



TECHNICAL COORDINATING COMMITTEE
Minutes of April 23, 2014
10:30 a.m., Greensboro, NC
3rd Floor GDOT Conference Room
Melvin Municipal Office Building

ATTENDANCE

Lydia McIntyre	<i>GDOT/MPO</i>	Bill Bruce	<i>Guilford County</i>
Craig McKinney	<i>GDOT/MPO</i>	Wayne Davis	<i>NCDOT-TPB</i>
Daniel Amstutz	<i>GDOT/MPO</i>	Mike Mills	<i>NCDOT/ Div. 7</i>
Tram Truong	<i>GDOT/MPO</i>	Michael Abuya	<i>TPB</i>
Adam Fischer	<i>GDOT</i>	Hanna Cockburn	<i>Planning</i>
Chris Spencer	<i>GDOT</i>	J.D. Stewart	<i>PART</i>

Lydia McIntyre called the meeting to order at 10:33 am.

1. Minutes of February 26, 2014

Chris Spencer moved to approve the minutes of the February 26, 2014 meeting. Mike Mills seconded the motion. The TCC voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the February 26, 2014 meeting.

2. Bike Month Resolution

Daniel Amstutz presented the Bike Month resolution to declare May as Bike Month and further declare May 12-16, 2014 as Bike-to-Work Week. MPO staff has created a calendar of Bike Month community events and it will be available on the City website. Members of City Council and the TAC have been invited to participate in the Ride with the City event to kick off Bike-to-Work Week on May 12th. New events offered this year are Commuter Convoys where experienced cyclists will lead novice riders on daily commutes on the Atlantic & Yadkin Greenway and from UNCG to downtown. The Ride of Silence will be on May 21st and a public meeting for the BiPed Meeting will be held on May 22nd. The meeting will include a presentation on progress since the adoption of the original BiPed Plan and will be an opportunity for comments and feedback from the public on progress of the BiPed Update.

Bill Bruce moved to recommend the Bike Month to the TAC for approval. Chris Spencer seconded the motion. The TCC voted unanimously to recommend the Bike Month Resolution to the TAC for approval.

3. MPO Self Certification

Lydia McIntyre presented the annual MPO Self-certification confirms MPO compliance with federal regulations and is required to adopt the UPWP.

Planning for the transportation future

Mike Mills moved to recommend the MPO Self-certification to the TAC for approval. Bill Bruce seconded the motion. The TCC voted unanimously to recommend the MPO Self-certification to the TAC for approval.

4. FY 2014-2015 UPWP

Lydia McIntyre presented the Unified Planning Work Program Final Draft for allocating federal funds. The document outlines anticipated work activities and tasks for the MPO over the next year. The UPWP specifies how Federal Highway Planning funds and \$170,000 of FTA Transit Planning funds are to be used. Work highlights include completing the BiPed Plan Update, amending the LRTP to accommodate project changes, developing planning performance measures for MAP-21 compliance, and conducting feasibility studies to support development needs. Meyer noted the UPWP includes collective work with regional partners for incorporating a freight model component to the Travel Demand Model. Priority work initiatives are outlined in the final UPWP document along with task descriptions.

Chris Spencer inquired if Traffic Volume Counts would include counting programs for bicycle and pedestrian counts. McIntyre confirmed that Traffic Volume counts would include bicycle and pedestrian counts.

Chris Spencer moved to recommend the UPWP Adoption to the TAC for approval. Hanna Cockburn seconded the motion. The TCC voted unanimously to recommend the UPWP Adoption to the TAC for approval.

5. 2012-2018 MTIP Administrative Modification: W-5305 Groometown Rd

Lydia McIntyre presented an MTIP Administrative Modification requested by NCDOT to shift construction funding from FY 2014 to FY 2015 to accommodate additional time for design, right of way acquisition, and utility work. Craig McKinney noted that the budget amounts would not change and only needed to be shifted to allow extra time for design.

