



TECHNICAL COORDINATING COMMITTEE
Minutes of September 28, 2016
10:30 a.m., Greensboro, NC
3rd Floor GDOT Conference Room
Melvin Municipal Office Building

ATTENDANCE

Tyler Meyer	<i>GDOT/MPO</i>	Mike Mills	<i>NCDOT Division 7</i>
Lydia McIntyre	<i>GDOT/MPO</i>	Michael Abuya (<i>by phone</i>)	<i>NCDOT/TPB</i>
Tram Truong	<i>GDOT/MPO</i>	Joe Geigle	<i>FHWA</i>
Craig McKinney	<i>GDOT/MPO</i>	Carrie Spencer	<i>Town of Summerfield</i>
Ted Kallam	<i>GSO Engineering & Inspections</i>	George Linney	<i>GTA</i>
Hanna Cockburn	<i>GSO Planning Department</i>	Kelly Larkins	<i>PTRPO/PTRC</i>
Kyle Laird	<i>PART</i>	Carey Barr	<i>AECOM</i>
Rich Denbow	<i>Cambridge Systematics</i>	David Hampsten	<i>Bicycling in Greensboro</i>

Tyler Meyer called the meeting to order at 10:36 am.

1. Approve Minutes of August 24, 2016

Michael Abuya moved to approve the minutes of the August 24, 2016 meeting. Hanna Cockburn seconded the motion. The TCC voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the August 24, 2016 meeting.

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

Tyler Meyer noted that although the TCC approved this item and the following item at the August meeting, the TAC postponed adopting them. For the sake of simplicity, he presented on both MTIP Amendments again and asked for TCC approval:

- CMAQ funding is for transportation projects that improve air quality.
- NCDOT allocates 35% of the NC CMAQ allocation to Statewide Projects.
- The MTIP was previously amended in July to include C-5702 & C-5702 A and allocate CMAQ funding to the NC Clean Energy Technology Center in FY 2017 & 2018.
- This action incorporates additional funding for grants to eligible subrecipients under C-5702 B & C.
- \$1.5 million will be allocated to both C-5702 B in FY 2017 and C-5702 C in FY 2018.
- Amending MTIP will enable eligible MPO area entities to compete for these grants.
- NCDOT plans to amend the STIP in October 2016.

Planning for the transportation future

- Hanna Cockburn asked when the call for projects may occur. Meyer said he expects it to be soon based on communication he has received and considering the imminent changeover to FY 2017.

Kelly Larkins moved to recommend the FY 2016-2025 MTIP Amendment: NC Clean Energy Tech Center - C-5702 B & C to the TAC for approval. Kyle Laird seconded the motion. The TCC voted unanimously to recommend the FY 2016-2025 MTIP Amendment: NC Clean Energy Tech Center - C-5702 B & C to the TAC for approval.

3. FY 2016-2025 MTIP Amendment: Various Bridge Inspections

Tyler Meyer presented on the MTIP Amendment:

- NCDOT has determined to group statewide bridge inspection work under project B-9000.
- B-9000 includes Division, Regional, and Statewide Needs breaks per STI accounting requirements.
- B-9000 replaces the old ongoing bridge inspection project number, B-9999, starting a series of shorter term projects; FHWA has provided guidance to NCDOT the recommend creating these project numbers to allow them to be closed out for easier accounting.
- Funding will come from the federal Surface Transportation Block Grant, which is substantially the same as the old Surface Transportation Program.
- MPO action will allow NCDOT to implement projects under B-9000 in Division 7 as needed.
- NCDOT has already amended the STIP.

Hanna Cockburn moved to recommend the FY 2016-2025 MTIP Amendment: Various Bridge Inspections to the TAC for approval. Michael Abuya seconded the motion. The TCC voted unanimously to recommend the FY 2016-2025 MTIP Amendment: Various Bridge Inspections to the TAC for approval.

