

600 East Fourth Street Charlotte, NC 28202 704-336-2205 www.crtpo.org

TO: CRTPO Delegates & Alternates

FROM: Robert W. Cook, AICP

CRTPO Secretary

DATE: January 14, 2016

SUBJECT: January 2016 Meeting

Charlotte Regional Transportation Planning Organization

Wednesday, January 20, 6:00 PM

The January 2016 meeting of the Charlotte Regional Transportation Planning Organization (CRTPO) is scheduled for Wednesday, January 20, 2016.

The meeting will begin at 6:00 PM and will be held in Room 267 of the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Government Center, 600 E. Fourth St., Charlotte.

Education Session

There will be no education session before this meeting.

Accessing the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Government Center

The Charlotte-Mecklenburg Government Center is located at 600 E. Fourth St. (corner of Fourth and Davidson streets) in uptown Charlotte. Parking is available in the Government Center parking deck located on Davidson St. between Third and Fourth streets; on-street parking is also available.

There are two ways to enter the Government Center. Enter via the large staircase on the Davidson St. side or through the plaza entrance facing E. Fourth St. (This is a handicapped accessible entrance.) Once inside the building, security staff will assist you to Room 267.

Non-Discrimination Policy

It is the policy of the Mecklenburg-Union Metropolitan Planning Organization to ensure that no person shall, on the ground of race, color, sex, age, national origin, or disability, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be otherwise subjected to discrimination under any program or activity as provided by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the Civil Rights Restoration Act of 1987, and any other related non-discrimination Civil Rights laws and authorities.

Charlotte Regional Transportation Planning Organization

January 20, 2016, 6:00 PM

Room 267-Charlotte-Mecklenburg Government Center

1. Call to Order Jim Taylor

2. Election of Officers

Jim Taylor

ACTION REQUESTED: Elect Chairman and Vice-Chairman.

BACKGROUND: The MPO's bylaws require that the Chairman and Vice-Chairman be elected annually at the first regularly scheduled meeting of the calendar year. The bylaws also require that the Chairman must have served as an MPO member (delegate or alternate) for one year immediately prior to the election.

3. Adoption of the Agenda

Chairman

4. Citizen Comment Period

Chairman

MPO bylaws limit the comment period to 20 minutes.

5. Ethics Awareness & Conflict of Interest Reminder

Chairman

6. Approval of Minutes

Chairman

ACTION REQUESTED: Approve the November 2015 meeting minutes as presented.

ATTACHMENT: Draft November 2015 minutes.

7. Charlotte Metropolitan Regional Strategy

ACTION REQUESTED: Reaffirm or reverse the current Charlotte metropolitan regional strategy.

BACKGROUND: In a letter dated December 14, 2015, Governor McCrory requested that the CRTPO reaffirm or reverse the current Charlotte metropolitan regional strategy.

ATTACHMENT: Governor McCrory's December 14, 2015 letter.

8. Draft FY 2017 Unified Planning Work Program

Robert Cook

ACTION REQUESTED: FYI

BACKGROUND:

- The Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) is adopted annually in accordance with joint Federal Highway Administration/Federal Transit Administration (FHWA/FTA) transportation planning guidelines.
- The UPWP describes the planning activities anticipated for the coming fiscal year and documents the allocation of state and federal funds associated with each planning activity.
- A draft FY 2017 UPWP will be presented.
- At its January 2016 meeting, the Technical Coordinating Committee tentatively endorsed the proposed funding allocations.

ATTACHMENT: Draft FY 2017 UPWP.

9. Upcoming Agenda Items ACTION REQUESTED: FYI

Robert Cook

BACKGROUND: Review of items that will appear on future agendas.

10. Adjourn

CHARLOTTE REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLANNING ORGANIZATION

Charlotte-Mecklenburg Government Center, Room 267 November 18, 2015 Meeting Summary Minutes

Members Attending:

Vi Lyles (Charlotte), Bruce Trimbur (Cornelius), Brian Jenest (Davidson), Sarah McAulay (Huntersville), Gary Savoie (Indian Trail), Norma Carpenter (Marshville), Jim Taylor (Matthews), Dumont Clarke (Mecklenburg County), Frederick Becker (Mineral Springs), Jack Edwards (Pineville), Michael Johnson (Statesville), Richard Helms (Union County), Brad Horvath (Wesley Chapel), Tracy Dodson (NCBOT-Division 10), Ned Curran (NCBOT-Division 12)

1. Call to Order

MPO Chairwoman Sarah McAulay called the October 2015 CRTPO meeting to order at 6:35 PM.