Bill Bruce inquired why the budget needed to be shifted. Mike Mills noted that the timeline had been extended due to unexpected improvements requiring additional public meetings to address right-of-way acquisition and the project would be expected to be announced for bids by September 2014.

Bill Bruce moved to recommend the MTIP Administrative Modification to the TAC for endorsement. Mike Mills seconded the motion. The TCC voted unanimously to recommend the MTIP Administrative Modification for W-5305 Groometown Rd to the TAC for endorsement.

6. Transit MTIP Administrative Modifications: Sections 5303, 5310, 5339 and 5307

Lydia McIntyre presented an Administrative Modification to adjust funding amounts per final 2014 appropriations numbers for the following transit formula programs: Section 5303, Metropolitan Planning funds; Section 5310, Enhanced Mobility for Seniors and Individuals With Disabilities funds; Section 5339, Bus and Bus Facilities funds; and Section 5307, Urbanized Area Formula funds. The modifications reflect a slightly higher balance for each of the funding sources.

Chris Spencer moved to recommend the Transit MTIP Administrative Modifications to the TAC for approval. Hanna Cockburn seconded the motion. The TCC voted unanimously to recommend the Transit MTIP Administrative Modifications: Sections 5303, 5310 and 5339 to the TAC for approval.

7. MPO Project Ranking Methodology

Lydia McIntyre presented the draft for MPO Project Ranking Methodology as part of NCDOT's Prioritization 3.0 requirements. The presentation focused on the methodology for assignment of local points and incorporation of public involvement. The assignment of local points involves six weighted factors and the largest of the six weights will be based on the project's relative performance in NCDOT's quantitative scoring process. A project matrix evaluation has been designed to consider how each project performs based on the impact of each factor. One-tier step down is recommended for shifting project funding levels from state to regional and regional to divisional. State projects should not cascade down to divisional because their

funding could overwhelm the needs of the divisional projects. The methodology can be adapted after implementation if it does not appear to demonstrate sensitivity to actual MPO project preferences as long as the changes are shared with the public for input and feedback.

There were eight comments received during the required 30-day period of public review and the major focus of six survey responses was on alternative modes, intersection improvements to enhance safety, and support for expansion of public transportation. One citizen commented they did not support the airport connector.

Chris Spencer inquired when the proposed point assignments will be presented. McIntyre noted that due to the delay the date for the local point assignment was unknown but the point assignment and proposed methodology will be under review for at least one month before submitting the final local point assignment to NCDOT. Mike Mills noted that Division 7 would also be responsible for assigning points and their methodology had not been finalized but there would be a meeting with the MPO staff to discuss those decisions before point assignment. The MPO has 1700 points, while Division 7 has 2500 points to be divided over five counties.

Bill Bruce requested clarification on how the qualitative aspect will be incorporated into the methodology. McIntyre noted that originally local input was intended to be a qualitative measure but NCDOT had requested a more quantifiable approach. Cockburn indicated a preference for more qualitative factors. McIntyre noted factors three and four as the most qualitative variables for incorporating local input. Bruce further clarified that the action today is only to approve the draft Methodology for assigning the points and there will be an opportunity for members of the MPO meetings and the general public to evaluate the results of the process before final assignment is submitted to NCDOT. Mills noted that Division 7 would assign their points based on the performance of different factors but MPO support would play a significant role.

Mills noted FY13-14 intersection improvement projects were submitted in the Division Tier and are solid projects. Mills and McIntyre noted NC 68 had scored well in Prioritization 2.0 and has scored well under Prioritization 3.0. But McIntyre noted the project score may change before final scores are released. Fischer noted almost \$1 billion in projects were committed in the previous FY 2012-2018 STIP.

Mike Mills moved to recommend the MPO Project Ranking Methodology to the TAC for approval. Adam Fischer seconded the motion. The TCC voted unanimously to recommend the MPO Project Ranking Methodology to the TAC for approval.

