

UPPER COASTAL PLAIN RURAL PLANNING ORGANIZATION

November 7, 2017

RPO Transportation Coordinating Committee Minutes

Attendance

TCC

Chad Sary, Wilson's Mills
Jim Barlow, Kenly
Berry Gray, Johnston
Jae Kim, Spring Hope
Julie Maybee, Selma
Tim Robbins, Benson
Bill Bass, City of Wilson
Catherine Grimm, Tarboro
Bill Dreitzler, Smithfield
Nancy Nixon, Nash

NCDOT

Jimmy Eatmon, NCDOT-Division 4
Carlos Moya, NCDOT TPD

Other

Stuart Bass, UCPCOG
Neal Davis, JCATS
Bob League, Rocky Mount MPO

UCPRPO

James Salmons

Introduction

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

Mr. Bill Bass welcomed everyone and asked everyone to introduce themselves 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 additions to be made to the agenda. Being none and **UPON A MOTION** by Catherine Grimm (Tarboro), second by Bill Dreitzler (Smithfield) the agenda was unanimously approved as written.

3. *Minutes – September 5, 2017*

After reviewing the Minutes for the September 5, 2017 TCC meeting and **UPON A MOTION** by Catherine Grimm (Tarboro), second by Bill Dreitzler (Smithfield) the minutes were unanimously approved.

Decision Items

4. *Proposed STI P5 Project Amendment – JCATS Facilities Project*

Members were informed that the Johnston County Area Transit System recently completed a Facilities Feasibility study to upgrade their administrative and maintenance facilities. It was explained that the Facilities Projects had been presented to the UCPRPO after their last TCC and TAC meetings, however in time to be submitted to SPOT as a STI P5 Transit project. Mr. Neal Davis explained that JCATS has out grown their existing facility. Therefore, the UCPRPO final STI P5 Project List needed to be amended to include the project. **UPON A MOTION** by Julie Maybee (Selma), second by Nancy Nixon (Nash) the UCPRPO STI P5 Project List was amended to include the JCATS Facilities Project (T171935) and was unanimously approved.

5. *UCPRPO STI P5 Methodology*

Members were provided with the proposed draft UCPRPO STI P5 Local Methodology and asked if there were any questions or recommended changes. After a brief discussion and **UPON A MOTION** by Berry Gray (Johnston), second by Catherine Grimm (Tarboro) to adopt the UCPRPO STI P5 Local Methodology the Methodology was unanimously approved. It was also explained the methodology would be approved upon approval of the STI P5 Methodology Workgroup.

UPPER COASTAL PLAIN RURAL PLANNING ORGANIZATION

6. *Resolution of Support for City of Wilson Bicycle Pedestrian Planning Grant*
Members were provided with a draft Resolution of Support for the City of Wilson Bicycle Pedestrian Planning Grant Application proposed by the City of Wilson. After a brief discussion and **UPON A MOTION** by Nancy Nixon (Nash), second by Berry Gray (Johnston) to adopt the Resolution of Support for the City of Wilson Bicycle Pedestrian Planning Grant Application the resolution was unanimously approved.
7. *Resolution of Support for NCDOT INFRA Grant Application*
Members were provided with a draft Resolution of Support for the NCDOT INFRA Grant Application proposed by NCDOT. The INFRA Grant application would include upgrades to US 70 and I-95. After a brief discussion and **UPON A MOTION** by Catherine Grimm (Tarbor), second by Berry Gray (Johnston) to adopt the Resolution of Support for the NCDOT INFRA Grant for US 70 and I-95 Application the resolution was unanimously approved.

