



M E C K L E N B U R G - U N I O N
METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

600 East Fourth Street
Charlotte, North Carolina 28202-2853
704-336-2205
www.mumpo.org

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TO: Mecklenburg-Union MPO Delegates & Alternates
FROM: Robert W. Cook, AICP
MUMPO Secretary
DATE: April 18, 2011
SUBJECT: **Special April 2011 MPO Meeting**
Wednesday, April 27, 2011 at 9:00 AM

A special meeting of the Mecklenburg-Union Metropolitan Planning Organization (MUMPO) is scheduled for Wednesday, April 27, 2011 at 9:00 AM in Room 280 of the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Government Center, located at 600 E. Fourth St., Charlotte.

The primary purpose of the special meeting is to take action on the draft 2012-2018 Transportation Improvement Program. The specific TIP action being requested is to approve the release of the draft TIP and related documents for public review. In addition, agenda items not reached at the March 2011 meeting are included on the agenda.

The MPO agenda and related material are attached to this memorandum. Please contact me at 704-336-8643 if you have any questions.

HOW TO ACCESS THE MEETING LOCATION:

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.

Enter the Government Center on the Davidson St. side through the ground-level door located to the right of the large staircase. (This is a handicapped accessible entrance.) Use the call box located next to the door to contact security staff. Inform them you are attending the MUMPO meeting. Once inside the building, security staff will assist you to Room 280.

Mecklenburg-Union Metropolitan Planning Organization

April 27, 2011

9:00 AM

Room 280-Charlotte-Mecklenburg Government Center

Meeting Agenda

1. **Call to Order** Ted Biggers

2. **Citizen Comment Period**

3. **Draft Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)** Robert Cook

ACTION REQUESTED: Approve the release of the following draft documents for public review and comment:

- a) 2012-2018 Transportation Improvement Program
- b) 2035 Long Range Transportation Plan amendments
- c) Conformity Determination Report

TCC RECOMMENDATION: At its April meeting, the Technical Coordinating Committee unanimously recommended that the MPO release the draft TIP and related documents for public review. Separate actions on individual projects are noted in the attached memorandum.

BACKGROUND: Taking the requested action will allow for the start of a public comment period on the draft 2012-2018 TIP and related documents. See the attached memorandum for more information. The attached "TIP Changes/LRTP Amendments" document lists all proposed changes

ATTACHMENTS: Memorandum and "TIP Changes/LRTP Amendments" document.

4. **MUMPO Project Prioritization** Nicholas Polimeni

ACTION REQUESTED: FYI

BACKGROUND: Prior to the next LRTP cycle, MUMPO's project ranking criteria will need to be evaluated. In addition, MUMPO will have an opportunity this summer to submit projects to NCDOT as part of SPOT's Strategic Prioritization Process. MUMPO staff has begun discussing prioritization on a broad level, and as it relates specifically to SPOT, and will be requesting input from the MPO as part of the process.

5. **Bicycle and Pedestrian Prioritization Process** Lauren Blackburn

ACTION REQUESTED: FYI

BACKGROUND: A subcommittee of the TCC was recently formed to continue the development of a methodology for ranking bicycle and pedestrian projects. Two meetings of the subcommittee have been completed; this is an update regarding the progress of the subcommittee and the status of the prioritization process.

- 6. Congestion Mitigation & Air Quality (CMAQ)** Nicholas Polimeni
ACTION REQUESTED: FYI

BACKGROUND: A subcommittee was formed last year to evaluate projects to be funded with CMAQ dollars. As part of that process, the subcommittee also had a chance to evaluate the criteria adopted by the MPO in 2008 that is used to prioritize projects. The subcommittee determined that overall the criteria is adequate and serves as a good tool to rank MUMPO's CMAQ projects; however, some minor clarifications were suggested, which were presented to the TCC at its February meeting. The TCC recommended that the MPO endorse the clarifications. The MPO will be asked to act on this at an upcoming meeting.

ATTACHMENT: Recommended clarifications to CMAQ criteria

- 7. Western Union County Local Area Regional Transportation Plan** Bill Duston
ACTION REQUESTED: FYI

BACKGROUND: The western Union County communities of Marvin, Waxhaw, Weddington and Wesley Chapel collaborated with the Centralina COG and MUMPO to develop a unified transportation plan. An overview of the plan will be provided.

- 8. FY 2012 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)** Robert Cook
ACTION REQUESTED: FYI

BACKGROUND: Update on the status of the FY 2012 UPWP development.