2. Adoption of the Agenda

Summary:

Chairwoman McAulay stated that an item to appoint an interim chair and vice-chair would be added to the end of the agenda. Mr. Cook requested that agenda item #6, 2012-2025 TIP & MTP Amendments List be moved to after agenda item #7, Legislative Changes to NCDOT. It was also noted that the Charlotte Area Transit System (CATS) had requested that agenda item #10, Metropolitan Transit Commission Representation, be pulled from the agenda. No other changes were identified.

Motion:

Mayor Becker made a motion to adopt the agenda with the changes noted in the Summary. Gary Savoie seconded the motion. Upon being put to a vote, the motion was unanimously approved and the agenda was adopted.

3. Citizen Comment Period

No one addressed the board.

4. Ethics Awareness & Conflict of Interest Reminder

Mr. Cook read the ethics awareness and conflict of interest reminder to the MPO. Brian Jenest requested to be recused from agenda item #9, LYNX Silver Line/Southeast Corridor Transit Study. No other board members identified conflicts.

Motion:

Richard Helms made a motion to recuse Mr. Jenest from agenda item #9. Vi Lyles seconded the motion. Upon being put to a vote, the motion was unanimously approved.

5. Approval of Minutes

Summary:

Chairwoman McAulay requested action on the October 2015 meeting minutes.

Motion:

Ms. Lyles made a motion to approve the October 2015 meeting minutes. Mr. Savoie seconded the motion. Upon being put to a vote, the October 2015 meeting minutes were unanimously approved.

6. Legislative Changes to NCDOT

Presenter:

Warren Cooksey, NCDOT

Summary:

Mr. Cooksey provided information to the MPO via a Power Point presentation, the contents of which are incorporated into the minutes. The presentation's purpose was to update the MPO on the recently enacted state budget bill that included revenue and budget authority changes that resulted in increased funding for

transportation projects. Some projects will be constructed earlier than planned, and some that had not been funded will now be able to advance. Powell Bill funding was increased, but the formula that calculated the amount available was repealed. The bill increased the number of projects the Turnpike Authority can study which will allow stalled preliminary work on the I-77 South project to restart.

7. 2016-2025 TIP & MTP Amendment List

Presenter:

Robert Cook

Summary:

Mr. Cook provided information to the MPO via a Power Point presentation, the contents of which are incorporated into the minutes. He stated that originally, staff planned to ask the MPO to approve the start of the public involvement period for the proposed amendments, however, the request was now to begin public involvement after TCC review of an amended project list. The reason for the change was that the increased funding for transportation in the recent budget bill that was just addressed by Mr. Cooksey was allowing for approximately seven additional projects to advance. However, a final project list will not be known until early December, but staff would like to include those projects in the current air quality conformity process to avoid having to undertake a second conformity process early next year. Richard Helms asked about the seven potential projects. Mr. Cook stated that the seven projects were not known at the time. Mr. Helms expressed reservations about granting staff's request without knowing the exact projects. Mr. Cook acknowledged that the request was unusual, but noted that the projects are currently in the TIP and are not new projects that have not been prioritized.

Motion:

Mr. Johnson made a motion to approve the start of a public comment period following the TCC's review of an updated amendment list. Mayor Taylor seconded the motion. Upon being put to a vote, the motion passed with one vote in opposition. The vote in opposition was cast by Union County.

8. 2016-2025 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendments a. Miscellaneous Amendments

Presenter:

Stuart Basham, NCDOT Division 12

Summary:

Mr. Basham provided information to the MPO via a Power Point presentation, the contents of which are incorporated into the minutes. He stated that the reason for the amendments was that the increased funding for transportation in the recent budget bill, previously discussed by Mr. Cooksey, allowed for three projects to be funded with STI funds instead of the originally programmed STP-DA funds. The projects were: U-4714, Old Monroe Road widening; R-0211EC, I-485/Weddington Road interchange; U-4913, Idlewild Road widening. A fourth project, U-5767, US 21 widening from Northcross Center Court to Westmoreland Road, will be funded with STI funds instead of the originally programmed bonus allocation funds.

Motion:

Mayor Taylor made a motion to amend the TIP as presented. Mr. Savoie seconded the motion. Upon being put to a vote, the motion passed unanimously.

b. City LYNX Gold Line (TE-4905) Amendment

Presenter:

Neil Burke

Summary:

Mr. Burke provided information to the MPO via a Power Point presentation, the contents of which are incorporated into the minutes. He stated that the request before the board was to amend the TIP to include a corrected cost estimate for the CityLynx Gold Line Phase 2. The amount originally published in the TIP was

\$75,000, whereas the correct amount is \$75 million. TCC unanimously recommended that the MPO adopt the amendment at its November meeting.

