NC Capital Area Metropolitan Planning Organization Meeting Minutes - Final

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

Executive Board

Wednesday, November 16, 2022

4:00 PM

Conference Room

1. Welcome and Introductions

Alex Rickard conducted roll call.

Quorum was met.

Present: 15 - William Allen III, Scott Brame, Joe Geigle, Blake Massegill, Sig Hutchinson, Harold

Weinbrecht, Glenn York, Porter Casey, Montell Irvin, Shaun McGrath, Deans Eatman, Georgana Kicinski, Ben McDonald, TJ Cawley, and Ronnie Currin

Absent: 5 - Grady Hunt, Vice Chair Vivian Jones, RS "Butch" Lawter, Art Wright, and Mary-Ann

Baldwin

2. Adjustments to the Agenda

Item 7.6-Safety Performance Measures and Targets 2023 was added to the agenda.

3. Ethics Statement:

Chair Hutchinson read the ethics statement.

There were no conflicts.

4. Public Comments

Joanie Bowden requests that Executive Board and TCC members, CAMPO's stakeholder's over site team members serving in conjunction with the 401 Corridor Study, CAMPO's staff members and Town of Fuquay Officials contact NCDOT staff members and request, officially, that the span of the railroad bridge in Fuquay- Varina, which is over 401-N tobe increased to accommodate at least 6-8 lanes of traffic in conjunction with project U-5751 instead of at a later date and time.

Ms. Bowden stated that this will coincide with Angier's widening of 55 project and would be helpful down the road in conjunction with that.

There were no other public comments.

5. Consent Agenda

Will Allen motioned to approve the Consent Agenda.

Shaun McGrath seconded that motion.

Items on consent agenda approved by unanimous vote.

This item was approved by unanimous vote.

5.1 Minutes - Oct 19, 2022 Executive Board Meeting

Requested Action: Approve minutes

Attachments: October Minutes

5.2 Wake Transit Community Engagement Policy

Stephanie Plancich, CAMPO

Requested Action: Adopt the recommended Wake Transit Community Engagement Policy.

<u>Attachments:</u> Wake Transit Community Engagement Policy

Update DRAFT 102522

Staff Report

5.3 Wake Transit Work Plan Amendment Policy Update

Stephanie Plancich, CAMPO

Requested Action: Adopt the updated Wake Transit Work Plan Amendment Policy

Attachments: Staff Report

Updated Wake Transit Work Plan Amendment Policy

(Recommended)

5.4 Extension Agreement to the Memorandum of Understanding in Support

of the Continued Development of the Greater Triangle Commuter Rail

Project

Anna Stokes, MPO Staff

Requested Action: Approve the Extension Agreement to the Memorandum of Understanding in

Support of the Continued Development of the Greater Triangle Commuter Rail

Project

Attachments: Staff Report

GTCR Extension-to-GTCR-MOU

5.5 FY 2023, Q2 Wake Transit Work Plan Amendment Requests

Anna Stokes, MPO Staff

Requested Action: Approve the FY 2023, Q2 Wake Transit Work Plan amendment requests.

Attachments: Staff Report

FY 2023 - Q2 Amendment Requests

End of Consent Agenda

6. Public Hearing

6.1 Amendment #10 to FY2020-2029 Transportation Improvement Program

(TIP)

Alex Rickard, MPO Staff

Requested Action: Conduct a public hearing on Amendment #10. Approve Amendment #10 to the

FY2020-2029 Transportation Improvement Program.

Attachments: Staff Report

FY 20-29 TIP Amendment #10

Alex Rickard presented this item.

Mr. Rickard informed that the materials were included in the Agenda, and that this is the 2nd time that this item has been presented to the Board. He stated that this item has been posted for public comment and review as of October 17th through yesterday, November 15th.

Mr. Rickard stated that today's requested action today is to conduct a public hearing. As a reminder, Mr. Rickard stated that CAMPO processes Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendments every quarter, the DOT Board of Transportation amends the STIP every month and those projects are sent to CAMPO.

Mr. Rickard informed the Board that this amendment includes those STIP actions from July, August and September; The next amendment will be processed in January which would include all DOT edits for October, November and December.