Business Items

1. STP-DA & CMAQ Funding for Transit – DEFERRED

Action on this item needs to be deferred until May pending (1) resolution of discussions with NCDOT to ensure STP-DA and CMAQ availability and cash flow; and (2) the next steps of the current GTA service provider contract selection and information on its service cost implications.

2. Prioritization 3.0 Update

Lydia McIntyre provided information about NCDOT's initial quantitative scores and state ranking for existing highway projects only. The scores are a draft and the rankings do not reflect new highway projects and all other non-highway projects. The rankings will change after those projects are included. The MPO submitted 99 projects and more than 3,000 were submitted to NCDOT statewide. McIntyre noted that the Battleground Avenue U-5306B Intersection Improvements at Westridge was submitted as a regional project but is currently listed as a divisional project. It is expected that it will be moved to the regional tier based on its placement on the regional tier in the past. The project selection process is expected to be very competitive and it will be important to use local point assignments to support highly ranked projects. McIntyre recommended cancelling a proposed additional meeting on May 7th that was intended for review of the project scoring due to NCDOT extending the deadline for the release of the remaining project scores until

May 14th. The scores will be reviewed during an additional meeting on June 11th that will also include discussion of the TIP funded statewide projects expected to be announced on May 14th or June 1st. Due to the delay in the remaining NCDOT project scores the proposed timeline for the Prioritization 3.0 Process update has been extended by one month.

3. Draft Priority Needs List

Lydia McIntyre presented the Priority Needs List as a clear statement of key priorities and as an input tool for the MPO's decision making on priority point assignments. McIntyre noted that the rail improvement priorities included both projects that had already been submitted for prioritization and a request for a grade-separation study that is required for the Hilltop project before it can be submitted. The Bicycle & Pedestrian Priorities are the top six sidewalk projects identified in a MPO staff analysis that replicated the methodology used by NCDOT. Bruce inquired if the items listed order indicated their rank or if they were given equal weight by being present on the Priority Needs list. McIntyre noted that the projects were not listed in a ranking order.

4. BiPed Update

Dan Amstutz provided information on progress towards completing and implementing the BiPed Plan Update. The Watch for Me NC application was submitted on April 17th and included partnerships with GPD and Campus Police at UNCG and NCA&T. A decision is expected from NCDOT by mid to late May. The most recent BiPed meeting was on April 16th and included recommendations for bicycle infrastructure improvements in the city and county. A public meeting for the BiPed Plan Update will be held on May 22nd at Action Greensboro. The meeting will include a presentation on progress since the adoption BiPed Plan and invite comments and feedback from the public for the BiPed Plan Update. The BiPed Plan Update is expected to be completed by the fall. The Update will incorporate information from extensive analysis, public outreach, and opportunities to enhance BiPed and related issues, including the Watch for Me NC campaign and new Bicycle and Pedestrian Counting program.

5. Coordinated Plan

Tram Truong presented an update on the new Coordinated Plan. From 2008 -2012 funding under the Coordinated Plan was distributed based on a competitive selection process. Governmental agencies and nonprofits were eligible to apply. In 2013, as a result of MAP-21, the competitive selection process was no longer required and Section 5316 and Section 5317 funds were repealed. Instead Section 5310 funds were provided for allocation to area projects by the MPO. Given the reasons that (1) the non-profit organizations did not submit any projects in 2011 and 2012, (2) the MPO received comments from public in support of GTA SCAT, (3) GTA and TAMS faced budget constraints, and (4) GTA and TAMS served a large and diverse share of riders with a variety of services, MPO staff recommended and the TAC determined to limit the eligibility for the 5310 funds in 2013 to GTA SCAT and TAMS.

Fischer inquired if the outside agencies had endorsed the direction of funds to GTA in 2013. McIntyre clarified that the private agencies had the opportunity to apply for funding in 2008 and 2011 but not for the update in 2013 and the comments in support for distributing funds to GTA came from citizens.

In response to public input, the 2014 update will to include non-profit organizations and distribute Section 5310 funds based on a competitive selection process. The update will also allocate lapsing funds from Section 5316 JARC.

