

# MINUTES

## TECHNICAL COORDINATING COMMITTEE

Wednesday, May 15, 2024

### VIRTUAL MEETING

Members:

Phillip Graham	City of Concord
Susie Morris	Cabarrus County
Shane Stewart	Rowan County & Town of Cleveland
Theo Ghitea	NCDOT Div. 10
Fred Haith	NCDOT Div. 9
Franklin Gover	Town of China Grove
Mallory Hodgson	Town of Harrisburg
Steve Blount	Town of Spencer
Richard Smith	City of Kannapolis
Jason Hord	Town of Granite Quarry

Others:

Phil Conrad	CRMPO Director
Connie Cunningham	MPO Staff
Loretta Barren	FHWA
Scott Miller	NCDOT Div10
Andy Bailey	NCDOT TPD
Andrew Babb	Bolton & Menk
Andy Christy	RIDER Transit
Wendy Miller	CRMPO Staff
Phillip Craver	NCDOT Div 9
Sean Epperson	NCDOT Div 10
Christian Snelgrove	WSP
Kristy Cowden	Rowan Transit
Victoria Trexler	City of Salisbury
Teresa Barringer	Town of China Grove

The May 15 2024 virtual meeting of the Cabarrus Rowan MPO TCC was called to order by Vice Chair Susie Morris. Vice Chair Morris called the roll of eligible TCC members and it was determined that a quorum had been met. Vice Chair Morris then asked if there were any adjustments to the meeting agenda. With none heard, Vice Chair Morris moved on to the next order of business.

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

### Approval of Minutes

TCC Vice Chair Morris directed the members' attention to the minutes of the March 20, 2024 TCC meeting included in their meeting packets. TCC Vice Chair Morris asked if there were any corrections or additions to the minutes. With no corrections or additions heard, Vice Chair Morris asked that all those in favor of approving the minutes as presented vote "Aye". All TCC members stated "Aye" in favor of approval. Vice Chair Morris asked for a signal from those opposed and none were heard.

## **FY 2024-2033 MTIP Modification #4**

Mrs. Wendy Miller, CRMPO Staff Planner, called the TCC members' attention to 2024-2033 MTIP Modification #4 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 covered at the March TAC meeting. The second project modification is the delay of construction to FY 26 for the US 601/Flowes 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 Staff Planner Miller called members' attention to Attachment 3 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.

With no questions or comments heard, TCC Vice Chair Morris asked for a motion to recommend that the CRMPO TAC consider endorsing modification #4 to the FY 2024-2033 MTIP. Mr. Steve Blount made the motion, and it was seconded by Mr. Phillip Graham. The TCC members voted unanimously to approve

## **CMAQ Project Funding**

CRMPO Director Phil Conrad reported to the TCC 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 on 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. 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 has informed CRMPO that they must prioritize the remaining projects in order to be considered for funding. He reported that a subcommittee of the TCC met and have recommended a rank order of projects in attachment 4A. Director Conrad provided a power point presentation to explain the rank order of the projects. Once his presentation was complete, he called members' attention to Attachment 4B which was a *Draft* resolution of support for funding these CMAQ projects

With no questions or comments, Mr. Phillip Graham made a motion to recommend that the CRMPO TAC consider endorsing the prioritized list of CMAQ Project submittals as presented. Mr. Richard Smith seconded the motion and the TCC members voted unanimously to approve.

## **Functional Classification System Request**

Mr. Theo Ghitea with NCDOT Division 10 reported to the TCC 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 highlighted a map included in their packets which outlined the area and roads being considered for this change.

After reviewing the map, Ms. Mallory Hodgson asked for an update of Martha Melvin and Hickory Ridge Road since they do not connect and why it wasn't corrected on the map being presented. After lengthy discussions and by consensus, it was determined that not all members were comfortable moving forward with this item until all the map updates had been completed.

At this time, Vice Chair Morris asked for a motion to table this item until the June meeting. Ms. Mallory Hodgson made a motion to to table this item until the June meeting. Mr. Richard Smith seconded that motion and the TCC members voted unanimously to approve the motion.

## **CTP Amendment**

CRMPO Director Phil Conrad reported to the TCC members that the City of Salisbury would like to reclassify Julian Road as a major thoroughfare as part of the CRMPO's Comprehensive Transportation Plan (CTP) Highway Map. At that point, Director Conrad introduced Ms. Victoria Trexler with the City of Salisbury who explained that Julian Road serves as a connector between Jake Alexander Blvd and I-85/Old Concord Road. She explained that doing this reclassification would make this roadway consistent with the CRMPO Comprehensive Transportation Plan. Ms. Trexler called members' attention to a map of the roadway that was included in their packets and reviewed the map for the TCC members. That highway map was included as attachment 6 in their packets.