This amendment includes a few changes to regional projects that require amending the TIP, project updates for Economic Development projects, CAMPO LAPP projects, and NC 540 Bonus Allocation projects.

Chair Hutchinson opened up the floor for any speakers.

There were none.

Public hearing was closed.

Will Allen motioned to approve this amendment. Shaun McGrath seconded that motion.

This item was added to slate vote.

This item was approved by unanimous vote.

End of Public Hearings

7. Regular Agenda

7.1 NCDOT Project I-5701 - Preferred Alternative

Brandon Jones, NCDOT

Requested Action: Recommend Executive Board endorse Option 2 - Request to Amend 2050

MTP.

Attachments: I-5701 CAMPO 110322-Presentation

Staff Report

Alex Rickard gave some background information on this item.

Mr. Rickard reminded the Board that every project in the TIP and STIP has to have a counterpart project in the MTP; The I-5701 project is to widen I-40 between the crossroads interchange at US-1/U64 to lake wheeler. The project in the MTP is known as F43 which is to widen I-40 from 6 lanes to 8 lanes and includes auxiliary lanes. The I-5701 STIP project has an alternative preferred design from the Department of Transportation that goes from 6-8 lanes but also include auxiliary lanes. In the MTP that is more like a 10 lane cross section.

Mr. Rickard informed the Board that the requested action today would be to consider an MTP amendment that would alter project F43 to permit this requested design from the Department of Transportation, because the current MTP project doesn't account for the additional auxiliary lanes.

Brandon Jones, NCDOT, stated that back in 2019, the decision was made to remove an option that did not have full auxiliary lanes from the project. The project that was shown to the public did include full auxiliary lanes. Mr. Jones informed the Board that I-5703 project, a companion project to improve the interchange at 440 and I-40, these two projects will be billed together in late 2025 design build. He stated that the interchange project, I-5703, was only developed considering full auxiliary lanes on the I-5701 section.

Mr. Jones stated that NCDOT is requesting modification of the MTP to show 10 lanes.

David Keilson presented slides which explained why full auxiliary lanes are better to have than to not. He summarized heat maps of build alternatives to emphasize congestion levels with and without auxiliary lanes. Mr. Keilson expressed that congestion is worse without auxiliary lanes. He also discussed consistency with other sections, history of MTP, SPOT and STIP as well as previous public meetings.

Mr. Keilson cited literature linking increased congestion with increased number of crashes. He cited literature linking congestion to poorer air quality. He stated that auxiliary lanes are needed for traffic operations. This will be consistent with nearby segments. Mr. Keilson stated that even with auxiliary lanes, capacity will be a challenge; Auxiliary lanes will also provide benefits for safety and air quality.

Alex Rickard informed the Board of the options for taking action on this item.

Mr. Rickard stated that option 1 is to agree to leave the project as is, doing nothing, which caps out at 4 lanes of travel. Option 2 is to request an amendment to the 2050 MTP.

Mr. Rickard informed the Board that an amendment to the 2050 MTP is already scheduled for this Spring, due to needing an MTP amendment in order to adopt the 2024-2033 TIP/STIP. Therefore the amendment could just be added to that one.

Option 3 is to table this item for now, and request additional information.

Chair Hutchinson opened the floor for questions and/or comments.

There were none.

Will Allen motioned to adopt option 2. Georgana Kicinski seconded that motion.

This item was added to the slate vote.

This item was approved by unanimous vote.

7.2 Preliminary DRAFT 2024-2033 TIP & U-5751 Status Update

Alex Rickard, MPO Staff

Brandon Jones, Division 5 Engineer

Jason Schronce, NCDOT Central STIP Manager

Requested Action: Receive as information

Attachments: Staff Report

Franklin County Letter
Franklin County Resolution

Alex Rickard presented this item.

Mr. Rickard stated that this is a regular update as part of the 2024-2033 STIP and also in response to the request and questions asked by Fuquay-Varina at the October Board meeting. He shared the questions that were asked by Fuquay-Varina, specifically related to the U-5751 project and how it would be programmed in the 2024-2033 TIP.