Discussion Items

8. *NCDOT Proposed Sidewalk and Pedestrian Policy – Recommendations*
It was reported that NCDOT was in the process of reviewing their bicycle and pedestrian policies which include the local match requirements. It was understood that the proposed policy review was on hold due to the already current “Complete Streets” policy already in place. Mr. Salmons stated that some TAC members had expressed concerns over the large cost match for pedestrian projects especially for smaller communities. Mr. Bill Bass expressed his concern over how cumbersome it was for small local communities to manage projects with the lack of professional staff available and selecting qualified consultants. He stated it might be helpful if the administrative process was more streamlined through the Division and local municipality. Mr. Jimmy Eatmon stated that currently the Division currently had issues with not having the staff as well as the consultants having difficulty hiring the required staff, especially for testing and inspections (CEIs).
9. *CMAQ Projects FY1819*
Members were provided with the current status for potential funding for CMAQ projects. The UCPRPO currently has \$794,615 as potential funding for CMAQ projects within Nash and/or Edgecombe Counties for FY1819. The deadline to submit potential projects March 15, 2018.
10. *CTP Review/Updates*
It was reported that the CTP 2.0 committee was continuing to finalize the new proposed CTP format. Members were asked if there were any recommendations or if any CTPs within the UCPRPO that needed any updates.

Reports

11. *US 70 Commission – NCDOT Eastern NC Flood Study*
Mr. Salmons reported that he had attended the most recent meeting and that one of the topics was NCDOT performing a flood study in eastern North Carolina to see if they can find ways to help prevent flooding in the future. The next US 70 Commission meeting is scheduled for next Wednesday, November 15, 2017 at 1:30pm in Goldsboro, NC. In addition, Charles Edwards provided the Commission with a presentation on Logistics in North Carolina. It was also reported that there was a public meeting scheduled for December 7, 2017 in Princeton in reference to extending the current US 70 project in eastern Johnston County through Princeton.
12. *Hwy 17/64 Association – January Meeting in Bethel*
Mr. Salmons reported that their next meeting is scheduled to be in January in Bethel, NC. The Association only currently has two US 64 projects on their list. One being the Sunset Blvd Intersection in Rocky Mount and the replacement of the Tar River Bridge over US 64 Bus in Spring Hope. It is the hope that the Tarboro Intersection improvement project be added to their list.

UPPER COASTAL PLAIN RURAL PLANNING ORGANIZATION

13. JCATS Performance Excellence Award

Everyone congratulated Mr. Neal Davis for receiving the Performance Excellence award for JCATS.

14. Legislative/STIP Update

There were no legislative updates at this time.

15. NCDOT Division 4 – High Impact/Low Cost Program

Mr. Jimmy Eatmon reported that there was a new program that currently has \$1.7 million in funding for High Impact Low Cost projects. He explained that there were 12 criteria of which the Division must select 7 to evaluate submitted projects. The Division currently has not selected which criteria. It was reported that the UCPRPO had currently submitted the following projects:

- Widening of road in front of Middlesex Elementary School
- Turning lane in front of the Johnston County Airport

Members were asked to submit any potential projects as quickly as possible due to the tight schedule to submit projects to the NCDOT BOT in January. It was noted that projects could not exceed \$1.5 million without Secretary approval. Mr. Eatmon reported that Matt Clarke has taken on the roll of Jerry Paige. Fronz Endez is the new District Engineer for Edgecombe County.

16. NCDOT Planning Branch

Mr. Carlos Moya reported that the Transportation Planning Branch is now the Transportation Planning Division.

Public Comment

17. Public Comment

Mr. Stuart Bass with the UCPCOG stated that the COG recently completed the Comprehensive Economic Development Plan for the UCPCOG. The plan included a transportation element. The plan has a link on their website www.ucpcog.org.

Other Business

18. TCC Member Comments

Mr. Salmons informed members that he would be working on the UCPRPO Work Program (PWP) and asked if anyone had any suggestions to please let him know.

Upcoming meeting:

The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for January 9, 2018.

UPON A MOTION from Jimmy Eatmon (Division 4) was made to adjourn and a second motion was made by Catherine Grimm (Tarboro) and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Bill Bass, TCC Chair

James M. Salmons, UCPRPO