

NC Capital Area Metropolitan Planning Organization Meeting Minutes - Draft Executive Board

One City Plaza
421 Fayetteville Street
Suite 203
Raleigh, NC 27601

Wednesday, September 20, 2017

4:00 PM

Conference Room

1. Welcome and Introductions

- Present:** 14 - Vice Chair Harold Weinbrecht, John Byrne, Nancy McFarlane, Tom Jackson, Sig Hutchinson, Ken Marshburn, Michael Grannis, Gordon Springle, Timothy Karan, Michael Schriver, John Burns, Mark Stohlman, Chair Dick Sears, and Lance Olive
- Absent:** 17 - Terry Hutchens, Gus Tulloss, Virginia Gray, Terry Hedlund, Don Bumgarner, John Sullivan, Perry Safran, James Roberson, Lewis Weatherspoon, Frank Eagles, William Allen III, Art Wright, Mike Gordon, Valerie Jordan, Vivian Jones, Nina Szlosberg, and Larry Wood

2. Adjustments to the Agenda

No adjustments were made to the agenda

3. Ethics Statement:

Vice Chair Harold Weinbrecht read the standard ethics statement, and noted that no members expressed a conflict of interest for this meeting.

4. Public Comments

Commissioner Tom Jackson of Creedmoor commented by thanking the Capital Area MPO for its support for the intersection improvements scheduled to be constructed in the future.

5. Minutes

5.1 Executive Board minutes: August 16, 2017 meeting

Requested Action: Approve the August 16, 2017 meeting minutes.

Attachments: [Draft Minutes for August 16, 2017](#)

A motion was made by Board Member Sig Hutchinson, seconded by Board Member Michael Grannis, that this item be approved. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

6. Consent Agenda

There were no items on the consent agenda this month.

End of Consent Agenda

7. Public Hearing

7.1

Prioritization 5.0 Modal Candidate Project Lists

Chris Lukasina / MPO Executive Director

Requested Action: Continue public hearing, review public comments and close public hearing. Review project candidate lists and consider approve lists for submission but direct staff to maximize coordination with Division Engineers which may result in alternate projects being submitted with Chair approval.

Mr. Lukasina reviewed the proposed alternate criteria for Region A, which puts less emphasis on congestion and more on freight; Region C, which puts less emphasis on accessibility and more on freight; Division 5, which puts more emphasis on benefit/cost and safety and less on freight and accessibility; and Division 6, which puts more emphasis on safety and less on freight. He explained that the alternate criteria for Region C could not move forward due to lack of support from Cape Fear RPO, but he still felt it was important for the MPO to show support for the alternate criteria.

Mr. Lukasina then reviewed the modal project lists for SPOT. There was no change in the Aviation Projects or Transit Projects. The Bicycle and Pedestrian project list has more than 43 candidate projects so that we will have some back-up projects if the Divisions submit some of these bicycle or pedestrian projects. Mr. Lukasina noted that the MPO has received quite a few public comments in favor of the Triangle Bikeway project, and noted that in addition to the comments received in the packet for the meeting, there were more that have been compiled and distributed at today's meeting.

For the Railroad projects, a question was asked about how we evaluate safety of railroad crossings for those with crossing arms versus those without. Mr. Lukasina replied that he was not sure on specific statistics for with arms versus without, but that we do look at the volume of cars crossing tracks at various locations, and that is usually tied to the number of crashes.

For the Roadway projects, Mr. Lukasina noted a few changes to the list since it was last presented. The US 1 project between I-440 and I-540 is different, and the managed motorways on I-440 and the surrounding network has been added. There are also more division needs level projects on the list, such as Six Forks Road in Raleigh and Judd Parkway/NC 55 in Fuquay-Varina.

Chairman Sears opened the public hearing, which was being continued from the August meeting. Dr. Jean Spooner, Chair of the Umstead Coalition, submitted written and verbal comments in favor of the Triangle Bikeway project, noting that this would be a connector for many of the region's greenways, as well as a connector to the RDU Forest Trail system at Lake Crabtree County Park, RDU Airport, and Umstead State Park.

With no other persons wishing to speak, Chairman Sears closed the public hearing.

