

MINUTES

TECHNICAL COORDINATING COMMITTEE

Wednesday, March 20, 2024

VIRTUAL MEETING

Members:

Phillip Graham	City of Concord
Susie Morris	Cabarrus County
Ed Muire	Rowan County & Town of Cleveland
Theo Ghitea	NCDOT Div. 10
Erin Burris	Town of Mt. Pleasant
Teresa Barringer	Town of China Grove
Craig Thomas	Town of Midland
Beth Hassenfritz	City of Kannapolis
Wendy Brindle	City of Salisbury
Steve Blount	Town of Spencer
Fred Haith	NCDOT Div. 9

Others:

Phil Conrad	CRMPO Director
Connie Cunningham	MPO Staff
Loretta Barren	FHWA
Scott Miller	NCDOT Div10
Nat Heyward	Kimley-Horn
Andrew Babb	Bolton & Menk
Andy Christy	RIDER Transit
Phil Collins	Cabarrus County
Neda Fahim	NCDOT
Wendy Miller	CRMPO Staff
Emily Stupka	NCDOT TPD
Alex Rotenberry	NCDOT IMD
Pate Butler	NCDOT TSU
Mark Eatman	NCDOT
Heather Hildebrandt	NCDOT
T.A. Lassiter	NCDOT Trainee

The March 20, 2024 meeting of the Cabarrus Rowan MPO TCC was called to order by Chairman Ed Muire. Chairman Muire called the roll of eligible TCC members and once completed, it was determined that a quorum had been met. Chairman Muire then asked if there were any adjustments to the meeting agenda. With none heard, Chairman Muire moved on to the next order of business.

Chairman Muire continued by asking if there were any speakers from the floor. With no speakers being heard, TCC Chairman Muire moved to the next item of business.

Approval of Minutes

TCC Chairman Muire called the members' attention to the minutes of the January 17, 2024 TCC meeting included in their meeting packets. TCC Chairman Muire asked if there were any corrections or additions to the minutes. With no corrections or additions heard, Mr. Steve Blount made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Mrs. Wendy Brindle seconded the motion and the TCC members voted unanimously to approve.

FY 2024-2033 MTIP Modification #3

Mrs. Wendy Miller, CRMPO Staff Planner, called the TCC members attention to 2024-2033 MTIP Modification #3 included in their packets. She explained that MPO staff typically brings amendments or modifications from recent NCDOT Board of Transportation agendas to the TCC/TAC for consideration.

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

CRMPO Staff Planner Miller called members' attention to Attachment 4 included in their packet which was a draft resolution modifying the MTIP for these projects. She informed the TCC members that the new STIP was effective October 1, 2023.

TCC Chairman Ed Muire asked Staff Planner Miller if she could identify where the maintenance facility mentioned in P-5719C was located. Mrs. Miller stated that information was not supplied with the modification request. NCDOT staff that were present were asked if they knew the location and none of them did. CRMPO Executive Director Phil Conrad reported to the TCC members that the facility may not be in our area but will service trains that will go through our area.

With no further questions or comments, TCC Chairman Muire asked for a motion to recommend that the CRMPO TAC consider endorsing modification #3 to the FY 2024-2033 MTIP. Mrs. Susie Morris made the motion, and it was seconded by Mrs. Wendy Brindle. The TCC members voted unanimously to approve.

2024 Draft Local Priority Methodology

CRMPO Director Conrad reported to the TCC 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 4 which was the local priority methodology. He reviewed the attachment with the members and called attention to the CRMPO's local schedule. Director Conrad went on to say that CRMPO staff has received some interest in possibly moving the window for applications to the summer of 2024 versus waiting until

the end of 2024. He stated that Division and Regional Tier points will be assigned this summer. With little discussion and by consensus within the group it was determined to move the window for applications to the summer of 2024. Mr. Phillip Graham made a motion to recommend that the CRMPO TAC consider adopting the Draft Local Priority Methodology for application in the summer of 2024, Chairman Ed Muire seconded that motion and the TCC members voted unanimously to approve.

FY 2024-2025 DRAFT UPWP

CRMPO Director Phil Conrad reminded the TCC 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 called members attention to Attachment 5A 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 TCC members. He also reviewed the funding sources available. Director Conrad informed the members that a Plan update would be due in 2026. With no questions or comments heard, Mrs. Susie Morris made a motion to recommend that the CRMPO TAC consider certifying the CRMPO Transportation Planning Process and consider adopting the FY2024-2025 UPWP. Mr. Steve Blount seconded the motion and the members voted unanimously to approve.

