

# UPPER COASTAL PLAIN RURAL PLANNING ORGANIZATION

November 18, 2020 – 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  
Ted Godwin, Johnston  
Lu Harvey Lewis, Middlesex  
Brenda Lucas, Spring Hope  
Craig New, Red Oak  
Miranda Boykin, Sims  
Andy Moore, Smithfield

#### NCDOT

Kevin Bowen, Division 4  
Carlos Moya, TPD  
Jimmy Eatmon, Division 4  
Melvin Mitchell, BOT Member  
Sam Lawhorn, Division 4  
Amna Cameron, NCDOT

#### UCPRPO

James Salmons

### Introduction

1. *Welcome & Introductions – Lu Harvey Lewis – TAC Chair*  
TAC Chair Mr. Lu Harvey Lewis (Middlesex) called the meeting to order. Mr. Lewis welcomed and thanked everyone for attending the meeting.
2. Mr. Lu Harvey Lewis 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 – September 9, 2020*  
After reviewing the Minutes for the September 9, 2020 meeting and **UPON A MOTION** by Jerry Medlin (Benson), second by Oscar Mabry (Pinetops) they were unanimously approved.

### Presentation

5. *NC First Commission, Amna Cameron, Deputy Director of the NCDOT Office of Strategic Initiative & Program Support*  
Amna Cameron provided a presentation on the NC First Commission work to evaluate North Carolina's current and future transportation investment needs and advising the Secretary of Transportation of new or better ways to ensure that critical financial resources are available in the future.

### Action Items

6. *Items 6 and 7: Letter of Support – FY2022 5310 Funding Application for Johnston County Industries and JCATS*  
Both organizations help provide transportation services to citizens with disabilities with the aid of 5310 Funding. After a brief discussion and **UPON A MOTION** by Cheryl Oliver (Selma), second by Andy Moore (Smithfield) both letters of support for both JCATS and Johnston County Industries' applications for 5310 funding was approved.

### Discussion

8. *STI P6.0 Funding and Status*  
Members were informed that the STI Workgroup met September 21, 2020. A brief overview of the STI process was provided. At the STI Workgroup meeting it was reported that due to low cost

# UPPER COASTAL PLAIN

## RURAL PLANNING ORGANIZATION

estimates and cost over runs (\$5 billion total), there is very minimal funding available for P6 with almost all Regions and Divisions having negative funds available to program new projects. In addition to no funds available for new projects, current committed projects are in danger of being pushed back if new funding is made available. At this time, the Workgroup decided to continue to move forward with P6. The current time frame to submit Regional local input points is Sept-Nov 2021 and to submit Division local points is scheduled for Feb-April 2022. If additional funding is not made available, currently committed projects are at risk of being delayed or dropped from the schedule.

9. *NCDOT Moving Forward Project List – October 14, 2020*  
Members were provided with the most recent list of projects that have been approved to move forward with professional engineering.
10. *Animal Crash Information*  
The agenda packet included the most recent NCDOT Traffic Study group's 2017-2019 Animal Related Crash Report (June 2020). The report stated there were 2,857 injuries and more than \$156.9 million in damages over the three-year report period. The most frequent month of year for animal related crashes are in the months of October-December with the most frequent times of day being during early morning and early evening hours.
11. *COVID Traffic Trends Update*  
A brief update on the effects of COVID-19 on traffic trends throughout North Carolina was provided. The decline in VMT is still having a negative effect on transportation funding.

### Reports

12. *US 70 Commission*  
The US 70 Commission met virtually on October 15, 2020. A brief report was provided on the updates provided at the meeting. The NC First Commission is scheduled to provide their final report to the Secretary by the end of the year (2020).
13. *Hwy 17/64 Association*  
The Hwy 17/64 met virtually September 20, 2020 and was provided an update on NCDOT finances and the NC First Commission's progress. The Eastern Transportation Coalition (formerly I-95 Commission) provided a presentation on Mileage Based User Fees (MBUF). The next meeting is scheduled for January 27, 2021 with location TPD.
14. *Legislative Update*  
The House Select Committee on Strategic Transportation Planning and Long-Term Funding Solutions met September 21, 2020. The meeting consisted of 2 presentations from the NC First Commission and the NC Chamber of Commerce. Both organizations are working on studies to help provide recommendations to provide the Committee information on potential funding sources for Transportation infrastructure before the end of 2020 in time for the 2021 Legislative Session.
15. *NCDOT Division 4*  
Mr. Bowen introduced and welcome Mr. Mitch Mitchell the new Division 4 Board of Transportation. Mr. Mitchell stated it was an honor to serve as BOT member representing Division 4. Mr. Bowen reported that the rain from last week caused 457 sites to be damaged costing about \$17.8 million. Our region was hit particularly hard. There were about 150 road closures and with 22 road closures still within Division 4. The cost for Division 4 damages costs \$2.4 million.
16. *NCDOT Planning Division (TPD)*  
TPD reported that due to COVID-19, everyone is working remotely but still working and moving forward serving the public. If anyone has any questions they are encouraged to reach out and contact him.

# UPPER COASTAL PLAIN

---

## RURAL PLANNING ORGANIZATION

### **Public Comment**

1. *Public Comment*

There was no public comment.

### **Other Business**

2. *TAC Member Comment*

There was no TAC Member comments

### **Upcoming meeting:**

It was noted that the next meeting was pushed back one week to January 13, 2021.

**UPON A MOTION** from Jerry Medlin (Benson) was made to adjourn with a second motion was made by Ted Godwin (Johnston) and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

---

Lu Harvey Lewis, TAC Chair

---

James M. Salmons, UCPRPO Transportation Planner