Mr. Rickard gave some background information providing the Board and briefly went over the geographical breakdown of North Carolina's regions and divisions. He explained that the STI legislation has 3 categories of funding, Statewide Mobility, Regional Impact and Division Needs.

Mr. Rickard stated that part of the reason for other projects being funded ahead of SPOT 3, is because many of these other projects are in these different categories that are not in the same competing bucket that SPOT 3 falls in. He then showed a slide to demonstrate how a the project development timeline play a major role in when the project can be funded. He clarified that regardless of priority, projects cannot be programmed for Right of Way (ROW) or Construction (CON) prior to completion of planning/environmental and design work. Mr. Rickard stated that a lower-scoring project that can be delivered soon may get scheduled prior to a higher-ranking project that still needs extensive work.

Mr. Rickard went over the process of programming the Draft 2024-2033 STIP. He stated that the intent with the seniority approach was to try to save as many SPOT 3 projects, in the committed window, as possible. Then move on to SPOT 4 and 5. That is not the approach that the STIP unit took. He stated that in the case of project U-5751, as a SPOT 3, they programmed it 1st, but because it had ROW in 2029, they did not look to accelerate that project, even if they could, they kept it on its current schedule of year 2029; Which is year 6, which is 1 year outside of that committed funding window.

Mr. Rickard stated that those two issues is how we ended up with projects programmed ahead of U-5751.

He then gave a brief overview of the history of U-5751 STIP using information pulled from the project's website.

Alex Rickard explained that all of the SPOT 5 projects for CAMPO that are currently in the Draft STIP are in different funding categories. He stated that for Fuquay-Varina there are no SPOT 5 projects that has jumped over the U-5751 project; For SPOT 4, however, that is mostly the case. Mr. Rickard continued, stating that there are 4 region C projects that are programmed ahead of U-5751.

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS:

1- SPOT 3 was developed in 2013-2024 and U-5751 is the only SPOT 3 project that does not have committed funding - Why?

Answer - Because the seniority approach did not look to accelerate projects. It simply programmed those SPOT 3 projects first but kept them on their original schedule.

2- SPOT 4 was developed in 2017 and SPOT 5 was approved by CAMPO Board in 2019. Why are there SPOT 4 and SPOT 5 projects that have committed funding ahead of U-5751, which is a SPOT 3 project and should be first in line?

Answer- Most of the SPOT 4 and SPOT 5 projects programmed prior to U-5751 are in different funding categories. The four projects in Region C funding are all programmed prior to U-5751 in the current 2020-2029 TIP/STIP.

3- What is the opportunity for doing STIP swaps to get this project into the committed funding list?

Answer- CAMPO Executive Board would have to select another Region C project of similar budget/cost (approx. \$100m) and target project schedule (ROW between 2025-2028). That project would be moved to 2029 and would recompete for funding in Prioritization 7.0 (SPOT 7)

4- Requests a presentation on status of U-5751 as the only SPOT 3 project that is unfunded and what the MPO can do to move it forward.

Answer- TCC MTP/TIP Subcommittee is reviewing possible swap scenerios with a target of a TCC recommendation for Executive Board in January 2023.

Chair Hutchinson opened the floor for questions and/or comments.

Jonathan Massengill expressed his desire to have options come back for swap opportunity.

Lewis Weatherspoon, Harnett County, asked is R5705C being looked at as a swap?

Alex Rickard answered no, he stated that this portion is not currently programmed in this 10 year STIP, and that at the moment it isn't something that can be programmed. He stated that it will be included automatically in SPOT 7.

7.3 Roadside Landscaping & Forestation Program

Chris Lukasina, CAMPO Staff

Requested Action: Receive as information

Attachments: Staff Report

Roadside Landscaping & Forestation Research Summary

Chris Lukasina, MPO Director, presented this item.

Mr. Lukasina stated that this is a follow up to June's presentation completed by Jeff Lackey of NCDOT. He stated that the draft 2024-2033 TIP has several major projects scheduled to be constructed over the next 10-12 years that will incluse landscaping improvements Roadside landscaping and forestation have garnered increasing interest in recent years.

