

2. Minutes

TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD 5/16/2022

The Transportation Advisory Committee held a Hybrid in-person/TEAMS meeting on Monday May 16, 2022, at 4:30 pm.

Members Present

Chris Miller, Robbie Davis, Louise Hinton, Melvin Mitchell, Reuben Blackwell, Evelyn Powell, David Pride,

Members Absent

Richard Joyner

Others Present

Brad Kerr, Jordan Reedy, Ramon Muckle, Carlos Moya, Jennifer Collins, Elton Daniels, Kevin Bowen, Brandon Oliver, Andy Brown

Welcome and Introductions

Chairman Davis called the meeting of the TAC to order at 4:34 pm with a quorum present. He welcomed those online and in person to the meeting. Mr. Reedy introduced all in attendance.

Minutes of the 2/21/22

The minutes of the February 21st meeting had been mailed to members with the current meeting agenda. The Minutes were approved unanimously, with a motion of approval from Louise Hinton, and a second by Chris Miller.

Action Items

FY 23 PWP Budget Mr. Reedy presented the Draft FY 23 PWP Budget. He noted that the summary of the budget was in the agenda package, and the entire budget package was sent to TAC members prior to the meeting. No questions were asked about the PWP budget, and Chairman Davis asked for a motion of approval, Chris Miller made the motion, and the motion was seconded by Louise Hinton. The FY 23 PWP Budget was unanimously adopted by the TAC.

Title VI Agreement (Update) Mr. Reedy presented the updated Title VI agreement. The update was a complete update to all information, to ensure that the information is as relevant and accurate as possible. TAC member Reuben Blackwell asked for Mr. Reedy to briefly describe the changes made in the update. Mr. Reedy shared that there were many changes to the demographic maps identifying minority populations in the MPO. Mr. Reedy then shared that the biggest change to the plan is that the Spanish speaking population in the MPO has met the threshold for limited English proficiency, meaning moving forward that MPO documents for public input must include the option for Spanish translation. No further questions were asked, and Chairman Davis asked for a motion of approval, Louise Hinton made the motion, seconded by David Pride. The Title VI Agreement was unanimously adopted by the TAC.

STIP Amendments. Mr. Reedy reviewed the STIP Item N amendments from March, and April provided in the agenda package. Discussion began amongst the TAC board members about this process, and whether or not this process is more of an “acknowledgement” of the changes, rather than an adoption, since these changes have already been made prior to the TAC meeting. Chairman Davis asked for MPO staff to reach out to the STIP group to get a better understanding of this process, and for them to ensure that the changes are not being made to negatively affect the MPO, prior to MPO approval. The TAC resonated with this idea, and Mr. Reedy claimed that he would be reaching out to Leigh Wing to request a better description of the process, and if possible to have her present at the next TAC meeting to clear up the process. No further questions were asked, and Chairman Davis asked for a motion of approval, Reuben Blackwell made the motion for approval, and Chris Miller seconded the motion. The Item N amendments were approved unanimously by the TAC.

Transportation Planning Activities and Initiatives

Travel Demand Model Update Mr. Reedy shared that the MPO staff was working on updating the Travel Demand Model. After briefly describing the Travel Demand Model, Mr. Reedy shared that the model is being designed by the NCDOT modeling group, and is intended to provide the best data possible for the upcoming Metropolitan Transportation Plan update. No questions were asked by the board.

EB-5711 Sunset Ave Pedestrian Signals Design Contract Mr. Reedy shared with the TAC the details of the Sunset Avenue Pedestrian Signals design contract. Chairman Davis asked if a timeline was available for the project, and Mr. Reedy replied that they have not set a scope and timeline for the project yet, but that would be occurring in the days following the TAC meeting. No further questions were asked.

Information Items

STIP Project Status. Mr. Reedy noted the following project developments:

U-5026 & R-5720 (Sunset Ave / I-95 Interchange and Eastern Ave widening) - \$60.5M 28% Complete. Original contract date 6/30/2023 Revised contract date 4/19/2024.

B-5980 (I-95 Interchange Improvements at Halifax Road, SR1544) - \$23M (work began 9/9/2021) 5% Complete. The completion date is 4/29/2024

U-5996 Old Carriage Road widening –Let Date January 18, 2022.

U-5947 Benvenue Rd/US 64 Ramp Roundabout –Let Date April, 2022.

Louise Hinton asked how much the Benvenue roundabout project cost, and who it was awarded to. Mr. Reedy answered that the project was just over \$4 million, and it was awarded to Fred Smith LLC.

NCDOT Prioritization Process Update Mr. Reedy shared with the TAC the recent updates to the NCDOT project prioritization process, as well as the 2024-2033 Draft STIP. A presentation was given to the TAC members, in which Mr. Reedy shared that the Rocky Mount MPO was very fortunate in the fact that we only lost one project in the STIP update. Mr. Reedy then explained the process for swapping projects. Reuben Blackwell asked Mr. Reedy to ensure that Edgecombe County is receiving the same multitude of projects as Nash County, in which Mr. Reedy and Mr. Kerr explained they many existing projects in Edgecombe County currently in the STIP. The TAC members had a brief conversation regarding the potential for swapping projects. Mr. Reedy asked for members to review the list of “swappable projects” and for members to recognize the stipulations surrounding project swaps. Mr. Reedy entertained the idea of a special called meeting if a TAC member recognizes the opportunity to swap a project. No further questions were asked.

Mobi Award Finalist Mr. Reedy was proud to share that the Rocky Mount MPO are Mobi award winners. The Mobi award is a statewide transportation award, highlighting multimodal transportation projects in North Carolina. The Rocky Mount MPO was awarded a Mobi for the CCX Intermodal Terminal, in the “Urban” category. No questions were asked.

TCC/TAC By-Laws The TAC was informed that MPO staff will be updating the TCC/TAC by-laws, and told board members to expect to see them at the next meeting.

CCX Intermodal Facility Tour Mr. Reedy apologized to the TAC members that had inquired with him about a tour of the CCX Intermodal Facility. The plans to tour the facility were halted due to

Other Business

Secretary Kerr asked if there was any other business. There were no comments from the TAC

Announcements

Mr. Kerr announced the next TAC meeting will be held in person in city hall, with a virtual option, on September 19th, 2022, at 4:30 pm.

Adjournment

Louise Hinton made the motion to adjourn, seconded by Chris Miller, the meeting was adjourned at 5:25 PM.