



**TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE**  
**Minutes of August 24, 2016**  
**2:00 p.m., Greensboro, NC**  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Greensboro Council Chambers**  
**Melvin Municipal Office Building**

**ATTENDANCE**

Marikay Abuzuaiter	<i>TAC Chair</i>	Adam Fischer	<i>GDOT</i>
Jeff Phillips	<i>TAC Member, Guilford County</i>	Tyler Meyer	<i>GDOT/MPO</i>
Dena Barnes	<i>TAC Member, Town of Summerfield</i>	Tram Truong	<i>GDOT/MPO</i>
Carey Baw	<i>AECOM</i>	Dan Amstutz	<i>GDOT/MPO</i>
Alex Rosser	<i>PTAA</i>	Lydia McIntyre	<i>GDOT/MPO</i>
Kyle Laird	<i>PART</i>	Craig McKinney	<i>GDOT/MPO</i>
Kista Mansell	<i>Transit Alliance of the Piedmont</i>	Pat Wilson	<i>NCDOT Division 7</i>
David Hampsten	<i>Bicycling in Greensboro</i>	Joe Geigle	<i>FHWA</i>

*Marikay Abuzuaiter called the meeting to order at 2:10 pm.*

*The MPO meeting started without a quorum of TAC members. Abuzuaiter began the meeting with agenda items that would not require a quorum to complete.*

**Action Items**

**3. Reports, Concerns, and Discussion from MPO Area Towns**

*There were none.*

**4. Public Comments**

David Hampsten, volunteer with Bicycling in Greensboro, thanked staff for referring in the July 27 MPO meeting minutes to the letter sent by BIG that commented on the project assignment of local points for the Prioritization 4.0 process, but requested that a few other statements in the letter be added to the minutes. Specifically, they noted that funding for pedestrian and bicycle facilities should be linked to crash fatality statistics, since pedestrians account for 20% of the crash fatalities on state and local roadways; more bicycle and pedestrian projects should be integrated with state roadway projects; and they called out the Friendly Avenue roadway project between Green Valley and Lindell Road as needing to be redesigned to better accommodate cyclists and pedestrians, particularly those connecting from the Lake Daniel Greenway to the

**Planning for the transportation future**

Arboretum and Friendly Center.

Marikay Abuzuaiter asked staff to make corrections to the July 27 meeting minutes. Tyler Meyer noted that this would be done. Meyer also noted that bicycle and pedestrian improvements made via a roadway project funded by NCDOT would not be included in the 10% funding ceiling for non-highway projects in Prioritization 4.0. They are integrated into the roadway project. Hampsten said that the state should still be spending more transportation funds on local projects and taking more local concerns about bicycle and pedestrian issues into account because less transportation funding is coming directly from user fees such as the gas tax, and is being supplemented by other local taxes.

*Abuzuaiter said she had learned that there would not be enough TAC members present to establish a quorum for the meeting. Tyler Meyer noted that certain agenda items were of a time-sensitive nature and that the TAC Bylaws established a written balloting procedure that could be utilized in this situation. TAC members at the meeting can signal their intention to vote on an agenda item, but the votes will not be official until the ballots are signed. The signed ballots must be made available for public inspection in the GDOT offices until the minutes for the August meeting are approved. The TAC determined to continue with the meeting and hear presentations on the time-sensitive action items and business items.*

*Abuzuaiter continued the meeting from the beginning of the TAC agenda.*

#### **1. Conflict of Interest Policy Statement**

Marikay Abuzuaiter read the Conflict of Interest Policy Statement required by the State Ethics Act. The policy statement states that it is the responsibility of each committee member to avoid conflicts of interest and if there are any, to present them before the committee at the beginning of the TAC meeting. There were no conflicts of interest identified before the Committee.

#### **2. Approve Minutes of July 27, 2016**

Jeff Phillips stated his intent to move approval of the minutes of the July 27, 2016 meeting via the TAC balloting procedure. Marikay Abuzuaiter stated her intent to second the motion via the balloting procedure. The TAC members present concurred with proceeding to seek approval via the balloting procedure. *This item was approved by written ballot on September 1, 2016.*

#### **5. FY 2016 Program of Projects Adoption**

Daniel Amstutz noted that he will present on this agenda item, followed by a public hearing for any members of the public to make comments, and the approval of the item will be determined through the balloting procedure. Amstutz presented on the FY 2016 Program of Projects:

- The Program of Projects is a list of proposed Federal Transit Administration grant requests to support bus and paratransit services for FY 2016 – these are grants GTA will be applying for.
- These projects are also identified in the MTIP and UPWP.
- The review process provides an additional opportunity for the public to learn about and comment on planned transit grants.
- In the past the POP was developed by GTA; the MPO will now fill that role, because the MPO is responsible for the MTIP and UPWP, and there are multiple recipients of transit grants in the MPO area (Guilford County TAMS and PART).
- A 30 day public comment period and public hearing are required; the public hearing will take place at the TAC meeting later in the day.
- The document includes the following anticipated FTA formula grants:
  - 5303 Metropolitan Planning
  - 5307 Urbanized Formula
  - 5310 Enhanced Mobility of Seniors & Individuals with Disabilities