Motion:

Ms. Lyles made a motion to amend the TIP as presented. Mayor Becker seconded the motion. Upon being put to a vote, the motion passed unanimously.

c. STP-DA Share on Bicycle & Pedestrian Projects Amendments

Presenter:

Neil Burke

Summary:

Mr. Burke provided information to the MPO via a Power Point presentation, the contents of which are incorporated into the minutes. The request before the board was to correct errors in total project costs shown in the adopted TIP. The reason for the errors was that STP-DA funding amounts approved by the MPO are reduced in the TIP to account for the local match, and the costs in TIP did not accurately reflect total project cost. Staff has worked with NCDOT-TIP Unit to correct the errors. The TCC unanimously recommended that the MPO adopt the amendments at its November meeting

Motion:

Mayor Taylor made a motion to amend the TIP as presented. Mr. Johnson seconded the motion. Upon being put to a vote, the motion passed unanimously.

9. LYNX Silver Line/Southeast Corridor Transit Study

Presenter:

Jason Lawrence, CATS

Summary:

Mr. Lawrence provided information to the MPO via a Power Point presentation, the contents of which are incorporated into the minutes. The presentation's purpose was to update the MPO on the status of the ongoing study of the southeast transit corridor. The study's goals were: define a rail fixed guideway alignment that serves future transportation needs and promotes the land use plans and polices of the Independence Blvd Area Plan and the town of Matthews; provide interim transit strategy that utilizes the future managed lanes proposed on Independence Blvd; coordinate with land development strategies to protect and preserve the rail fixed guideway alignment. Dumont Clarke stated that he wanted to be sure that unrealistic expectations about rail service are not being raised because actual rail implementation may be many years in the future.

11. Prioritization 4.0

Presenter:

Neil Burke

Summary:

Mr. Burke provided an update on P4.0 activities. Project entry is complete. Two local contribution letters were received: City of Charlotte for intersection improvements at Eastway Drive and Shamrock Drive and the Town of Mooresville for the I-77/Cornelius Road interchange conversion. Mr. Burke displayed a chart that showed CRTPO involvement with P4.0 throughout 2016. There will be a need to review the local input point method to determine if changes are needed. A public involvement strategy needs to be established. A review was provided of when projects will be submitted to NCDOT's databases during the spring and summer of 2016. The board was reminded that the purpose of the Prioritization process was the development of the Transportation Improvement Program; a draft of the 2018-2027 TIP is scheduled for release in December 2016.

12. FY 2017 Unified Planning Work Program

Presenter:

Robert Cook

Summary:

Mr. Cook provided information to the MPO via a Power Point presentation, the contents of which are incorporated into the minutes. The presentation's purpose was to provide an update on the development of the FY 2017 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP). Funding levels were reviewed. Staff has not yet been provided with FY 17 funding levels, and therefore is using FY 16 amounts in the current development process. Local projects were discussed. Six local project proposals were submitted, totaling \$403,000 in federal funds which is 25.6% of FY 16 funds. The CRTPO has recently used previously unobligated Planning (PL) funds to support local projects, but the amount available for programming in FY 17 is not known. If insufficient unobligated funds are available, some of the local projects may not be fully funded. The presentation continued with a review of staff-driven projects and the funds tentatively planned to support those projects.

13. Appointment of Interim MPO Chair & Vice-Chair

Presenter:

Sarah McAulay

Summary:

Chairwoman McAulay stated that both she and Vice-Chairman Horvath will not be returning in 2016, and thus the CRTPO will be without elected leadership for two months. She said that because of the many important matters being faced by the organization at this time, it was important that an interim chair and vice-chair be appointed to serve during the next two months. Ned Curran, speaking on behalf of the NC Board of Transportation, thanked Chairwoman McAulay for her service.

Motion:

Vice-Chairman Horvath made a motion to appoint Mayor Jim Taylor of Matthews as interim chairman and Mayor Pro Tem Michael Johnson of Statesville as interim vice-chairman effective December 8 and ending when elections are held on January 20, 2016. Norma Carpenter seconded the motion. Upon being put to a vote, the motion was adopted unanimously.

14. Upcoming Agenda Items

Presenter:

Robert Cook

Summary:

Mr. Cook stated that the CRTPO's quadrennial certification review will be held on December 15-16. Also mentioned was the 2016 orientation scheduled for January 13.

15. Other Business

Jim Taylor presented Chairwoman McAulay and Vice-Chairman Horvath with gifts as tokens of the CRTPO's gratitude for their service.

15. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 8:00 PM.



STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

PAT McCrory Governor

December 14, 2015

The Honorable James P. Taylor, Mayor Town of Matthews 232 Matthews Station Street Matthews, NC 28105

The Honorable Michael Johnson, Mayor Pro Tempore Town of Statesville PO Box 1111 Statesville, NC 28687-1111

Dear Chairman Taylor, Vice Chair Johnson, and Members of the Charlotte Regional Transportation Planning Organization,

Thank you for your important work creating a long-term infrastructure strategy for your region to promote safety, mitigate congestion, and foster continued economic growth.

As you know, there have been recent statements and media attention focused on a single project. Most people are not aware that there are multiple projects included in the 10-year regional transportation plan approved by local elected officials through your organization.

I am writing to ensure that everyone fully and clearly understands the issue at hand and ask that the Charlotte Regional Transportation Planning Organization either reaffirm the current strategy for the Charlotte metropolitan region at your next meeting *or* reverse your previous decision and set in motion the necessary steps to create a new regional transportation plan.

Stopping any project that has already started has significant ramifications that must be understood and accounted for. If the strategy of using optional toll lanes is no longer supported by your regional transportation planning organization, a new regional transportation plan would have to be created because there are four projects in the current plan that would be affected.

As background, the current plan that the state is executing is based on a long-term strategy for your region that was approved by your metropolitan planning organization, which has representatives of all the local elected bodies. This strategy was created with public input and the goal of achieving the best long-term strategy to mitigate congestion for the region. This strategy took seven years to move from concept to project implementation, starting long before the current administration.

As you are well aware, the primary discussion around the Charlotte metropolitan regional strategy has been the I-77 project for optional toll lanes. These optional lanes, for which no current general purpose lanes will be converted to toll lanes, are part of a regional plan that was approved by the region's elected officials serving on the regional transportation planning organization with public input. In addition, the current plan also includes optional toll lanes for US-74/Independence Blvd., a segment of I-485, and I-77 south of Charlotte. These optional toll lanes are just one component of a regional strategy that took years of careful analysis by local elected officials who served on the regional transportation planning organization before gaining state and federal approval.

The following are the primary ramifications of reversing the current course:

The creation of a new regional strategy and project plan would be required: Any changes to the plan must go through several layers of approval and public involvement. You would need to come up with a new plan that meets Federal Highway Administration standards and can be approved by the North Carolina Board of Transportation. This process would necessitate identifying the projects in your current long-term plan you want to include in the next 10 years. This set of projects would have to be analyzed for air quality conformity and then individual projects will have to be scored through the prioritization process.

Funding availability for the Charlotte metropolitan region would be reduced: The funds expended already on the I-77 optional toll lanes project would obviously not be available for programming for future projects. In addition, breaking the contract would entail reimbursing the contractor for costs incurred, including both self-performed work and damages for sub-contracts into which they entered.

If there is a "market value" component to the ultimate cost for cancelling the contract, which can only be determined after such an action was taken, those funds would also not be available for programming on transportation projects. Also, the \$145 million in bonus funds allocated to the region because of the additional toll lanes project would be redirected to projects across the state (divided among statewide, regional, and division level allocation) and most of that money would likely not be returned to the Charlotte metropolitan region.

In addition, it is unclear what effect reversing the current strategy and terminating the contract would have on actual funding available to the region and this would need to be brought before the General Assembly. Voluntarily incurring such a cost does not have a precedent and we would have to work through funding and other implications with the General Assembly. If the current strategy is reversed, we anticipate the legislature could ask for the locality to absorb the costs in some manner.

This administration has worked hard ensure that future investments are made based on local initiative, transparent decision making, and diversified revenue streams – not based on mandates from Raleigh. Our top priority is to create a strong strategy to improve safety, mitigate congestion and prepare the entire state for economic growth.

In closing, while the current plan for the Charlotte metropolitan area was created through intense study and planning, the state will follow the lead of the local elected officials who serve on the regional transportation planning organization. The local planning organization must decide whether the Charlotte metropolitan region will reaffirm or reverse the current approved regional strategy. We strongly encourage you to make this decision at your next meeting. Please reach out to NC DOT if you have any additional questions or need help as you go through this process.