- 9. MUMPO Conformity Memorandum of Agreement** Eldewins Haynes
ACTION REQUESTED: FYI

BACKGROUND: This memorandum of agreement (MOA) describes North Carolina's interagency consultation and transportation conformity procedures. The Clean Air Act requires these procedures to be documented. The MOA is between MUMPO, NCDOT, the NC Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), Mecklenburg County Air Quality (MCAQ), the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and Federal Transit Administration (FTA). Approval of the MOA will be requested at the MPO's May meeting.

ATTACHMENT: [Click here](#) to view the MOA at MUMPO's website.

- 10. Legislative Update** Bill Coxe
ACTION REQUESTED: FYI

BACKGROUND: Update on transportation legislation pending before the General Assembly.

- 11. Adjourn**



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TO: Mecklenburg-Union MPO
FROM: Robert W. Cook, AICP
MUMPO Secretary
DATE: April 18, 2011
SUBJECT: **Draft 2012-2018 Transportation Improvement Program**

REQUEST

Staff requests that the MPO release the following draft TIP-related documents for public review:

1. 2012-2018 Transportation Improvement Program
2. 2035 Long Range Transportation Plan amendments
3. Conformity Determination Report

Staff further requests that the MPO's action include the TCC's recommendations for TIP project U-3467, Rea Road Extension.

TECHNICAL COORDINATING COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

At its April meeting, the TCC unanimously recommended that the MPO release the above-listed documents. The TCC took action on several specific projects. Information on those actions is listed below.

BACKGROUND

All outstanding TIP-related issues have been resolved. The attached spreadsheet lists all project changes that have been discussed over the past several months. It also lists information related to LRTP amendments necessitated by project schedule changes. By taking the action requested by staff and recommended by the TCC, the MPO will permit the start of a public comment period on the TIP and the related documents.

PROJECTS

The following projects were the subject of discussion and/or action at the April TCC meeting.

1. I-77 Managed Lanes, U-5104

The MPO endorsed the HOV lanes conversion project at its March meeting. Therefore the project recommended for programming in the TIP will consist of the conversion of the existing HOV lanes to HOT lanes and their extension to exit 28. The project is recommended to be programmed in FY 2015 of the TIP and placed in the LRTP's 2025 horizon year.

Also recommended is an amendment to the LRTP that calls for extending the HOT lanes to exit 33 in Iredell County. This project is not recommended to be programmed in the TIP, but it is recommended for inclusion in the LRTP's 2025 horizon year.

2. Rea Road Extension, U-3467

The MPO requested at its March 2011 meeting that the TCC review this project. The project was discussed at length at the April 6 Transportation Staff meeting and at the April 7 TCC meeting. The TCC meeting resulted in a recommendation that the project be programmed for ROW acquisition in FY 2015 and construction in FY 2016 and placed in the LRTP's 2025 horizon year. The motion on this issue was as follows:

The TCC recommends that the MPO include TIP project U-3467 in fiscal year 2016 of the 2012-2018 TIP and in the 2025 horizon year of the LRTP as a two-lane roadway on a four-lane cross section from NC 16 to NC 84 (sections A and B) with significant right-of-way participation by others, and includes the following three provisions:

- a. an environmental study begin as soon as possible;*
- b. the Town of Weddington should not approve any further subdivision activity (especially final record plats) until a corridor is defined through the required environmental study;*
- c. all parties recognize that any landowner who as proffered right-of-way must be offered fair market value for that land and must decline that offer in accordance with federal and state laws.*

Upon being put to a vote, the motion passed with 17 yea votes and one nay vote. The nay vote was cast by Stallings' representative.

3. Old Monroe Road, U-4714

The towns of Indian Trail and Stallings have stated that improvements to Old Monroe Road are a higher priority than two currently funded TIP projects: U-3809, Indian Trail Road, and U-3825, Stallings Road. The original plan was to transfer the funding from these two projects to U-4714 via TIP and LRTP amendments after the adoption of the TIP; however, NCDOT has indicated a strong desire to make the changes at this time.

Based upon consultation with Division 10 engineer Barry Moose, the TCC recommended the following:

1. The project should be split into the following three sections:
 - A. Trade St. to I-485;
 - B. I-485 to Indian Trail Road;
 - C. Indian Trail Road to Wesley Chapel-Stouts Road.(These sections are the same sections used in the LRTP.)
2. Section B should be the first project funded, with funding programmed in FY 2017.
3. Section B should be placed in the LRTP's 2025 horizon year.

