

UPPER COASTAL PLAIN RURAL PLANNING ORGANIZATION

January 31, 2017

RPO Transportation Coordinating Committee Minutes

Attendance

TCC

Gronna Jones, City of Wilson
Cynthia Jenkins, Edgecombe
Berry Gray, Johnston
Jae Kim, Spring Hope
Paul Ember, Smithfield
Alicia Gregory, Wilson's Mills
Bill Bass, City of Wilson
J. P. Duncan, Wilson
Nancy Nixon, Nash
Mark Johnson, Wilson
Paul Ember, Smithfield

NCDOT

Jimmy Eatmon, NCDOT-Division 4
Terry Ellis, NCDOT – Division 4
Carlos Moya, TPB
Earlene Thomas, TPB
Eddie McFalls, NCDOT Rail

Other

Bob League, Rocky Mount MPO
Neal Davis, JCATS
Dion Viventi, Rocky Mount-Wilson Airport

UCPRPO

James Salmons

Introduction

1. *Welcome & Introductions – Bill Bass – TCC Chair*

Mr. Bill Bass welcomed everyone and asked everyone to introduce themselves to the members and then called the meeting to order.

2. *Approval of Agenda*

Mr. Bill Bass asked if everyone had an opportunity to review the agenda and asked if anyone had any modifications. With none being stated the agenda was approved. **UPON A MOTION** by Nancy Nixon (Nash), second by Berry Gray (Johnston) the minutes were both unanimously approved.

Action Items

3. *Minutes – November 1, 2016*

After reviewing the Minutes for the November 1, 2016 meeting and **UPON A MOTION** by Berry Gray (Johnston), second by Cynthia Jenkins (Edgecombe) the minutes were both unanimously approved.

New Business

4. *UCPRPO STI Projects*

Members were provided a quick update on the draft STIP FY1822. Included was a list of projects currently on the UCPRPO STI list indicating which projects were funded and which projects remained within STI P5.0 based on being within the draft STIP and/or being sibling projects of other current ongoing projects. The Agenda packet included the full schedule for the STI P5.0 prioritization. It was reported that based on population the UCPRPO is eligible to have a maximum of 23 projects to be prioritized in P5. Members were asked to review the list and start considering which projects were priorities and/or if there were any new projects to be considered. The goal is to establish the list of 23 projects to be considered for P5 by mid-summer (mid-August) to recommend to the TAC for adoption.

UPPER COASTAL PLAIN

RURAL PLANNING ORGANIZATION

5. *Consider upcoming FY1617 CTP needs*

Members were asked if there were any needs to perform minor updates to current County Comprehensive Transportation Plans. Bill Bass (City of Wilson) stated there may be an interest to update the Wilson County CTP. There were no other requests for CTP updates.

6. *CXX Multi-Modal Facility Master Plan Update*

Mr. Eddie McFalls provided a brief update on the CXX Multi-Modal Facility Master Plan. Mr. McFalls stated the goal of the multi-modal project was to convert long haul truck trips into short haul truck trips and rail trips. The project is identified within the draft STIP as project P-5711. The facility will provide Eastern North Carolina a connection to all other CSX Rail connected facilities across the country providing access to their entire network. The project will consist of 3 phases (A, B, and C). The first phase A is constructing the facility terminal itself. The second phase B will be to construct “line of road” improvements which are actual rail line improvements which will include a double track to the north of the facility up to Battleboro and into the County. The third phase C will be look at some immediate highway improvements around the facility. The project is expected to provide a \$1.8 billion public benefit to the Country and \$310 million public benefit to the State of North Carolina. Construction is expected to begin next year in 2017 with the facility moving boxes by year 2020.

Mr. McFalls stated the primary access will be NC 4. There may be intersection improvements along NC 4 to accommodate the new facility. There is currently a traffic study ongoing to see what impact the facility will have on the current transportation network. In addition, there is a Facility Master Plan study that is getting ready to begin and some members may be contacted as stakeholders to serve on the studies advisory group to help determine what improvements may be needed. The purpose of the plan is to identify any new projects to recommend to adding to the STI process.

7. *Draft FY1718 Planning Work Program (PWP) review*

Members were provided with the draft PWP and 5-year calendar and asked to provide any comments. They were asked to review the draft provide any comments or recommended changes to the PWP by February 15, 2017. The final PWP will be presented for adoption on March 7, 2017 and recommended to the TAC for adoption at their next meeting on March 8, 2017.

8. *CMAQ Project Application Deadline – March 10, 2017*

It was reported to members the deadline to submit CMAQ projects is March 10, 2017. A brief CMAQ 101 video was displayed showing basic information about CMAQ projects. Mr. Salmons reported that he was able to coordinate with CAMPO to join them in a training on Locally Administered Projects on March 1, 2017.

Other Business

9. *TCC Member Comments*

Ms. Nancy Nixon stated due to the complicated nature of the STI process she had an interest in modifying the MOU to allow for longer term limits for TAC members (currently 1 year terms) and asked other members if they agreed. It was recommended that some TAC members receive one on one training on the basics of the role of the UCPRPO and the duties of TAC members. Mr. James Salmons stated he was available to meet with individual members to help educate TAC members.

UPPER COASTAL PLAIN RURAL PLANNING ORGANIZATION

Reports

10. Southeast Area Study – <http://southeastareastudy.com>

Mr. James Salmons reported that there was another Public Symposium held on January 12, 2017 with good turnout of about 150 individuals. In addition, there was a SOT meeting held the previous Thursday to wrap up the final recommendations. He added that the study is nearing the final stages and soon would be presented to boards for adoption consideration.

11. US 70 Commission

Mr. Salmons reported that the US 70 to Interstate Feasibility Study was continuing to move forward and the study team had reported they were working through the conceptual designs and there will be a review meeting with NCDOT in late April. The team expects to have something to report back to the TAC at their May 10th meeting.

12. NCDOT Division 4

Mr. Jimmy Eatmon reported to the members that the Division is continuing with repairs due to Hurricane Matthew. He also reported that there would be continuing re-paving along I-95 during the evening hours and to use caution when traveling the Highway.

13. NCDOT Planning Branch

Mr. Carlos Mayo introduced himself as the new UCPRPO NCDOT coordinator. He reported that the Rocky Mount CTP had been adopted and that the department was working on completing the document. The Nash County CTP has also been adopted and staff are working on completing the document. He stated he was available to answer any questions members may have at any time.

14. Hwy 17/64 Association

It was reported that the upgrade US 64 to Interstate Feasibility Study was continuing. He also reported that the bridge replacement at US 64 Alt and Neuse River in Spring Hope remained in the draft STIP.

15. Ethics Reminder for TAC Members

Members were asked to remind their TAC members of the required Ethics requirements due April 15, 2017.

16. Legislative Update

Mr. Salmons reported the House Select Committee on Transportation had a proposal to create a “mega-projects” (like I-95) committee to consider large dollar projects and a proposal to modify the weights given to local input between the Divisions and MPO’s/RPO’s.

Public Comments

There was no public comment.

Upcoming meeting:

The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for March 7, 2017.

UPON A MOTION from Ms. Nancy Nixon (Nash) was made to adjourn and a second motion was made by Mr. Paul Embler (Smithfield) and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Bill Bass, TCC Chair

James M. Salmons, UCPRPO