After review, Mr. Fred Haith made a motion to recommend that the CRMPO TAC consider releasing the CTP Map amendment for public comment. Mr. Steve Blount seconded that motion and the TCC members voted unanimously to approve.

## **2055 MTP Draft Goals and Objectives**

Mrs. Wendy Miller, CRMPO Staff Planner reported to the TCC members that with the adoption of the 2024-2033 TIP, the CRMPO will begin working on the update to the 2055 MTP. CRMPO Staff Planner Miller went on to state that part of this update is the ongoing socioeconomic TAZ forecasts for population, employment, and school enrollment. She reported that the next draft TIP will primarily be the basis for the 2055 MTP in terms of project schedule horizon years and estimated costs. Every 4 years the CRMPO reviews the draft Goals and Objectives for inclusion in the next

MTP. At this point CRMPO Staff Planner Miller called the members attention to Attachment 7 in their packets which was a draft Goals and Objectives.

CRMPO Staff Planner Miller reviewed the attachment with the members as well as a comparison of other Goals and Objectives in sister MPOs both near and far. She noted the Street System goals, Congestion Management goals, Title VI and Environmental Justice goal, Environmental goal, Public Transportation goal, Bicycle and Pedestrian goal and the Freight goal. After completing the review, CRMPO Staff Planner Miller asked for any questions or comments. With none being heard Director Conrad moved onto the next item of business.

### **Planning Boundary Agreement**

Director Conrad reported to the 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.

With that being said, 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 8 in their packets which was the draft agreement for their review. Director Conrad went on to recognize Mr. Andy Bailey and NCDOT for all their work coordinating this agreement. Mr. Bailey stated that all parties have been working on this agreement for over twenty years now.

With no further discussion, Mr. Phillip Graham made a motion to recommend that the CRMPO TAC consider endorsing the Planning Boundary Agreement as presented. Mr. Steve Blount 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 reported to 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 highlighted a spreadsheet of Division 10 project updates and noted some of the ongoing projects in Division 10. Those highlighted were HS-2010D, the Bethel School Road and Highway 24/27 project, and the installation of rumble strips on Highway 73 from Stanly County to Mt. Pleasant.

Mr. Andy Bailey, NCDOT TPD referenced the NCDOT newsletter in the TCC packets.

**2. FY 25 Bike and Ped Demonstration Planning Studies** – Director Phil Conrad reported to the TCC members completion of a demonstration study in the Town of Landis, Kimbal Road and a study for the Town of Faith’s Main Street section between Brown Street and School Street.

**3. FY 25 Special Study** - Director Conrad reported to the members that funds are available for Special Studies starting July 1<sup>st</sup>.

**4. Special Study Update** - Mr. Franklin Gover reported that their Highway 152 study is underway and they are pleased to have such a strong steering committee,

**5. Rowan Transit System Section 5310 Grant Application Letter of Support** - Director Conrad highlighted a Draft letter of Support for the Rowan Transit System Section 5310 Grant Application. Mrs. Kristy Cowden with Rowan Transit reviewed the intent of the application for the members. With no questions or comments heard, Vice Chair Susie Morris made a motion to recommend that the CRMPO TAC support the request from Rowan County Transit. Ms. Teresa Barringer seconded that motion and the TCC members voted unanimously to approve.

**6. P7.0 Spring Schedule - May 2024 Quantitative Data Release** - Director Conrad reported to the members’ on this schedule. He stated that the members will be meeting in June to discuss the data release and point assignment for the Draft 2026-2035 Priority List.

**7. 2055 TAZ Level Forecasts and Mapping** – Director Conrad introduced Mr. Christian Snelgrove with WSP who provided the members with a power point presentation on the 2055 SE Projections. There were no questions or comments by the membership.

### **Informational Items**

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

- RIDER Transit, Salisbury Transit and MTC Ridership
- TPD Newsletter
- CRAFT Meeting Minutes
- NC Transportation Summit – May 21-22

**Next scheduled meeting: June 19, 2024**

With no further business to discuss, TCC Vice Chair Morris made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Mr. Richard Smith seconded that motion and the meeting was adjourned.