- 5339 Bus and Bus Facilities
- The document includes FY 2016 and FY 2015 funding allocations because FY 2015 funds have not been disbursed.
- Other transit grants include:
  - State Maintenance Assistance Program (SMAP)
  - CMAQ funds flexed to transit
- The public comment period ran from July 22-August 22; it included advertisements in three papers, a press release, announcement posters in the City recreation centers and GTA and PART buses, emails to MPO distribution lists, and social media.
- During the public review period, one comment was received:
  - A request from Affordable Housing Management for bus service for multi-family housing development at 4452 Old Randleman Road. They had already made this request to GTA, and the MPO noted that GTA will need to study this to determine its feasibility, and cannot add it to the Program of Projects at this time.
- Marikay Abuzuaiter opened the meeting to the audience for anyone to make a public comment on the Program of Projects. There were no speakers for the public hearing.
- Abuzuaiter inquired if future updates to the Program of Projects could include public involvement partnered with other efforts and on the same timeline, such as with the Prioritization meetings Division 7 hosted. Tyler Meyer noted that staff will look for opportunities to partner with organizations on their public involvement next year, and it is expected that the Program of Projects will be developed earlier in the year as well.

Dena Barnes stated her intent to move adoption of the FY 2016 Program of Projects via the TAC balloting procedure. Jeff Phillips stated his intent to second the motion via the balloting procedure. The TAC members present concurred with proceeding to seek approval via the balloting procedure. *This item was approved by written ballot on September 1, 2016.*

**6. FY 2016-2025 MTIP Amendment: NC Clean Energy Tech Center - C-5702 B & C**

*This agenda item was deferred to the September MPO meeting.*

**7. FY 2016-2025 MTIP Amendment: Various Bridge Inspections**

*This agenda item was deferred to the September MPO meeting.*

**8. FY 2016-2025 MTIP Amendment: Division 7 Transportation Alternatives Program – R-5787**

Tyler Meyer presented on the MTIP Amendment:

- The Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) is a federal funding program that is mainly used for pedestrian and bicycle improvements.
- TAP funding is directed to projects around the state by NCDOT through the Prioritization process; TAP-DA is directed by the MPO to projects in the MPO area.
- NCDOT has identified \$7.5 million in NCDOT-directed TAP funding from FY 2013 that will lapse if not obligated by the end of FY 2016, September 30.
- In order to obligate these funds by the deadline, NCDOT proposes to use the funds to install ADA compliant wheelchair ramps at various state-system intersections; letters were sent to the MPO and municipalities with a list of eligible intersections with non-compliant ramps to confirm their interest in being considered for these funds.
- The City of Greensboro submitted 12 locations to compete for these funds; NCDOT must run the locations through a competitive process as required for the TAP program.
- Adding R-5787 will enable all submitted MPO-area projects to be eligible to compete for the funds.
- \$340,000 will be added to the MTIP for implementing these TAP projects in the MPO area; however, NCDOT Division 7 expects to spend more than this amount in the MPO area.

- Marikay Abuzuaiter inquired if any of the MPO towns submitted locations for consideration for the TAP funding. Meyer noted that one curb ramp location was identified in Stokesdale, but it is not known if they submitted a request to NCDOT for consideration.

Jeff Phillips stated his intent to move approval the FY 2016-2025 MTIP Amendment: Division 7 Transportation Alternatives Program – R-5787 via the TAC balloting procedure. Dena Barnes stated her intent to second the motion via the balloting procedure. The TAC members present concurred with proceeding to seek approval via the balloting procedure. *This item was approved by written ballot on September 1, 2016.*

## **Business Items**

### **1. Division Engineer Updates**

- Pat Wilson, Division Project Delivery Engineer, noted that the Urban Loop projects are still on schedule or ahead of schedule. NCDOT has released the draft funded Regional Needs projects for the FY 2018-2027 STIP. Lydia McIntyre noted that the projects selected for funding in the Greensboro MPO include a grade separation at Franklin Boulevard in Greensboro; extension of the Pomona Yard auxiliary track; and the purchase of five bi-level passenger train cars for Piedmont service between Raleigh and Charlotte. McIntyre added that in our funding region, which includes Divisions 7 & 9, the regional funding pot for roadways was eaten up by just a handful of well-scoring but expensive major roadway projects including the Winston-Salem beltway project. We may see a similar situation in the next funding cycle as well. The silver lining is that much of the MPO's most needed regional roadway projects were picked up for funding under P3.0 and the subsequent HB 97 legislation, under which additional funding was added to projects on the P3.0 funding list, and so are already provided for.
- Jeff Phillips inquired about the timeline for installation of a traffic signal on Flemingfield Road and noted that the signal is needed because school will be in session very soon. Wilson noted that he will get that information and email Phillips about the timeline.

### **2. Project Updates**

- Tyler Meyer explained that the MPO Project Report for locally administered federal funded projects has been updated, with data corrected, costs added, estimated start and end dates, and other changes as necessary. Estimated start dates are subject to change. Staff will make additions and changes as requested by TAC members.

### **3. Strategic Reports**

- Tyler Meyer noted that the September MPO meeting will be necessary. The MPO must next submit point assignments for the Division Needs projects for P4.0, and approval of the point assignments will be requested.

## **Other Items**

### **1. Board Member Update**

*There was no update as the board member was not present at the meeting.*

### **2. Regional Updates**

*There were none.*

### **3. Wrap-Up**

*The meeting was adjourned by Marikay Abuzuaiter at 2:39 pm.*