4. FY 2016-2025 MTIP Amendment: M-0515 Property Appraisal Review

Tyler Meyer presented on the MTIP Amendment:

- NCDOT has determined to group Property Appraisal Reviews under project M-0515.
- M-0515 includes a Statewide Needs break per STI accounting requirements.
- M-0515 funding is for the NCDOT Right-of-Way Branch’s review of projects implemented by Local Public Agencies.
- Funding (\$250,000 per year) will come from the State Highway Trust Fund.
- MPO action will allow NCDOT to implement projects under M-0515 in Division 7 as needed in FY 2017 and FY 2018.
- NCDOT plans to amend the STIP in October 2016.

Kelly Larkins moved to recommend the FY 2016-2025 MTIP Amendment: M-0515 Property Appraisal Review to the TAC for approval. Hanna Cockburn seconded the motion. The TCC voted unanimously to recommend the FY 2016-2025 MTIP Amendment: M-0515 Property Appraisal Review to the TAC for approval.

5. FY 2016-2025 MTIP Modification: R-4707 Right-of-Way Phase

Tyler Meyer presented on the MTIP Administrative Modification:

- This project is now moving into the implementation phase.
- NCDOT plans to acquire right-of-way for all phases of R-4707 – Reedy Fork Parkway Interchange (A & B) at one time using State Highway Trust Funds.
- Right-of-Way & Utilities are shifting from FY 2017 to FY 2019 because more time needed for developing the environmental document and design.
- In addition, the description will change from “to Bryan Park Road” to “north of Bryan Park Road”.
- This MPO action will allow NCDOT to implement the Right-of-Way & Utilities phase under R-4707 in Division 7 as needed in FY 2019.
- The project will be constructed in two phases:
 - R-4707A will build an interim bridge.

- R-4707B will complete interchange improvements, with construction scheduled for FY 2024.
- NCDOT plans to amend the STIP in October 2016.
- The locally preferred alternative is a diverging diamond interchange.
- Right-of-way funding is \$3,220,000 and utilities funding is \$982,000.
- Michael Abuya asked if a final alternative has been selected. Meyer noted that one has not been selected yet and that the map shown on the slide is the locally preferred alternative that the MPO supports as the final alternative.
- Hanna Cockburn observed that the funding was not changing but costs could easily change in two years, and noted her concern on this issue. Development pressure in the area could increase property costs. Meyer agreed this is a concern. He explained that funding for the project came through from additional funds identified in HB 97, and might otherwise not be possible. The good thing is that project implementation had been uncertain for a long while and now a timeline for implementation is clear.

Michael Abuya moved to recommend the FY 2016-2025 MTIP Modification: R-4707 Right-of-Way Phase to the TAC for endorsement. Kyle Laird seconded the motion. The TCC voted unanimously to recommend the FY 2016-2025 MTIP Modification: R-4707 Right-of-Way Phase to the TAC for endorsement.

6. FY 2016-2025 MTIP Amendment: R-4707A Bridge Replacement

Tyler Meyer presented on the MTIP Amendment:

- This project will replace the existing bridge, which will be worked into the design of the final interchange alternative.
- NCDOT has determined to delay R-4707A construction from FY 2018 to FY 2020.
- Funding will come from the State Highway Trust Fund.
- Additional time is needed to complete the environmental document and Right-of-Way & Utilities scheduled for FY 2019.
- This MPO action will allow NCDOT to implement the construction of R-4707A in FY 2020.
- NCDOT plans to amend the STIP in October 2016.
- Hanna Cockburn inquired about the need to replace the existing bridge. Meyer noted that the bridge is in very bad shape but NCDOT is confident that this is an acceptable timeframe for replacing the bridge. Cockburn noted that the construction costs will probably be higher in two years, but the amount allocated is not changing (\$8,821,000). Meyer noted that NCDOT is aware of this and will increase the funding as needed in the future.