Governor Pat McCrory

cc: CRTPO Members

Secretary Nick Tennyson, NC Department of Transportation

Mr. Fred Steen



Task Code	Task Description	Proposed Tasks	Proposed Allocation- PL ¹	Proposed Allocation- 5303 ² CDOT	Proposed Allocation- 5303 ² CATS		
	II. Continuing Transportation Planning						
II-1	Traffic Volume Counts	CRTPO local count programAssist with CDOT count program	100,000				
II-10	GIS Analysis & Mapping	GIS analysis that supports the overall CRTPO planning process	40,000				
III-1	Collection of Base Year Data	Data will be collected in support of the CRTPO's annual socio-economic data update efforts	16,000	16,000			
III. Travel Demand Model							
III-3	Travel Model Updates	 Model maintenance Technical model services-highway focused Technical model services-transit focused Software & hardware purchases and fees Data management fees 	68,000	96,000			
III-4	Travel Surveys	 Purchase origin/destination data Conduct origin/destination study of Gold Line 	32,000		10,000		
III-6	Forecasts of Future Travel Patterns	Various applications of the regional travel demand model including, but not limited to, traditional highway forecasts, managed lanes forecasts and transit corridor forecasts	88,000		50,000		
IV. Long-Range Transportation Planning							
IV-1	Community Goals & Objectives	 Update/develop goals & objectives for the 2045 MTP Work associated with the MTP Steering 	80,000				



Task Code	Task Description	Proposed Tasks	Proposed Allocation- PL ¹	Proposed Allocation- 5303 ² CDOT	Proposed Allocation- 5303 ² CATS		
		and Advisory committees					
IV-2	Highway Element	 Work associated with the Comprehensive Transportation Plan (CTP) 2045 MTP project ranking, including a review of and possible update to the current ranking methodology 	80,000				
IV-3	Transit Element	Red Line studySilver Line analysis closeoutGateway Station master plan			170,000		
IV-4	Bicycle & Pedestrian Element	 Support for the Bicycle & Pedestrian Work Group Tasks related to the development of the 2045 MTP 	8,000				
IV-7	Rail Element	• Tasks related to the development of the 2045 MTP	5,000				
IV-8	Freight Element	 Support for the regional freight study Tasks related to the development of the 2045 MTP 	60,000				
IV-9	Financial Planning	 Financial planning activities associated with SPOT and MTP development 	8,000				
	V. Continuing Programs						
V-1	Congestion Management Strategies	 Update and implementation of the congestion management process (CMP) Implementation of performance-based planning and performance measures 	64,000				
V-2	Air Quality/Conformity Analysis	Work associated with two anticipated conformity analyses during FY 17	12,000	10,000			
V-3	Planning Work Program	Preparation of the UPWP	24,000				



Task Code	Task Description	Proposed Tasks	Proposed Allocation- PL ¹	Proposed Allocation- 5303 ² CDOT	Proposed Allocation- 5303 ² CATS		
		Support for the UPWP Review Subcommittee					
V-4	Transportation Improvement Program	 Development and updates to the TIP; work associated with P4.0 	40,000		5,000		
VI. Administration							
VI-1	Title VI	Ensure that CRTPO meets its Title VI obligations; possible Title VI audit	5,000				
VI-2	Environmental Justice	Conduct environmental justice assessments of projects using Degree of Impact tool	2,500				
VI-6	Public Involvement	 Various public outreach activities Update Public Involvement Plan in response to certification review 	60,000				
VI-8	Transportation Enhancement Planning	 Implementation of the Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) methodology and project selection process 	6,000				
VI-9	Environ. Analysis & Pre-TIP Planning	Participation in the Merger 101 process; participation in project steering committees (e.g. U-5526 and I-5507); alignment assessment efforts; environmental document review	32,000				
VI-10	Corridor Protection & Special Studies	 Support for the regional ramp metering project Support for on-call consultant assistance Possible support for the following local transportation planning projects if sufficient funds are available: Old Statesville Road Corridor 	500,000				



Task Code	Task Description	Proposed Tasks	Proposed Allocation- PL ¹	Proposed Allocation- 5303 ² CDOT	Proposed Allocation- 5303 ² CATS
		Feasibility Study Faith Church Road Alignment Study Wesley Chapel-Stouts Road Corridor Study Road Connections Prioritization Study NC 801 Realignment Study US 21/NC 115 Intersection Alternatives Analysis NW Huntersville Transportation Study, Phase 2 Participation in CRAFT and NCAMPO, as			
VI-11	Regional or Statewide Planning	well as engagement with regional partners	16,000		
VI-12	Management & Operations	Support for the essential CRTPO activities including, but not limited to, policy board, TCC and Transportation Staff meeting support	80,000		
Total			1,420,500	122,000	235,000

¹PL=Planning funds. These funds are provided by the Federal Highway Administration to support implementation of the metropolitan planning process.

²5303=Section 5303. These funds are provided by the Federal Transit Administration to support transit planning activities associated with the metropolitan planning process.