A motion was made by Board Member John Byrne, seconded by Board Member Michael Grannis, that the MPO approve all Alternate Criteria for Divisions 5 and 6 and Regions A and C as presented, and approve the lists for submissions pending coordination with the Division Engineers to maximize the MPO's projects for potential funding, with alternate projects being subject to approval by the Chair prior to the SPOT deadline. The motion carried unanimously.

End of Public Hearings**8. Regular Agenda****8.1 FFY2017 LAPP Available Funding Report**

Gretchen Vetter, MPO Staff

Requested Action: Receive as information.

The LAPP Program includes a tracking system of project specific funding obligation, as well as total available MPO funds, including CMAQ funds sub-allocated by the state. This allows staff to anticipate the amount of available MPO funding at risk due to project schedule changes that extend beyond the awarded LAPP funding year. With FFY17 coming to a close, MPO staff Ms. Gretchen Vetter provided an update on the MPO's funding obligations. She reviewed funding availability since FFY 2012, and indicated the MPO's exposure rate in FFY 2017 was 115%. Mr. Lukasina noted that the large amount of unobligated funds from the FFY 2014 cycle has affected this exposure rate since that time. Ms. Vetter reviewed the MPO's anticipated fund balance, and noted that signed agreements for FFY 2018 projects are due September 15, 2017.

Vice Chairman Harold Weinbrecht asked if most of the exposure was coming from a single municipality. Ms. Vetter responded that the exposure was across multiple projects in multiple jurisdictions. Mr. Lukasina also noted that as municipalities are taking on larger projects, it could be that there are a few large projects that are still unobligated that are affecting the numbers rather than many smaller projects.

This Report was received as information.**8.2 FY2016-25 Transportation Improvement Program- Amendment #7**

Gretchen Vetter, MPO Staff

Requested Action: Receive as information. Schedule a Public Hearing for the Executive Board meeting expected to be scheduled on October 25, 2017.**Attachments:** [TIP Amendment #7 9-12-2017](#)

NCDOT's STIP Unit notified the MPO of amendments to the 2016-2025 State TIP. The MPO should update the TIP to reflect these changes in order to meet federal regulations stating that the TIP and STIP must be identical. Additionally, amendments to the 2016-2025 TIP are necessary to accommodate funding for LAPP and Wake Transit Plan Projects.

Staff has released the draft FY 2016-2025 Transportation Improvement Program - Amendment #7 for public review and comment from September 7, 2017 through October 8, 2017. Ms. Vetter reviewed the amendment.

Motion was made by Board Member Michael Grannis with a second by Board Member John Byrne to receive this as information and schedule a public hearing at the October 25, 2017 Executive Board meeting.

8.3**FY2018-2027 Transportation Improvement Program**

Gretchen Vetter, MPO Staff

Requested Action: Receive as information. Schedule a Public Hearing for the Executive Board meeting expected to be scheduled on October 25, 2017.

CAMPO staff updates the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) every two years. A draft TIP has been completed that meets the federal requirement stating that the TIP and STIP must be identical.

CAMPO's public involvement policy requires that the draft TIP be released for a public review and comment period and that a public hearing be conducted to receive comment on the draft TIP.

Staff has released the Draft 2018-2027 Transportation Improvement Program for public review and comment from September 7, 2017 to October 8, 2017 and tentatively schedule a public hearing for the Executive Board meeting expected to be scheduled on October 25, 2017.

A copy of the draft TIP is available on the CAMPO website www.campo-nc.us <<http://www.campo-nc.us>>. Hard copies are available upon request.

Motion made by Board Member Michael Grannis with a second by Board Member Sig Hutchinson to receive this as information and schedule a Public Hearing for the Executive Board meeting on October 25, 2017.

8.4

NCDOT Public Transportation Strategic Plan

Bret Martin, MPO Staff

Requested Action: Receive as information, provide any additional feedback to the questions posed, and consider approval of the feedback to be forwarded to NCDOT-PTD

Attachments: [Draft CAMPO Comments on Strategic Plan](#)

The North Carolina Department of Transportation - Public Transportation Division (NCDOT-PTD) is currently developing a strategic public transportation plan to improve communities' access to opportunities. As NCDOT-PTD works through the development of this plan, it is soliciting input from elected officials, community leaders, transportation professionals and public transportation customers to shape the plan's outputs and to identify the best ways for NCDOT-PTD to work in partnerships to improve the effectiveness and reach of the state's public transportation systems. Prior to NCDOT-PTD's community meetings scheduled for October, it is soliciting feedback from boards and commissions statewide with an interest in public transportation planning and services.

