

UPPER COASTAL PLAIN RURAL PLANNING ORGANIZATION

January 13, 2021 – Zoom Virtual Meeting

RPO Transportation Advisory Committee Minutes

Attendance

TAC

Wayne Outlaw, Nash
Jerry Medlin, Benson
Cheryl Oliver, Selma
Oscar Mabry, Pinetops
Derrick Creech, City of Wilson
Craig New, Red Oak
Miranda Boykin, Sims
Brenda Lucas, Spring Hope
C.B. Brown, Tarboro

NCDOT

Kevin Bowen, Division 4
Sam Lawhorn, Division 4
Jimmy Eatmon, Division 4
Melvin Mitchell, BOT Member
Kristin Barnes, Division 4
Gray Keeter, Division 4

UCPRPO

James Salmons

Introduction

1. *Welcome & Introductions – C.B. Brown – TAC Vice Chair*
TAC Vice Chair Mr. C.B. Brown (Tarboro) called the meeting to order. Mr. Brown welcomed and thanked everyone for attending the meeting.
2. Mr. C.B. Brown asked if any members have a conflict of interest on any of the items on the agenda. There being none.
3. *Additions or Corrections to Agenda*
There were no corrections or additions to the agenda.
4. *Minutes – November 18, 2020*
After reviewing the Minutes for the November 18, 2020 meeting and **UPON A MOTION** by Miranda Boykin (Sims), second by Oscar Mabry (Pinetops) they were unanimously approved.

Discussion

5. *UCPRPO Current TCC and TAC Member List*
Members were provided with the most recent list of UCPRPO TCC and TAC members and asked to provide any corrections or additions needed.
6. *New NCDOT Chief Engineer*
It was reported that Ronnie Keeter has been selected to be North Carolina's new Chief Engineer.
7. *Call for CMAQ Projects*
Members were notified that NCDOT is putting out a call for potential CMAQ projects for the Counties of Edgecombe, Johnston, and Nash. The total allocation amount is \$603,240 and will require a 20% local match. At this time the deadline was tentatively set for January 31, 2021. CMAQ projects may be any project that improves congestion and/or air quality.
8. *NCDOT LET List as of December 17, 2020*
The NCDOT LET list published December 17, 2020 was provided to members which contained the projects tentatively scheduled to be LET in the year of 2020.
9. *Draft FY2021-2022 PWP – Draft Planning Work Program*
The draft FY2122 Planning Work Program (PWP) was provided to members. Members were asked to review the proposed work program and request any modifications or revisions. Members were also encouraged to review their CTPs and to let Mr. Salmons know if there were any recommended changes. The next step is submittal to NCDOT TPD for their approval. Once approved by NCDOT the document would be brought back to the TCC for approval in March.

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10. *CCX Update*

A brief update was provided on the new CCX terminal. It was reported most construction had been complete however there is a delay due to the inability to get VISAs for the gantry cranes installation crew dew to COVID-19. New aerial imagery was provided to show the most recent improvements.

Reports

11. *US 70 Commission*

The US 70 Commission has not met since their October 15, 2020 meeting. It was reported that the US 70 Wilson's Mills project was scheduled to be let in March of 2021.

12. *Hwy 17/64 Association*

The Hwy 17/64 Association meeting is scheduled for January 27, 2021 at 10:00am virtually. In addition, the NC East Alliance has a meeting scheduled for January 14, 2021 in reference to NCDOT providing an update on projects along the I-87 corridor. Anyone interested was encourages to attend.

13. *Legislative Update*

The House Select Committee on Strategic Transportation Planning and Long-Term Funding Solutions is scheduled to meet Tuesday January 11, 2021 at 1:00pm. It is anticipated that the NC First Commission and the NC Chamber of Commerce will present their final report(s).

The Joint Legislative Transportation Oversight Committee (JLOC) met on December 10, 2020.

Reports provided to JLTOC included:

- Financial Update and Spend Plan
- Highway Division Financial Controls
- DMV HQ Move
- NCDOT Build NC Bond
- NCDOT HOT Lanes Enforcement
- NCDOT IMD CARES Funds Update

Key notes from December 2020 JLOC meeting include:

- Need to update adopted Spend Plan due to better than expected revenues. Cash balance is averaging around \$1B.
- Division's Dashboard to help monitor Division spending to prevent overspending again.
- DMV HQ Move; having difficulty filling positions with a 27% vacancy rate while NCDOT's overall vacancy rate is 17%. Currently partnering with multiple agencies including Nash Community, Edgecombe Community and Wilson Community as well as many others.
- NCDOT Build NC Bonds have been sold.
- Committee provided an update on CARES Funds distribution progress.

14. *IMD Update*

There was not update from IMD.

15. *NCDOT Division 4*

Division 4 reported Ronnie Keeter our formal Division 4 Engineer is now the State Chief Engineer. It was reported the cash balance was back up and the Department is working on getting things back online slowly.

16. *NCDOT Planning Division (TPD)*

There was no update from TPD.

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Public Comment

1. *Public Comment*
There was no public comment.

Other Business

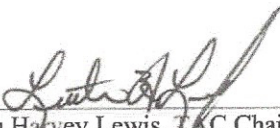
2. *TAC Member Comment*
Mr. Oscar Mabry welcomed Mr. Melvin Mitchell and stated that he looks forward to working with him moving forward. Mr. C.B. Brown stated that there is a lot of trash along the roads within the region. Mr. Bowen acknowledged the difficult problem with litter. He stated that due to the recent cash crises there has been limited funding available for litter cleanup. Mr. Bowen stated that as recently as earlier in the day his staff discussed how they may potentially especially focus on some of the on and off ramps that are becoming a dump site for some reason. He said he is committed to provide some additional liter pickup moving forward as possible. Mr. C.B. Brown state that he appreciated all that NCDOT does. Mr. Salmons reminded members that the deadline to file the required ethics filings was April 15, 2021.

Upcoming meeting:

It was noted that the next meeting was pushed back one week to March 10, 2021.

UPON A MOTION from Craig New (Red Oak) was made to adjourn with a second motion was made by Oscar Mabry (Pinetops) and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,


Lu Harvey Lewis, TAC Chair


James M. Salmons, UCPRPO Transportation Planner