Mr. Lukasina explained that after that presentation in June, a request to do further research into possible policy, programs and/or resolutions that the MPO could look into. He stated that this presentation is to fulfill this request.

Mr. Lukasina stated that CAMPO's research identified several examples of state DOT guidelines and policies for roadside re-vegetation. He stated that their research effort has not identified instances of MPO level or regional policies or guidelines. The research effort also identified several positive benefits of strong roadside vegetation and reforestation efforts including safety, economic, and health/environmental.

Mr. Lukasina stated that a summary of this research has been included in the agenda.

7.4 CAMPO Lead Planning Agency Agreement and Transition

Chris Lukasina, MPO staff

Requested Action: Approve the CAMPO LPA master agreement and authorize the CAMPO

Executive Board Chair to execute any necessary additional or supplementary

agreements to implement the LPA transition.

Attachments: Staff Report

Lead Planning Agency Agreement Draft

Chris Lukasina, MPO Director, presented this item.

Mr. Lukasina stated that the agreement includes an initial 3 year term with up to 10 renewal options. It governs LPA/host agency role and the initial methodology for determining CAMPO direct and indirect costs due to the host agency each year.

Mr. Lukasina informed the Board that the follow on steps would include approval of the LPA agreement by both CAMPO and the Town of Cary and continuation of transitional activities.

Chair Hutchinson opened the floor for questions.

There were none.

Georgana Kicinski motioned to approve this item. Harold Weinbrecht seconded that motion.

This item was added to the slate vote.

This item was approved by unanimous vote.

7.5 Wake Bus Plan Project Prioritization Policy

Anna Stokes, MPO Staff

Requested Action: Receive as information.

Attachments: Staff Report

Draft Bus Plan Prioritization Memo

Anna Stokes, CAMPO, presented this item.

Ms. Stokes stated that the original Project Prioritization Policy (PPP) was created in 2018 for the 1st Wake Bus Plan and then re-ran in 2020 for the Wake Transit Plan Vision Update. She briefly discussed the key challenges with the 2018 adopted policy.

Ms. Stokes provided a snapshot of the overall Wake Transit Plan Prioritization context as it is detailed on the project prioritization and reprogramming guidance memo of the Wake Transit Plan.

She stated that the policy that is being updated today only applies to bus service expansion projects, which is the last of the 8 tiers in the adopted transit plan guidance.

Ms. Stokes informed the Board that the purpose of the Wake Bus Plan Project Prioritization Policy is to be a decision making framework that provides transparent and easily understandable process for making choices between competing investment needs.

She noted the difference between prioritization and programming stating that the prioritization is guided by the project prioritization policy, and ranks projects in order based on agreed upon criteria in the policy, but does not consider available funds or timing. Programming is funding constrained.

Ms. Stokes stated that not all projects go through prioritization. She briefly goes over the old adopted methodology from 2018 and updates in which have been added into the new proposed methodology.

Ms. Stokes informed the Board that comments are requested to be emailed to her by 11/23/2022, the public review and comment period is online from 11/9/2022 through 11/23/2022 and that the PPP is anticipated to come to the CAMPO and the GoTriangle Boards for action in January 2023.

Chair Hutchinson opened the floor for questions.

There were none.

7.6 Safety Performance Measures and Targets 2023

Alex Rickard, MPO Staff

Brian Murphy, NCDOT Safety Unit

Requested Action: Receive as Information.

Alex Rickard, CAMPO, reminded the Board that this presentation is annual, and that every year there is a safety performance measures.

Mr. Rickard informed the Board that the two options are either to develop our own safety targets or to endorse those developed by the Department of Transportation.

Brian Murphy, NCDOT, presented this item discussing updates on data collected at state level and the targets for the state. Mr. Murphy briefly discussed the North Carolina's Strategic Highway Safety Plan in which he explained sets the stage for how the state wants to tackle highway safety. He also informed the Board that this plan is updated at the state level every 5 years. Mr. Murphy informed the Board that the goal of this plan is to reduce all fatalities and serious injuries by half by 2035, moving towards 0 by 2050. Mr. Murphy presented a slide on the traffic safety fatality numbers which showed a trend of increased fatalities from 2011 onto 2019. He stated that the numbers of fatalities severely increased during the pandemic.