Fischer inquired about the amount of the funds in the Coordinated Plan and Truong noted the amount for 5316 funds is a statewide amount so a value for this area is currently unknown and Amstutz noted the amount for Section 5310 was \$236,000.

A public workshop was held on April 10, 2014 with 13 attendees and the MPO received eight responses in the workshop and by email. Public responses noted support for funding GTA SCAT, Guilford County TAMS as well as non-profit organization services. Responses also included (1) a request that the MPO staff provide necessary assistance if requested to non-profits in completing funding applications; and (2) support

for providing sidewalks connected to bus stops; and (3) the hope that this revision will last for several years rather than be updated on an annual basis.

A call for Section 5310 project proposals for inclusion in the public plan will be held from May 7 - June 6, at the same time as the public review period for the Coordinated Plan revisions. The final draft will be completed after June 7. The Coordinated Plan update will be adopted and projects will be selected during the MPO meeting in June.

Fischer inquired if the ranking/recommendations of projects included the staff of the Winston-Salem MPO. Truong responded that last time there were 3 or 4 people from the Winston-Salem MPO who ranked the projects individually, along with the Greensboro MPO staff. The final result was an average of all individual scores. Staff from Winston-Salem MPO will be ranking it besides local people from Greensboro MPO and Planning. McIntyre inquired about a factor in the Coordinated Plan about service duplication. Truong noted that one of the requirements of the Coordinated Plan is to eliminate or reduce duplication of services and non-profit organizations that clearly duplicate the services of SCAT or TAMS will not be eligible for funding.

6. Project Updates

Craig McKinney presented on two project updates:

U-5532 A Aycock Street & Walker Avenue Project: The public meeting for the U-5532 A Aycock Street & Walker Avenue Project had high levels of public participation and support. There were over 70 individuals, including Dr. Schulz's class. All of the comments reviewed thus far have been positive and included requests to consider new pedestrian signal strategies for left turns as part of the project.

McIntyre noted that this project was moving quickly after being identified for TAP funding. McKinney noted that they are still working on the design contract for a turnkey process. Abuya inquired when the contract was expected to be submitted to NCDOT for approval. McKinney noted he expected to have a completed contract within two months.

U-2525 B Eastern Urban Loop Project: Bids will open on June 17th for the U-2525 B Eastern Urban Loop project. The original date, May 20th, was delayed in order to address concerns regarding the design of the proposed bridges in the project that would cross railroad tracks. Mills noted the railroad had requested a longer and wider bridge to ensure that trains would have the right of way but NCDOT was unable to accommodate the request.

7. Strategic Reports:

Lydia McIntyre noted the MPO conference will be from May 14-16 and Prioritization scores would be available on the 15th. The MPO successfully worked with PART to receive a grant of \$150,000 to incorporate freight into the Transportation Demand Model.

Other Items

1. NCDOT Update

Mike Mills reviewed the Active Projects report and noted costs for Project I-5110 and R-2413A would most likely be adjusted. Project 44165 was approved by the board last month and work is expected to begin this week on a temporary signal and lane on Leabourne Road.

Chris Spencer inquired if NCDOT had a list of resurfacing projects for BiPed recommendations. Mills noted that a list was supposed to be going out to MPO staff and BiPed county coordinators for comments. The list will be of proposed resurfacing projects with the possibility of a two foot widening to accommodate an additional shoulder. McIntyre clarified the request for two lists: one of proposed resurfacing projects that could be sent to Amstutz for consideration and to have a list of current resurfacing projects with a let date to be included on Active Projects in the future. Stanley Buff will provide the list to Donnie Huffines and he will attach it to the Active Projects. Mills noted that the projects are mapped but the maps can be difficult to

interpret.

2. TCC Member Updates

3. Wrap-Up

The next TCC meeting will take place on May 28th at 10:30 am in the 3rd Floor GDOT Conference Room.

The meeting was adjourned by Lydia McIntyre at 12:02 pm.