Upon being put to a vote, the TCC voted unanimously to incorporate the above recommendation into its overall TIP recommendation to the MPO.

TIP CHANGES/LRTP AMENDMENTS
April 18, 2011

TIP #	Project	TIP		LRTP		Reason for FY or HY Change	Issues/Comments
		Current 09-15 TIP FY	Prop 12-18 TIP FY	Curt. Horizon Year	Prop. Horizon Year		
R-211 EC	I-485/Weddington Road interchange	2011	Unfunded	2015	2025	Delayed to Unfunded status	Ranking resulted in 15 points; LRTP rank 128; NO to applying equity funds
U-5110	McKee Road grade separation	2014	2014	Not in plan	2015	N/A	Change project limits: Independence Blvd to Stevens Mill Road
U-3850	Belk Freeway/I-77 interchange	2012	2012	2015	2015	N/A	Revert to 09-15 TIP desc: Add westbound lane through I-77 interchange
U-209B	Independence Boulevard widening	2011	2012	2015	2015	To assist in balancing funds	No need to change LRTP horizon year
I-5405	I-77, HOV conversion to HOT and extend to exit 28	N/A	2015	Not in plan	2025	New project	LRTP to be amended to include HOT lanes from exit 28 to exit 33 in horizon year 2025
I-4750	I-77 widening (NC 73 to I-40)	Unfunded	Unfunded	Not in plan	2025	Project accelerated to FY 2020	FHWA recommends 2025 HY
I-4733	I-77/Catawba Ave interchange	Unfunded	2011	2025	2015	Project accelerated to FY 2013	Project can be completed before end of 2015
U-3467	Rea Road Extension	2013 (partial)	2016	Not in plan	2025	Project scope has changed	
TBD	Freedom Dr widening, Edgewood Dr to Toddville Road	N/A	2013	2015	2015	See next column	FHWA states that project must be in TIP due to being regionally significant
U-5112	Potter Road improvements	2014	2014	Not in plan	2015	FHWA requires project to be in LRTP	Change project desc to note intersection improvements only
R-2420A	City Boulevard Extension	Unfunded	2013	2015	2025	Project is regionally significant	
I-5126	I-77 widening (Augustalee)	2013	Drop	2015	Drop	Project replaced by new TIP mgd lanes project (I-5405)	
I-5127	I-77/Westmoreland Road interchange (Augustalee)	2013	Drop	2015	2025	Delayed due to delay in Augustalee project	Cornelius is OK with dropping project from TIP
U-5128	Statesville Road widening (Augustalee)	2013	Drop	2015	2025	Delayed due to delay in Augustalee project	TCC & MPO endorsed dropping from TIP in November 2010
U-5129	Westmoreland Road widening (Augustalee)	2013	Drop	2015	2025	Delayed due to delay in Augustalee project	TCC & MPO endorsed dropping from TIP in November 2010
U-5130	Jim Cooke Road (Augustalee)	2013	Drop	2015	2025	Delayed due to delay in Augustalee project	TCC & MPO endorsed dropping from TIP in November 2010
U-5131	Northcross Drive Extension (Augustalee)	2013	Drop	2015	Drop	Delayed due to delay in Augustalee project	TCC & MPO endorsed dropping from TIP in November 2010-replace w/ U-5108 (exist. proj.)
U-2547	Charles St. widening	2011	Unfunded	2015	2035	Delayed to Unfunded status	
U-3809	Indian Trail Road widening	2012	Drop	2015	Remove from plan	Shift funds to Old Monroe Road, U-4714	Indian Trail and Stallings have determined that Old Monroe Road is a higher priority. U-3809 and U-3825 will be dropped from the TIP and LRTP.
U-3825	Stallings Road widening	2011	Drop	2015	Remove from plan	Shift funds to Old Monroe Road, U-4714	
U-4714B	Old Monroe Road widening, I-485 to Indian Trail Road	Unfunded	2017	2025 (B section)	2025 (B section)	See U-3809 and U-3825	A section (Trade St. to I-485) and C section (Indian Trail Road to Wesley Chapel-Stouts Road) are Unfunded and will not be placed in the Plan
R-2555B	W. Catawba Ave widening	Unfunded	2018	2035	2025	Project accelerated to FY 2018	
U-4913	Idlewild Road (Stallings)	Unfunded	2018	Not in plan	2025	Project accelerated to FY 2018	
I-3311E	I-77 SB lane widening, I-85 to Brookshire Frwy	2013	2016	Not in plan	2025	Project omitted from original 2035 LRTP list	This will correct error in 2035 LRTP
U-203	Airport Entrance Road	Unfunded	2012	Not in plan	2015	City has committed to build project	Project is regionally significant
U-5325	Roundabout-NC 84 & Wedd-Matt Road; NC 16 & Wedd Church Road-relocate intersection	N/A	2011	Not in plan	2015	New project	
TE-5103	Charlotte Streetcar	N/A	2011	2035	2015	Project accelerated due to receipt of grant	This affects only a 1.5 mile segment
R-4902	I-485, I-77 to Johnston Road	2015	2013	2025	2015	Project accelerated to 2013	
U-5116	Little Rock Road relocation	2015	2015	Not in plan	2015	FHWA requires project to be in LRTP	Change project desc to: cons NW arc of Prosperity Church Road/I-485 xchange
U-4024A	US 601 widening & US 74 interchange improvements	2014	Unfunded	Not in plan	Not in plan	To assist in balancing funds	
U-2507A	Mallard Creek Road-Sugar Creek Road	2011	2012	2015	2015	To assist in balancing funds	
U-2509	Independence Blvd, Idlewild Road to I-485	Unfunded	2018 (ROW only)	2025 & 2035	2025 & 2035		ROW acquisition only accelerated; Project in plan to NC 51 only