Mr. Murphy informed the Board that in 2021, we experienced the highest level of fatalities we had in North Carolina since the early 1970's. In 2022, numbers have showed a trend of going back down. Mr. Murphy presented slides which demonstrated trends of behaviors which plays a role in fatalities and safety in the area.

Mr. Murphy discussed the Safety Performance Measures in which CAMPO goes through annually. He stated that this is required by federal legislation . He discussed the goals and targets that will be implemented to help meet the targets and goals set for 2025. Mr. Murphy informed the Board that based on FHWA's review, North Carolina has not met or made significant progress towards achieving its safety performance targets.

Mr. Murphy opened the floor for questions and/or comments.

Will Allen asked was it possible to track crashes at protected and unprotected railroad crossings?

Brian Murphy responded stating that yes, if it involves a motor vehicle they are tracked and considered by DOV.

Shaun McGrath asked how do we correlate funds with reductions and how do we apply our funding.

Brian Murphy responded stating that there is a lot of good information out there that he is more than willing to share.

Mr. Rickard informed the Board that at the next meeting, there will be an agenda item presented to provide some recommendation from staff of some future planning efforts that may be used to better address the presented safety concerns.

8. Informational Item: Budget

This was received as information.

8.1

Requested Action: Receive as information.

Attachments: 2023 Operating Budget Projection Q1

This Informational Report was received as information.

8.2 Member Shares FY 2023

Lisa Blackburn, MPO Staff

Requested Action: Receive as Information

Attachments: 2023 Member Dues Projection Q1

This Informational Report was received as information.

9. Informational Item: Project Updates

This was received as information.

9.1 Project Updates - November 2022

Requested Action: Receive as information.

<u>Attachments:</u> November Project Updates

9.2 Public Engagement Updates

Bonnie Parker, MPO Staff

Requested Action: Receive as information.

Attachments: Exec Board Public Engagement Updates December 2021

10. Informational Item: Staff Reports

MPO Director:

Chris Lukasina stated that the US 401 Corridor Study and the BRT Extensions Study are undergoing public outreach and engagement now though the middle of December. He encouraged members to get the word out.

The Wake Transit Work Plan and the Wake Transit Bus Plan Update public engagement will begin in January. He also informed the Board that the 2023 statewide MPO conference call for sessions is anticipated in December which would be held in April in Greenville, NC. He updated the Board that CAMPO is scheduled to move out of the Raleigh location on December 10th and will be working remotely until the official move in to the new office located in Cary. Mr. Lukasina stated that they do not have a set date for move in, but anticipates it being at the end of December.

Chair Hutchinson stated that December Executive Board meeting will be cancelled.

TCC Chair:

Ben Howell stated that December TCC meeting will be cancelled and will be meetring as the MTP/TIP subcommittee instead.

NCDOT Division 6:

Darius Sturdivant informed the TCC that a \$61M contract was rewarded last week to start construction on the NC 55 project in Wake and Harnett counties. Construction is scheduled to start in the Spring and is expected to finish in 2026. Construction on the A-section from South of Angier to NC 210 is scheduled for March of 2023.

NC Turnpike Authority:

Dennis Jernigan stated that to kick off that procurement, an industry forum was held on November 14th. A DVE contractor work session in the morning, and several networking opportunity will be provided through out the day with an information session for contractors in the afternoon. They also anticipate putting out their request for qualification immediately there after that same week. On Tuesday, November 15th, they advertised the 1st of the 2 projects to finish the 540 loop.

11. Adjournment

Upcoming Meetings/Events

Capital Area MPO TAC Meeting
One Bank of America Plaza
421 Fayetteville Street, Suite 203
Raleigh, NC 27601

January 5, 2023 4:00 - 6:00

Capital Area MPO TCC Meeting One Bank of America Plaza 421 Fayetteville Street, Suite 203 Raleigh, NC 27601 January 18, 2023 10:00 - noon