Specific questions NCDOT-PTD is asking CAMPO and other organizations' boards and commissions to answer are:

- 1) Why is public transportation important to your community?*
- 2) How can we build stronger and more effective partnerships?*
- 3) What programs or initiatives should be included in the Strategic Plan?*

At the TCC's September 7th meeting, CAMPO staff provided a presentation from NCDOT-PTD on the development of the strategic public transportation plan and posed the three aforementioned questions to the TCC to provide feedback to NCDOT-PTD and the Executive Board. A summary of the feedback provided by the TCC was provided in Attachment A.

Mr. Bret Martin reviewed the information provided by NCDOT-PTD with the Executive Board, and requested their feedback on the questions as well. Generally the Board agreed with feedback from the TCC and staff. Board Member Sig Hutchinson asked if the pie chart showing state and local funding sources was trending in any particular direction. Mr. Martin responded that he did not have specific historical figures, but would guess that the local portion was increasing overall while the state and federal portions were decreasing overall. Board Member Sig Hutchinson expressed disappointment with the 14% federal share, indicated that the figure was very low. Mr. Martin noted that the comments provided by the TCC addressed that issue, and indicated that the MPO would like more certainty with regard to state and federal funding shares for larger transit projects such as BRT or Commuter Rail. Board Member Sig Hutchinson asked that staff strengthen that language further, and Mr. Martin said that he would include specific comments regarding the caps on transit funding in the STI law and SPOT process.

This Report was received as information, and the Board agreed via consensus with the comments being provided to NCDOT-PTD.

8.5 Wake Transit Implementation Update

Bret Martin, MPO Staff

Requested Action: Receive as information

Mr. Bret Martin provided an update on the Wake Transit Plan activities. At their June meetings, the CAMPO Executive Board and GoTriangle Board of Trustees approved and adopted the FY 2018 Wake Transit Work Plan, which funded a number of bus service span and frequency improvements, as well as a number of capital design and construction projects, across Wake County. The bus service span and frequency improvements for GoCary, GoRaleigh, and GoTriangle began on August 6th with a considerable positive response from the public. Mr. Martin provided a brief update on the status of the Wake County Transit Planning Advisory Committee (TPAC) studies and plans intended to inform future annual work plans, including:

- 1) Wake Transit Plan implementation public engagement strategy*
- 2) Wake Transit Plan implementation staffing model and expectations plan*
- 3) Multi-Year Bus Service Implementation Plan*
- 4) Community Funding Area Program Management Plan*
- 5) Fixed Guide way Transit Corridors Major Investment Study*

Mr. Martin noted that there have been several successes with the implementation of the FY 2018 Work Plan so far, particularly the service enhancements on weekends that were rolled out by all transit agencies in early August. The Sunday services on GoRaleigh routes have already seen a 72% increase in ridership. Mr. Martin also noted that the TPAC Administrator position had been created and filled by CAMPO, and he introduced Mr. Adam Howell, who is now in that position.

Further, Mr. Martin noted that the TPAC will begin development of the FY 2019 Wake Transit Work Plan in September, and work will continue throughout the fall, winter and spring to arrive at a recommended work plan for CAMPO's and GoTriangle's consideration in late spring of 2017. He indicated that the financial model has local revenue of \$98 million for FY 2019.

Received as information.**10. Informational Item: Budget****10.1 Member Shares - FY 2017**

Lisa Blackburn, MPO Staff

Requested Action: Receive as information.**Attachments:** [Member Dues Projection QTR 4 FY2017](#)

Attachment shows the Member's Share for FY 17. Total member share match for the FY 2017 is \$569,297.50, and as of 06-30-2017 the MPO has spent \$454,390.

Received as information.

10.2 **Operating Budget - FY 2017**
Lisa Blackburn, MPO Staff

Requested Action: Receive as information.

