

# UPPER COASTAL PLAIN RURAL PLANNING ORGANIZATION

January 4, 2022

## RPO Transportation Coordinating Committee Minutes

### Attendance

#### TCC

Wendy Oldham, Wilson's Mills  
Mark Helmer Smithfield  
Catherine Grimm, Tarboro  
Katina Braswell, Edgecombe  
Adam Tyson Nash  
Bill Bass, City of Wilson  
Stephen Wensman, Smithfield  
Carlos Moya, NCDOT TPD  
Jennifer Collins, NCDOT Division

#### UCPRPO

James Salmons

#### NCDOT

Kevin Bowen, NCDOT-Division 4  
Carlos Moya, NCDOT TPD  
Grey Keeter, NCDOT  
Bobby Liverman, NCDOT

#### Other

Neal Davis, JCATS  
Grona Jones, City of Wilson  
Robert Hiatt, UCPCOG  
Bob League, Rocky Mount MPO  
Jordan Reedy, Rocky Mount MPO  
Dion Viventi, Rocky Mount Airport

### Introduction

- Welcome & Introductions – Adam Tyson – TCC Vice Chair*  
Mr. Adam Tyson welcomed everyone and asked everyone to introduce themselves and then called the meeting to order.
- Approval of Agenda and September 14, 2021 Minutes*  
Mr. Tyson asked if everyone had an opportunity to review the agenda and Minutes for the September 13, 2021, TCC meeting and asked if anyone had any additions to be made to either to the agenda or minutes. There being none and **UPON A MOTION** by Bill Bass (City of Wilson), second by Katina Braswell (Edgecombe), the agenda and minutes for the September 13, 2021, were unanimously approved as written.
- Member Updates*  
Each member provided a brief highlight of activities within each member's jurisdiction.

### Decision Items

- Town of Tarboro CMAQ Application*  
Members were provided with a copy of a Resolution of Support for allocating to the Town of Tarboro \$603,240 for FY23 CMAQ project application. Ms. Catherine Grimm provided a detailed description of the proposed FY23 project. After further discussion it was reported that the Town of Selma was going to be unable to utilize the FY22 CMAQ funds allocated to the Town last year by the TAC. The Town of Tarboro requested the FY22 CMAQ funding that was allocated to the Town of Selma be re-allocated to the Town of Tarboro to help complete its FY18 CMAQ project that was delayed due to the NCDOT cash crises and increases in materials and labor costs. **UPON A MOTION** by Stephen Wensman (Smithfield), second by Ms. Wendy Oldham (Wilson's Mills) the re-allocation of the FY22 CMAQ funds in the amount of \$603,240 was recommended to the TAC for adoption with the approval of the Town of Selma and NCDOT. After additional discussion and **UPON A MOTION** by Stephen Wensman (Smithfield), second by Bill Bass (City of Wilson) the Resolution of Support for allocating \$603,240 to the Town of Tarboro's FY23 CMAQ project was unanimously adopted and recommended to the TAC for adoption.
- Election of new TCC Chair and Vice Chair*  
Vice Chair Mr. Adam Tyson (Nash) opened the nominations for Chair. **UPON A MOTION** by Mr. Bill Bass (City of Wilson) and seconded by Mr. Stephen Wensman (Smithfield), Mr. Adam Tyson (Nash) was nominated and elected to be Chair of the TCC. Next, Vice Chair Mr. Adam Tyson (Nash) opened the nominations up for Vice Chair and Mr. Stephen Wensman (Smithfield) volunteered to be Vice Chair and **UPON A MOTION** by Mr. Bill Bass (City of Wilson) and seconded by Ms. Catherine Grimm (Tarboro), Mr. Stephen Wensman (Smithfield) was elected to Vice Chair of the TCC.

# UPPER COASTAL PLAIN

## RURAL PLANNING ORGANIZATION

### Discussion

#### 7. *Prioritization P6 Update*

Members were provided with a list of all UCPRPO P6 project scores released on November 12, 2021. Everyone was reminded that P6 has been halted and that the scores were for informational purposes only. There would be no local input points will be assigned. Ultimately over 2,300 projects in all six modes were scored. Members were then provided with the most recent P6 schedule. It was reported that the STI Workgroup was working through developing a process to allow some flexibility in reprogramming projects. Training for Divisions and MPOs/RPOs is expected within the next couple of months. The final STIP is expected to be adopted by the Board of Transportation by summer 2023. NCDOT expects to have a draft STIP developed by April or May 2022.