Mecklenburg-Union Metropolitan Planning Organization (MUMPO) Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) Project Ranking Process

APPROVED BY THE MPO: November 19, 2008

BACKGROUND: The MUMPO assigned a CMAQ subcommittee in July 2008 with the task of developing criteria to recommend projects to the MUMPO based on a comprehensive and technically-oriented project ranking process. Since the total value of proposed projects often significantly exceeds available funds, so an objective evaluation of proposals is necessary to determine the best use of CMAQ funds.

The following project ranking criteria process is the result of research and discussions by air quality and transportation professionals from the MUMPO region. The committee considered specific quantitative criteria for each of the categories, although this did not always prove to be feasible. The overarching goal was to create a thorough assessment that did not place undue burdens upon the applicant. When a quantitative measure of the absolute effectiveness of the project was not possible or reasonable, criteria based on a yes/no answer was created.

The scoring list below contains work discussed over the course of four subcommittee meetings in July and August of 2008. The TCC unanimously recommended this process to the MUMPO at their September 4, 2008 meeting.

FINAL PRODUCT: The MUMPO will have a process available that allows a wide variety of eligible projects to be evaluated for funding, without creating undue burdens on applicants.

PROJECT RANKING CRITERIA

1. Pollutant Reduction (25 points possible): This is the most important consideration for a project. How many kilograms of the four main pollutants: Oxides of Nitrogen (NO_x), Particulate Matter 2.5 microns in diameter (PM 2.5), Volatile Organic Compounds (VOC), and Carbon Monoxide (CO), will the project reduce over the lifetime of the project? NO_x, due to its role in Ozone formation, is the most important pollutant in the region, with PM the second most important. VOCs and CO are currently not found in high enough concentrations to significantly affect air quality, so emission reductions are not considered as a part of the pollutant reduction in this process. The applicant is responsible for all emissions calculations, with review by a MUMPO project ranking committee.

Pollutant reductions are calculated by taking the calculated yearly NO_x reductions and 25 percent of the PM 2.5 reductions, and then summing the two numbers. This yearly number is then multiplied by the number of years in the project lifetime. The result is the lifetime pollutant reduction.

EXAMPLE: A project will annually reduce NOx by 1,000 kilograms per year and PM2.5 by 1,000 kilograms per year. The applicant would take all of the NOx benefits and 250 kilograms (25 percent) of the PM2.5 reductions, and sum them. The net pollutant reduction would then be 1,250 kilograms.