Kelly Larkins moved to recommend the FY 2016-2025 MTIP Amendment: R-4707A Bridge Replacement to the TAC for approval. Kyle Laird seconded the motion. The TCC voted unanimously to recommend the FY 2016-2025 MTIP Amendment: R-4707A Bridge Replacement to the TAC for approval.

7. FY 2016-2025 MTIP Modification: U-5306 B Battleground / Westridge

Tyler Meyer presented on the MTIP Administrative Modification:

- This project received funding through Prioritization; the City has designed the project and will construct the project, and will be reimbursed by NCDOT.
- Funding will come from the National Highway Program/State Highway Trust Fund.
- U-5306B construction is delayed by right-of-way and utility issues:
 - Right-of-way delays have occurred due to responding to and following-up on property owner requested project changes.
 - As a result, right-of-way completion is now expected in January 2017.
 - Utility relocations will take approximately 6 months afterwards.
- The City requests this TIP Modification to move construction from FY 2016 to FY 2017; the anticipated construction start is August 2017 under this timeframe.

- Utility relocations cannot be expedited because Duke Energy crews are currently relocating utilities for the Horse Pen Creek Road project.
- NCDOT plans to amend the STIP in October 2016.
- Kyle Laird asked about pedestrian accommodations as part of the project. Meyer noted that sidewalk, crosswalks, and pedestrian signals will be included. However there will be no pedestrian refuge islands. They were considered but could not be incorporated into the design.
- There will also be a trail connection to the A&Y Greenway.
- Hanna Cockburn noted that this project could trigger changes in the land use patterns along Westridge that increase pedestrian traffic. High-visibility crosswalks and well-timed signals can make a big difference. Meyer suggested that they have GDOT Traffic Engineering give an update at the next meeting about how pedestrians will be accommodated in this design. TCC members agreed that they would like to have this addressed.
- Laird noted his approval that no slip lanes were included in the design, because they are unsafe for pedestrians. Meyer noted that GDOT is working to remove those designs around the City.

Kyle Laird moved to recommend the FY 2016-2025 MTIP Modification: U-5306 B Battleground/ Westridge to the TAC for endorsement. Hanna Cockburn seconded the motion. The TCC voted unanimously to recommend the FY 2016-2025 MTIP Modification: U-5306 B Battleground/ Westridge to the TAC for endorsement.

8. FY 2016-2025 MTIP Amendment: TD-5279 Depot Renovations

Tyler Meyer presented on the MTIP Amendment:

- GTA has been awarded a discretionary Section 5339 grant to renovate the Depot.
- This project will expand/reconfigure facilities at the Depot, including passenger waiting facilities and amenities; and operator staging areas and rest areas.
- The need for this is demonstrated by the fact that GTA ridership has doubled since 2003 and the number of operators has increased by 75%.
- The capacity of the facility will be increased by these renovations and allow GTA to continue to grow.
- \$960,000 will come from the grant, with \$240,000 provided by the City for the local match; through Prioritization the City has requested NCDOT to provide half of the local match.
- Construction is expected to begin in 2017.

Hanna Cockburn moved to recommend the FY 2016-2025 MTIP Amendment: TD-5279 Depot Renovations to the TAC for approval. George Linney seconded the motion. The TCC voted unanimously to recommend the FY 2016-2025 MTIP Amendment: TD-5279 Depot Renovations to the TAC for approval.

9. MPO Local Points Assignment: Division Needs

Lydia McIntyre presented on the MPO Local Points Assignment: Division Needs:

- Regional Needs point assignments were submitted two months ago and have been scored and draft funded Regional projects have been selected.
- It is now time to submit local points for Division Needs projects – the MPO and NCDOT Division 7 local points can count towards up to 25% of the score for each project.
- Regional projects can step down to the Division Tier if they were not funded at the Regional level.
- Hanna Cockburn asked for clarification on the area encompassed by the Regional Tier. McIntyre noted that it includes NCDOT Highway Divisions 7 & 9.
- A few rail projects were funded in the MPO at the Regional Tier level, including a grade separation at Franklin Boulevard, an extension of the Pomona Yard auxiliary track, and the purchase of five bi-level passenger cars for Piedmont service between Raleigh and Charlotte.
- NCDOT updated their scoring of the bicycle and pedestrian projects, which reshuffled the ranking order of some of the projects. As a result, MPO staff put 100 points on the Farmington Drive

sidewalk project and removed 100 points from the Church Street sidewalk project because Farmington Drive scored better.