#### 8. *Review of Draft Public Participation Plan (PPP)*

The draft UCPRPO Public Participation Plan (PPP) was provided to all members in the agenda packet. The PPP provides a guidance and policy in engaging the public in the transportation process. Members were asked to provide comments by February 15, 2022 so any modifications could be applied prior to the March 2, 2022 TCC meeting when the TCC will be asked to adopt the plan for recommendation to the TAC for adoption.

#### 9. *Review of Draft Planning Work Program (PWP) for FY23*

The UCPRPO adopts their Planning Work Program (PWP) annually. A draft PWP and local 20% match requirement was provided in the agenda packet. The amount allocated to the UCPRPO for FY23 is \$140,048.00. Members were asked to review and provide any comments by February 1<sup>st</sup>. The final version will be presented to the TCC for consideration for approval to recommend adoption by the TAC at the March meeting.

#### 10. *Neuse River Trail Clayton to Smithfield Feasibility Study Update*

The John R McAdams was the selected consultant to help complete the Neuse River Trail Clayton to Smithfield Study. The Core Stakeholder Workgroup held their initial kick off meeting on December 1, 2021. The project team will be reaching out for public input and performing property owner interviews in the coming months. The team completed one field visit along Buffalo Rd as one option for the trail. The next field visit is scheduled for January 7, 2022 and members were invited to join the team. It was reported that the NC Budget includes \$29.24M for development of trails designated as NC State Parks Trails and that this project may be a good candidate for funding. It was reported that the Nash County Board of Commissioners passed a resolution of support for the Triangle Trails Initiative.

#### 11. *Complete Streets Policy updated Implementation Plan*

A draft Complete Streets Implementation Guide was provided to members in their agenda packet. The new implementation guide will need to be an identified need by the project manager. Evaluation of need will include local community input. In addition, members were informed of the NCDOT Bicycle Helmet Initiative which provides helmets to local communities. The deadline to submit applications is February 4, 2022.

#### 12. *US 264 Receives Interstate Designation as I-587*

It was reported that the US 264 highway between the City of Wilson and Greenville has received the I-587 Interstate designation.

### Reports

#### 13. *US 70 Commission*

The US 70 Commission met on December 9, 2021 virtually. NCDOT Board Member Melvin provided an update on the newly opened CCX Terminal Facility. The State Chief Engineer gave a brief update on funding bills recently passed by the State and US Congress. Both Division 2 and Division 4 provided updates on all the projects along the corridor. The US 70 Commission passed a resolution of support for NCDOT to fund the I-42 projects in Princeton and Kinston. Project R-5829B in Princeton is within the UCPRPO and is currently in the STIP but may be delayed due to over programming with R/W to begin 2025. The project includes GARVEE Bond Funding.

#### 14. *Hwy 17/64 Association*

There was no report at this time.

# UPPER COASTAL PLAIN RURAL PLANNING ORGANIZATION

## 15. *Legislative Update*

An update was provided on the recently passed NC State Budget and the Federal Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) or Bipartisan Infrastructure Deal (BID).

## 16. *NCDOT Division 4*

Jennifer Collins (Division 4) reported that the Workgroup was continuing to work through the final stages of the P6 STIP development and that the Division would be reaching out to local communities for potential input due to funding availability. Sam Lawhorn reported that the W-5600 US 70 Interstate upgrade that includes two interchanges in Wilson's Mills is approximately 20% complete with a 2025 estimated completion year. The I-95 project in Micro is now complete. A small project in Princeton to close some of the cross overs is scheduled to start this Spring. There have been several crashes in these areas.

## 17. *NCDOT Planning Division (TPD)*

Carlos Moya (TPD) provided the TPD January 2022 newsletter to all members. He reported that NCDOT was awarded the National Safety Award with their effort to place high-visibility markings that have resulting in a 13% reduction in lane departure crashes. The NCDOT is also working new Integrated Project Delivery to help maximize efficiency in delivering projects. In addition, the Department is working on climate change resiliency plans to help better the State of North Carolina position itself in dealing with ongoing changes in the climate.

## **Other Business**

### 18. *TCC Member Comments*

Mr. Adam (Nash) thanked Bob League (Rocky Mount MPO) for his service in working with the Rocky Mount MPO and enjoyed working with him over the years. Ms. Catherine Grimm congratulated Bob League for his retirement.

## **Public Comment**

### 19. *Public Comment*

There was no public comment.

## **Upcoming meeting:**

The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for March 1, 2022, at 2:00pm.

**UPON A MOTION** from to adjourn Steven Wensman (Smithfield) and a second motion was made by Catherine Grimm (Tarboro) and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

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Adam Tyson, TCC Chair

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James M. Salmons, UCPRPO