CTP Amendment

CRMPO Staff Planner Wendy Miller reported to the members that the City of Concord would like to add some multi-use path designations to the CRMPO's Comprehensive Transportation Plan (CTP) Index. Wendy reported that the City of Concord has already incorporated this information into their own locally adopted plans. She reminded TCC members that at the January meetings, the Town of Spencer added some CTP links to the highway map. Those segments are now proposed as part of the CTP Index.

Wendy called members' attention to a summary of the Index changes which was included as attachment 6 in their packets. Director Conrad addressed the TCC members and reported he had spoken with Andy Bailey at NCDOT and that NCDOT will be doing all updates to the CTP in a new format. Mr. Theo Ghitea asked when the CRMPO CTP updates will be complete, and Director Conrad reported that they are kept updated at all times.

With no further questions or comments, Mr. Phillip Graham made a motion to recommend that the CRMPO TAC consider releasing these CTP index amendments for public comment. Mrs. Susie Morris seconded the motion and the 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 reported to TCC members that the updated spreadsheet was included in today's meeting packet. He stated that any changes are highlighted on the spreadsheet.

Mr. Theo Ghitea , 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. Bike and Ped Demonstration Planning Studies - Mr. Nat Heyward with Kimley-Horn addressed the TCC members and provided a presentation and update on the Town of Landis Kimbal Road project and the Town of Faith's Main Street section between Brown Street and School Street.

3. CMAQ Program Update and Awards – NCDOT staff Mark Eatman and Heather Hildebrandt provided information regarding the CMAQ program. They reported that an improved CMAQ application has been created. The CRMPO project list was reviewed. Mrs. Erin Burris asked what the deadline was for submitting new applications and Ms. Hildebrandt responded March 31st.

Mrs. Wendy Brindle asked what the status of projects are that have already been submitted. Ms. Hildebrandt responded that all projects are eligible. She reported that no projects have been awarded yet because the CRMPO has not prioritized their projects yet. She went on to state that there are no leftover funds and no future allocations have been requested.

Director Conrad reported that MPO's have never been asked to prioritize CMAQ projects before. He stated that the CRMPO needs the 2024 allocation dollar amounts from NCDOT staff.

At this point Ms. Hildebrandt abruptly left the meeting. TCC members went on to have a discussion as a group about prioritizing the CRMPO's CMAQ projects list. As a group and by consensus they determined that project C-5603D should be the top priority project to recommend to the CRMPO TAC. With no further questions, comments or discussion, Mrs. Wendy Brindle made a motion to recommend that the CRMPO TAC prioritize project C-5603D as their number one project. Mr. Phillip Graham seconded that motion and all the TCC members voted unanimously to approve.

4. Special Study Update – Town of China Grove - Mrs. Teresa Barringer with the Town of China Grove reported updates to the TCC members for the Town's project.

5. SPOT Mobility and SPOT Safety Analysis - Mr. Theo Ghitea with NCDOT Division 10 presented a power point presentation to the TCC members. The presentation explained the types of projects eligible, funding available and the need for these types of projects. Once

the presentation was complete, Chairman Ed Muire asked if SPOT funds are limited to a 20 percent match and Mr. Ghitea reported that they were. Mr. Pate Butler also added some information to the presentation and discussion.

6. 2024 Bicycle and Pedestrian Planning Grant Applications – Director Conrad called members attention to a Draft letter of Support for the City of Salisbury’s Bike and Ped Applications. Mrs. Wendy Brindle with the City of Salisbury explained the City’s project for the TCC members. The request is to get support from the CRMPO Board for their project. With no discussion or questions heard, Mrs. Wendy Brindle made a motion to recommend that the CRMPO TAC support the City of Salisbury’s Bike and Ped project application. Chairman Ed Muire seconded the motion. The TCC members voted unanimously to approve.

7. P7.0 Spring Schedule- May 2024 Quantitative Data Release - Director Conrad reported to the members’ on this schedule.

8. Discretionary Funding Project Calls - Director Conrad reported to the members that this item would need further discussion. After discussion by the members, it was decided by consensus that a subcommittee would meet on this item and bring back information at a later date.

9. 2055 TAZ Level Forecasts and Mapping – Director Conrad informed the members that there is a June 30th deadline for have information submitted and it should be available next week for review in map form.

Informational Items

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

- RIDER Transit, Salisbury Transit and MTC Ridership
- TPD Newsletter – Mrs. Emily Stuka, NCDOT TPD reviewed with the members
- CRAFT Meeting Minutes
- NCPTA Conference – April 8-10
- NC MPO Conference - April 17-19
- NC Transportation Summit – May 21-22

Next scheduled meeting: April 17, 2024

With no further business to discuss, TCC Chairman Ed Muire thanked everyone for attending and the meeting was adjourned by consensus.