The generalized project lifetimes are as follows:

- a. Bus Purchase- see Federal Transit Administration schedule for lifetime
- b. Transit Operations Improvements- length of program funding
- c. Park and Ride Lots- 20 years
- d. Intersection Improvements- 10 years
- e. Signal Improvements- 5 years
- f. HOV/ HOT Lanes- 20 years
- g. Telecommuting Center- 10 years
- h. Advocacy and Education- length of program funding
- i. TMO and TMAs- length of program funding
- j. Sidewalks, Bike Lanes, and Greenways- 20 years
- k. ITS Capital Improvements- 10 years
- l. ITS Operations Improvements- 3 years
- m. Truck Stop Electrification- 10 years
- n. Retrofit Technology- 5 years
- o. Other Project- see MUMPO staff

The lifetime pollutant reduction point breakdown is as follows:

- a. 100,000 or more kilograms removed = 25 points
- b. 75,000-99,999 kilograms removed= 20 points
- c. 50,000-74,999 kilograms removed= 15 points
- d. 10,000-49,999 kilograms removed= 10 points
- e. Less than 10,000 kilograms removed= 5 points

2. Project Cost Effectiveness (20 points possible): What is the CMAQ cost per kilogram of pollutant removed over the life of the project, with kilograms removed defined by the weighting process from Criteria #1? Projects that fall in the more-cost effective categories will receive additional points. The category breakdowns are as follows:

- a. \$24.99 or less per kilogram removed= 20 points
- b. \$25.00-\$49.99 per kilogram removed=15 points
- c. \$50.00-\$99.99 per kilogram removed= 10 points
- d. \$100.00-\$199.99 per kilogram removed= 5 points
- e. \$200.00 or more per kilogram removed= 0 points

3. Transportation Impact (15 points possible): ~~Will the proposed project improve the transportation system?~~ **The proposed project will improve the transportation system.**

Examples: Will it improve freight movement or non-single occupant vehicle (SOV) travel? Will the project address an ~~identified~~ **identified** non-vehicular safety issue? If it reduced vehicular congestion, just how much congestion does it eliminate in terms of hours of delay per day?

- a. Promotes multi-modal options, including freight movement (Yes= 5 points, no= 0 points)
- b. Improves vehicular, pedestrian, or bicyclist safety; **explain why** (Yes= 2 points, no= 0 points)

- c. Reduces congestion (0 points for non-traffic project, 2 points for projects that do reduce congestion, but did not perform calculation). The following scores are for those applicants who performed a before and after analysis of congestion:
 - 1) Less than 10 seconds of delay per vehicle reduced= 4 points
 - 2) 10-20 seconds of delay per vehicle reduced= 6 points
 - 3) Greater than 20 seconds per vehicle reduced= 8 points

4. Policy and Information Sharing (5 points possible): Does the project intend to educate the public or community decision makers on how to improve air quality? Does the applicant attempt to make institutional change in organizations to reduce pollution? (Yes= 5 points, no= 0 points)

- a. Distributes best practices to public and decision makers
- b. Involves institutional changes to agency regarding air quality and transportation

5. Applicant Financial Commitment (5 points possible): Does the applicant have a significant financial stake in the project? Are they contributing a significant amount of their own resources towards the total project cost? If so, then they will receive more points than those who may only contribute the minimum amount necessary. The ranges of percent match of total project cost, and corresponding points, are as follows:

- a. 0-20%=0 points
- b. ~~20~~ 21-49%= 2 points
- c. 50% or more= 5 points

6. Project Readiness (10 points possible): Does the project require environmental review? Has the applicant implemented projects in the past that are of similar complexity? Has the applicant implemented previous CMAQ projects, or projects similar in complexity?

- a. Environmental considerations
 - 1) Environmental study not prepared= 0 points
 - 2) Environmental document already received, categorical exclusion, or no environmental review required= 5 points
- b. Sponsor's ability to implement: does the applicant have a proven record implementing projects of similar type or difficulty?
 - 1) Yes= 5 points
 - 2) no= 0 points

7. Project Maintenance and Management (10 points possible): Has the applicant anticipated the ongoing maintenance and management obligations of the project? Does the applicant have a plan, and capability, for maintenance and supervision of completed project?

- a. Plan and resources in place= 10 points
- b. No committed or identified plan and resources= 0 points

8. Concurrency with Existing Plans (10 points possible): Has the proposed project been identified through a previous planning effort? Does the project help address an issue identified in one of the following types of plans?

- a. ~~Transportation (LRTP, TP, CTP, Bicycle Plan, Pedestrian Plan, or other locally adopted transportation plan or list for community)~~
- b. ~~Land Use or Comprehensive Plan~~
- c. ~~Recreation Plan~~
- d. ~~Economic Development Plan~~

- a. Identified in current adopted plan (10 points)
 - Transportation (LRTP, TP, CTP, Bicycle Plan, Pedestrian Plan, or other locally adopted transportation plan or list for community)
 - Land Use or Comprehensive Plan
 - Recreation Plan
 - Economic Development Plan
- b. Not identified in current adopted plan (0 points)