- Some projects do not have points because as noted they will be funded in other ways, so it is not necessary to put points on them (such as Pisgah Church Road sidewalk project).
- In public involvement conducted over the summer, public comments noted most important needs and projects as public transportation, bicycle and pedestrian projects, and greenways.
- Local input points will be submitted in October and will be scored in November. The draft 2018-2027 STIP will be released in January 2017.
- MPO Staff will coordinate with NCDOT Division 7 on point submittals for specific projects.

Mike Mills moved to recommend the MPO Local Points Assignment: Division Needs to the TAC for approval. Kelly Larkins seconded the motion. The TCC voted unanimously to recommend the MPO Local Points Assignment: Division Needs to the TAC for approval.

- Carrie Spencer inquired about the scope of map ID 36, the resurfacing and shoulder widening for NC 150. It appears to include a segment of US 220 that is currently being reconstructed. McIntyre noted that was an error and the project should not include that portion.

Business Items

1. Project Updates

Tyler Meyer presented on the following project updates:

- The Downtown Greenway Phases 2e & 3a (Fisher Avenue and Eugene Street) are expected to begin construction on October 10.
- The Downtown Greenway Phases 1b1 & 1b2 (Bragg Street) are going through pre-construction coordination and construction may start on it as early as the end of October.
- Construction on U-5306A (Battleground-Benjamin-Cone Intersection project) has been delayed and is expected to begin March 2017. Craig McKinney noted that the contractor has determined to start after winter. Crews that were originally going to work on this project were put on another project because it took a lot of time to get the bid and contract approved. Meyer noted that completing the sidewalk network around the intersection will be included in this project.
- Construction on U-5306C (Battleground-New Garden Intersection project) has also been delayed and is expected to begin February 2017. McKinney explained that the utility companies have not completed their relocations yet, and it will be several months before that is completed. At this time it is expected that all three intersection projects (including Battleground-Westridge) will be under construction concurrently. Meyer noted that GDOT is reviewing the process of utility relocations to prevent similar delays for future projects and have been advised by NCDOT that the relocation process could begin sooner in project development. George Linney asked if any bus stop amenities such as shelters will be included with these intersection projects. Meyer said that these projects did not get that review but it is something that planning staff are beginning to focus on more closely with upcoming sidewalk projects.
- A new copy of the MPO Project Updates Report is available. Although the information is basically the same as the last report, it is still accurate. The database is being tweaked and revised to make improvements to it.

2. Strategic Reports

- The 2017 MPO meeting schedule is being drafted. The schedule is planned to follow the same pattern as previous years, however the June and August meetings will need to be moved due to known conflicts. The Board of Transportation meets on the June date, and the state of the community luncheon is typically on the August date. Other meeting schedules will be factored in as they are developed for the next year. Staff will ask the TAC about their preferences at the afternoon meeting.

