roads and are based on whether the area is considered urban or rural.

To be consistent with NCDOT's statewide functional classification, Mr. Ghitea reported it has been determined that the segment of Caldwell Road between NC 49 and Tom Query Road and Tom Query Road between Robinson Church Road and the county line be designated as a minor collector in the federal functional classification system. Mr. Ghitea went on to explain that a segment of Stallings Road between Hickory Ridge Road and Harrisburg Veterans Road between School Circle and Stallings Road be designated as a major collector. He highlighted a map included in their packets which outlined the areas and roads being considered for these changes.

CRMPO Director Conrad explained that these changes are simply classification and administrative changes and Mr. Ghitea agreed. With no questions or discussion heard, Mr. J.C. McKenzie made a motion to adopt the proposed Functional Classification System changes for Caldwell Road, Tom Query Road, Stallings Road and Harrisburg Veterans Road as presented. Mr. Dillon Brewer seconded that motion and the TAC members voted unanimously to approve.

Planning Boundary Agreement

Director Conrad reported to the TAC members that as a result of the 2000 US Census, the Cabarrus-Rowan MPO executed an agreement to assume planning responsibilities for the part of the Charlotte Urbanized Area in Cabarrus County including the Town of Harrisburg. This agreement he went on to state, carried additional federal planning requirements including a certification review and congestion management plan. Director Conrad reported that with the growth of the 2020 Census into Mecklenburg County, there are small sections of the Cabarrus/Concord Urbanized area (UZA) located outside of Cabarrus County. He stated that none of the Charlotte Urbanized Area encroached into Cabarrus County following this last Census (2020).

Director Conrad informed the members that an agreement is required by FHWA to formally transfer planning responsibilities for those portions of the Concord UZA designated by the 2020 Census from the Cabarrus-Rowan MPO to the Charlotte TPO. Director Conrad called the TCC members' attention to Attachment 7 in their packets which was a draft agreement for their review.

After review of the agreement and with no questions or discussion, Mrs. Karen Alexander made a motion to endorse the Planning Boundary Agreement as presented. Mrs. Deloris High seconded the motion and the TAC members voted unanimously to approve.

Reports/CRMPO Business

1. CRMPO Director Phil Conrad reported to the TAC members that the City of Salisbury had requested to reclassify Julian Road as a major thoroughfare as part of the CRMPO's Comprehensive Transportation Plan (CTP) Highway Map. Director Conrad explained that Julian Road serves as a connector between Jake Alexander Blvd and I-85/Old Concord Road.

He explained that this reclassification was consistent with maps prior to the adoption of the initial CTP. It had been determined that a formal amendment was not needed and staff would issue a technical correction with agreement from the local jurisdictions.

2. Local Reports - NCDOT Division 9 & 10 – Mr. Pat Ivey, NCDOT Division 9 reported to the TAC members that Division 9 updates were included in their meeting packet. He called attention to the Henderson Grove connection project and reported that work is progressing. He said that bids were being received that were lower in cost than their estimates had projected, which was great.

Mr. Ivey also reported on the two-day Transportation Summit. Mr. Ivey stated that approximately 1000 people attended, and that the information provided during the Summit was very informative.

Mr. Ivey also updated the TAC members on the NCDOT Litter Sweep. He reported that nearly \$18 million had been spent so far this year picking up litter by the Department.

Mr. Brett Canipe, NCDOT Division 10 also highlighted a spreadsheet of Division 10 project updates, calling attention to the Highway 24/27 Bethel School Road Safety project and the awarding of the NC 73 Rumble strip installation project.

Mr. Canipe also reported that he was very pleased with the Transportation Summit and the information that was available. He reported that a considerable amount of information was available on funding and Cost Inflation Estimates.

3. P7.0 Schedule – Information on the when May 2024 Quantitative Data Release will be provided by Director Conrad and Mr. Pat Ivey to the members.
4. Rowan Transit System Section 5310 Grant Application Letter of Support – CRMPO Director Phil Conrad called TAC members' attention to a copy of a letter from Rowan County requesting a Letter of Support for their 5310 Grant Application. With no questions or discussion, Mr. Lee Withers made a motion to approve providing Rowan County a letter of Support for their 5310 Grant Application. Mrs. Karen Alexander seconded that motion and the TAC members voted unanimously to approve.
5. Special Study Update – Director Conrad reported to the members that the Town of China Grove's Highway 152 Study is moving forward and will wrap up in the next fiscal year.
6. 2055 MTP Goals and Objectives – Director Conrad noted that the 2055 MTP Goals and Objectives will come back at a later meeting.

Informational Items

- RIDER Transit and Salisbury Transit Ridership Information - Phil noted the ridership information included in their packets.
- TPD Newsletter

Next Meeting : June 26, 2024

Adjournment

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