Attachments: [FY 17 PROJECTED Budget QTR 4](#)

The FY 2017 UPWP Operating Budget is \$3,041,488, and as of 06-30-2017 the MPO has spent \$2,285,948. More budget details were made available in the attachment.

Received as information.

11.0 Informational Item: Project Updates

11.1 **Project Updates**

Requested Action: Receive as information.

Attachments: [Project-Updates](#)

The attachment contained updates on the Hot Spot program, the Transit Systems Planning, the Regional Freight Plan Study, the John Rex Endowment Grant Award (Safe Routes to Schools), Non-Motorized Volume Data Collection Program, Triangle Tolling Study, NC 98 Corridor Study, and the Rolesville Main Street Corridor Study.

Received as information.

12. Informational Item: Staff Reports

MPO Director - Mr. Lukasina introduced new CAMPO staff members Bonnie Parker, Public Engagement Planner, and Adam Howell, TPAC Administrator. He also introduced attorneys Francis Rasberry and Jim Cauley with Cauley Pridgen Law Firm, indicating that these were the primary attorneys now under contract for CAMPO's legal services.

Mr. Lukasina reported that the MPO's Quadrennial Federal Certification Review was complete and the MPO received 6 commendations and one recommendation for additional network analysis on the MTP, which is underway. There were no corrective actions issued. Mr. Lukasina indicated this was a very good review from the federal government, and praised the staff for their good work in getting us to this point. Board Member Michael Grannis asked if this review is linked to funding. Mr. Lukasina said it was not directly linked to funding, but showing that the MPO does well with funds it is given can allow for additional funds to be allocated to the MPO if they become available. Further, if the MPO is not doing the things it is required to do, we could lose planning funds or become restricted in our activities.

Mr. Lukasina also noted that many of the MPO staff will be attending the National Association of MPO's conference in Savannah in October, and noted that this conflicts with the regular Board meeting date. Chairman Sears indicated the October Board meeting will be rescheduled to occur on Wednesday October 25, 2017. Mr. Lukasina agreed that the staff would send out a notice to the Board regarding this change.

TCC Chair - Mr. Ben Howell indicated he had no report.

NCDOT Transportation Planning Branch - absent

NCDOT Division 4 - Mr. Jimmy Eatmon indicated that the Division 4 Engineer has been promoted to be Chief Engineer, and the new Division 4 Engineer is Ronnie Keeter.

NCDOT Division 5 - Mr. Joey Hopkins updated the group on several projects. On I-40 from the beltline to NC 42, there will be an 11-mile interstate widening. A local officials meeting was held recently, and a public meeting will be held October 2. Division 4 is also working on the I-40/NC 42 interchange, and that will be let as one project with the widening. This will include taking the loop out of NC 42 onto westbound I-40, and a new interchange at Cleveland School Road will be built. Maps are online under project I-4739.

Mr. Hopkins also noted that the first ramp meters on I-540 are being turned on September 26. He explained how ramp meters work, and noted they will be in place on westbound ramps at Falls of Neuse, Leesville Road, Creedmoor Road and Six Forks Road. The NCDOT expects a 10 - 20% mobility increase and crash reductions.

Mr. Hopkins stated the last session's budget bill included a mobility fund for NCDOT, and that includes \$1.7 million for each division for low cost, high-impact mobility projects. An example would be in the Town of Cary at Harrison Avenue from downtown to eastbound I-40 a second lane on the ramp was added. Also in Knightdale, the 540 ramp improvements at the Knightdale Bypass were another example of the type of project that could be funded. Mr. Hopkins indicated that the Division staff is working on a qualitative method to evaluate potential projects, and that projects must be under contract in one year. Board Member Michael Grannis asked if local match could be used to supplement the funds. Mr. Hopkins indicated local match could be used, and that might be a part of the evaluation criteria.

NCDOT Division 6 - absent.

NCDOT Rail Division - absent.

NC Turnpike Authority - Mr. Keith Holliday indicated the Turnpike Authority would give a presentation to the Board at their October meeting with a project update on the Complete 540 project.

Executive Board Members - Chairman Sears congratulated the Town of Garner on their New Town Hall.

Received as information.

13. Adjournment

There being no further business, the Chair adjourned the meeting.

This was approved.