

New Leadership

At its January meeting, the MPO elected Commissioner Sarah McAulay, representing the Town of Huntersville, as the chair of the MPO. Commissioner McAulay has served on the MPO, on and off, for approximately 30 years, most recently assuming the position of MPO alternate for the Town of Huntersville in 2008. She was then designated the primary delegate for the Town in 2010. Her extensive experience and knowledge of the MPO's functions and activities will be a valuable asset in her new leadership role as Chair. Mayor Brad Horvath, representing the Village of Wesley Chapel, was elected Vice-Chair. He has served on the MPO since 2008

Update on MPO Expansion

Census-designated urbanized area (UZA) boundaries are reestablished after each decennial census. The UZA is the basis for the planning area boundary for MPOs across the After the 2010 country. census, the Charlotte UZA expanded significantly, meaning an expansion of the Mecklenburg-Union MPO's boundary



and membership, which also triggered the MPO to reevaluate its memorandum of understanding (MOU). The MPO board established a MOU subcommittee to guide the process and provide recommendations to the board. The subcommittee meets monthly and has discussed various issues, including voting, member fees and staff resources. The MPO board is anticipated to begin taking action on these issues in the near future.

At its March meeting, the MPO unanimously voted to rename the Mecklenburg-Union MPO the Charlotte Regional Transportation Planning Organization (CRTPO). The new name for the MPO was chosen because it more clearly identifies the UZA that establishes the MPO (the Charlotte UZA), and it is more representative of the organization's purpose (transportation planning organization).

Due to the reorganization and restructuring of the MPO, expect many changes and updates in the coming months.

www.mumpo.org

MUMPO Leadership

<u>MPO Chairman</u> Sarah McAulay Town of Huntersville

<u>MPO Vice-Chairman</u> Brad Horvath Village of Wesley Chapel

<u>TCC Chairman</u> Bill Coxe Town of Huntersville

<u>TCC Vice-Chairman</u> Danny Pleasant City of Charlotte Department of Transportation

<u>Upcoming Meetings</u> MPO – April 17, 2013 MPO – May 22, 2013 MPO – June 19, 2013

Contact

(704) 336-2205

If you know anyone who would like to be added to our mailing list, please e-mail us

info@mumpo.org

Website

Please visit our website for more information *www.mumpo.org*

MUMPO Members

Charlotte Cornelius Davidson Huntersville Indian Trail Matthews Mecklenburg County Mint Hill Monroe NCDOT Pineville **Stallings Union County** Waxhaw Weddington Wesley Chapel Wingate

Next newsletter April – June 2013

Long Range Transportation Plan Update

The MPO recently took action to approve highway project ranking criteria that will be used to rank the approximately 280 candidate projects that were submitted for potential inclusion in the fiscally constrained 2040 long range transportation plan (LRTP). In addition, draft goals and objectives have been prepared and were sent out for public comment in late February. The MPO will be asked to endorse those goals and objectives at its April meeting. Over the next several months, the project ranking process will continue as other aspects of the Plan are being developed concurrently. As work continues on the development of the MPO's 2040 LRTP, updates will be provided in the newsletter, as well as online at www.mumpo.org

I-77 High Occupancy Toll (HOT) Lanes Update

The project proposed on I-77 between I-277 in Charlotte and NC 150 in Mooresville, to widen the interstate using HOT lanes, has received a significant amount of attention over the past several months. A public comment period for amendments to the



MPO's LRTP and TIP, as well as an air quality conformity determination on both documents, began on March 23 and will run through April 22. Two public workshops will also be held – Wednesday, April 10 & Thursday, April 11. For more details, please visit the MUMPO website at: www.mumpo.org/I-77

MPO Expanded Meeting Schedule

At its March meeting, the MPO approved a change to its meeting schedule. Traditionally, the MPO has met every other month, for a total of six meetings per year. The approved change in schedule adds several meeting dates to its calendar in order to accomplish the substantial amount



of business that is necessary, including, but not limited to, development of a new MOU (see previous article about MPO Expansion for more details), LRTP update (see previous LRTP Update article for more details), air quality conformity on several projects and initiatives, as well as the standard amendments and approvals to the various plans and programs maintained by the MPO. The next meeting of the MPO is scheduled for Wednesday, April 17 at 7:00 PM.

Along with the additional MPO board meetings, several public meetings will be held associated with specific projects and plans that the MPO will be asked to either amend or approve. Please check the website periodically for updates about opportunities for public involvement.