- GTA will be updating the Mobility Greensboro Public Transportation Plan. An RFP will be issued on October 1, and in a few months GDOT expects to have a consultant selected to begin work on the plan. The original plan was developed in 2003, and much has changed since then, particularly with transit planning tools and methodologies. However, many improvements in GTA were an outgrowth of the original plan, so it has had a strong impact on GTA.
- Staff are planning to update the sidewalk conditions inventory for the City. The TAC has been very interested in improving sidewalk conditions. The inventory has not been updated in several years. GDOT will use roster staff to collect this data. This will begin after the greenway conditions have been collected, which is planned to start next month.
- The MPO received the 2016 Marvin Collins Outstanding Planning Award for the BiPed Plan Update at the NC-APA conference in mid-September.
- The City hosted a Transportation and Health Tool Workshop at UNCG on August 11. 22 people participated, including representatives from GDOT, the UNCG Public Health department, Forsyth & Guilford County health departments, CAMPO, and other regional planning and non-profit organizations.
- Transportation for America did a case study of the Greensboro MPO and the prioritization methodology used in the BiPed Plan Update for their blog.
- The Prioritization 5.0 Workgroup will begin meeting on October 3. Tyler Meyer will attend as a representative from NCAMPO. Although the group is advisory, it can have a significant impact on the factors and methodology involved in the Prioritization process. Meyer requested feedback from the TCC on recommendations or issues to raise with the Workgroup to improve the Prioritization process. The Workgroup is made up of a diverse set of stakeholders, including representatives from NCDOT Divisions, the RPOs, and FHWA, among others. Mike Mills noted that he will be sending comments to his colleagues who will be representing the Divisions and can also send them to Meyer. There was discussion about the perception that rural areas are not getting as many projects funded as urban areas. Mills noted that smaller projects such as intersection improvements are getting funded, but roadway projects without congestion won't get funded. He also noted that rural areas could be submitting other projects that would likely score higher because of their congestion. Meyer added that there was concern that bicycle and pedestrian projects were not getting funded in rural areas, but it turned out that they were not putting points on these projects to increase their scores. Hanna Cockburn noted that the process has gotten progressively more complicated. Carrie Spencer asked if there was a health component in the scoring methodology. Meyer noted there was not; safety, connectivity, and other factors are used. Mills said that although the total state funding requires 90% to be spent on highways, Division 7 has allocated about 20% towards other modes.
- Lydia McIntyre noted that the PM 2.5 Standard for the MPO has been revoked, effective October 24. The MPO will no longer need to do a conformity analysis to have the MTP and other documents approved. Cockburn inquired as to why this has been revoked. McIntyre said the MPO's air quality is within the budgets that have been set for the area. Despite this revocation, the MPO will still be eligible for CMAQ funds.
- The Piedmont Triad Regional Model will be adopted after October 24. Phase 2 of the freight study is under way, and the data gathered will be incorporated into the model.

Other Items

1. NCDOT Update

- Mike Mills noted that the eastern Urban Loop section is ahead of schedule; the western loop section is a little behind schedule. The I-73 Connector is expected to be open to traffic, though not complete, this December, weather permitting. The US 220 project is still behind schedule, and NCDOT is working with the contractor to get certain ramps and sections open to accommodate the I-73 traffic and help some impacted businesses in the area. NCDOT is going to let a project to reopen Old Stagecoach Road and replace a bridge that was removed by the Urban Loop. This project

will help provide access to Honda Jet and other airport area businesses. NCDOT will be replacing sidewalk curb ramps in the MPO that are on state system roadways with state TAP funds. They have inventoried around 2,000 curb ramps that need to be upgraded in the area. Mills noted he will send the list to MPO staff, and if any ramps get upgraded staff should let him know. Tyler Meyer noted that this data will be helpful as part of the update to the sidewalk conditions inventory.

2. TCC Member Updates

Joe Geigle said the comment period for the Notice of Proposed Rule Making for the metropolitan planning rule has been extended to October 24. Specific items FHWA is requesting feedback on are the cost of implementation of the rule; possible exemptions to be granted and under what circumstances they could be granted; and the effect on MPOs if they are required to develop joint plans.

Carrie Spencer introduced herself as the new town planner for the Town of Summerfield.

Michael Abuya noted that the reorganization of NCDOT TPB is still underway and the outcome of the reorganization will be known soon.

3. Wrap-Up

The next TCC meeting will take place November 9 at 10:30 am in the 3rd Floor GDOT Conference Room. The meeting was adjourned by Tyler Meyer at 11:39 am.