

2. Minutes

TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD 2/21/2022

The Transportation Advisory Committee held a virtual TEAMS meeting on Monday February 21, 2022, at 4:30 pm.

Members Present

Chris Miller, Richard Joyner, Robbie Davis, Louise Hinton, Melvin Mitchell

Members Absent

Reuben Blackwell, Evelyn Powell, David Pride

Others Present

Brad Kerr, Jordan Reedy, Ramon Muckle, Carlos Moya, Jennifer Collins, Scott Miles, Elton Daniels, Kevin Bowen.

Welcome and Introductions

Secretary Kerr called the meeting of the TAC to order at 4:32 pm with a quorum present. He welcomed those online to the virtual TEAMS meeting. Mr. Reedy introduced all in attendance.

Minutes of the 11/1/21

The minutes of the November 1, 2021 meeting had been mailed to members with the current meeting agenda. The Minutes were approved unanimously, with a motion of approval from Chris Miller, and a second by Melvin Mitchell.

Action Items

STIP Amendments. Mr. Reedy reviewed the project amendments provided in the agenda package as follows:

At the regularly scheduled monthly NC Board of Transportation meetings, Item N is a standing order of business to adopt changes to the State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP). Adopted changes need to also be adopted by the respective MPO and RPO. Typically, changes are proposed one month and brought back for the final review and adoption the following month.

The STIP amendments from the December, January and February NCBOT meetings for the Rocky Mount MPO are listed below.

#1	HO-0009	Add Project NC Air Awareness Outreach Program (Sept Item N)	
		FY 2022 \$578,000 (CMAQ)	
		FY 2022 <u>\$282,000</u> (S)	
		\$860,000	
#2	I-6045	Accelerate Construction from FY 25 to FY 23	(Dec Item N)
		FY 2023 \$8,104,000 (NHPIM)	
		FY 2024 \$8,957,000 (NHPIM)	
		FY 2025 <u>\$1,639,000</u> (NHPIM)	
		\$18,700,000	
#3	I-5934	Accelerate Construction from FY 26 to FY 24	(Dec Item N)
		FY 2023 \$4,032,000 (NHPIM)	
		FY 2025 <u>\$1,416,000</u> (NHPIM)	
		\$5,448,000	
#4	I-6041	Accelerate Construction from FY25 to FY 23	(Dec Item N)
		FY 2023 - \$5,710,000 (NHPIM)	
		FY 2024 - <u>\$3,431,000</u> (NHPIM)	
		\$9,141,000	
#5	EB-5711	Additional time for plan and design from FY22 to FY23	(Feb Item N)
		FY 2023 - \$100,000 (TA5200)	
		FY 2023 - <u>\$25,000</u> (Local)	
		\$125,000	
#6	U-5996	Project no longer utilizing Build NC Bonds	(Feb Item N)
		FY 2022 - \$3,352,000 (T)	
		FY 2023 - \$10,055,000 (T)	
		FY 2024 - \$7,421,000 (T)	
		FY 2025 - <u>\$3,112,000</u> (T)	
		\$23,940,000	

Chris Miller asked if these amendments were “a formality” and Jordan Reedy answered “yes”. Robbie Davis asked if it would be too much to ask to add the job name of the project being amended to the agenda to give members a better understanding of what projects are being amended. Jordan Reedy replied that “that is a great idea, and going forward I will add the name of the project and a brief description along with each STIP Amendment. No further questions were asked. A motion of approval was made by Chris Miller and seconded by Robbie Davis. The amendments were approved unanimously.

Transportation Planning Process Certification Mr. Reedy explained to the TAC that the RMUAMPO is small enough in population to self-certify their Transportation Planning Process, and the process being proposed is one that follows both state and federal guidelines. Brad Ker received no questions regarding the process, Richard Joyner made the motion of approval, and Louise Hinton seconded. The process was approved unanimously.

Endorsements of Target SPM's Mr. Reedy shared with the members the proposed safety performance measures provided to the MPO by the NCDOT. The safety performance measures are goals for reducing traffic injuries, such as serious injury crashes, bicycle and pedestrian crashes, and traffic fatalities. Chris Miller asked if these targets had objectives for meeting the goals, and Brad Kerr informed her that the targets are more of a positive outlook towards reducing serious crashes, achieved through the ongoing transportation improvements across the MPO. No more questions were asked, and Louise Hinton made the motion of approval, seconded by Chris Miller. The SPM Targets were approved unanimously.

TAC Chairperson. Brad Kerr noted that during the last TAC meeting, it was announced that Councilman W.B Bullock would be relieving his duties as Chairman of the TAC, and that a new chairperson would need to be elected. Brad Kerr opened the floor for members to discuss the selection of the new chairperson. Robbie Davis nominated Melvin Mitchell to be the TAC Chairman, and Mr. Mitchell respectfully declined due to scheduling issues. Louise Hinton nominated Robbie Davis to be the new Chairman, and Melvin Mitchell seconded that idea. Mr. Davis claimed he can take on the role but may rarely be late or absent at the TAC meetings due to conflicts with his county commissioner's meetings. Mr. Davis reassured the TAC that he will make every effort to be at the meetings and plans on making the TAC meetings a high priority. Mrs. Miller shared that she believes that the Chairman should have prior experience with the TAC and that Mr. Davis would be a good fit for this role. Brad Kerr called for a vote on the matter of electing Robbie Davis as chairman, Chris Miller, Melvin Mitchell, David Joyner, Louse Hinton, all voted yes. The decision was unanimously decided in favor of Robbie Davis being elected as the new Chairman of the TAC.

Resolution of Appreciation Jordan Reedy explained to the TAC that the MPO Staff would like to pass a resolution of appreciation for W.B Bullock, retired chairman of the TAC. Mr. Reedy read the TAC the Resolution of Appreciation recognizing Mr. Bullock for all his years serving the TAC. Richard Joyner made the motion of approval, seconded by Chris Miller. The Resolution was passed unanimously.

Transportation Planning Activities and Initiatives

Metropolitan Transportation Plan 2050 (MTP) Mr. Reedy let the TAC know that the MPO was due to update and adopt their long-range transportation before September 2023. The TAC was informed that the MPO plans to seek professional consultation to help complete this rigorous task. No questions were asked by the TAC.

Title VI Agreement Jordan Reedy shared that the MPO was in the process of completing a Title 6 compliance review. The MPO passed a new Title 6 plan in recent years, but this review was to ensure that our MPO follows title 6 regulations.

Draft FY 23 PWP Budget Jordan Reedy shared that he was currently working on completing the Draft FY 23 PWP Budget. The PWP budget is the funding source that reimburses MPO staff through allocated federal funding. Jordan Reedy told the TAC that he would share the draft budget with TAC members once it is completed, and the TAC would be able to review the draft before the next TAC meeting.

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) - NCDOT reports that 37% of
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the project has been completed. The \$60M project completion date is April 2024.

B-5980 (I-95 Interchange Improvements at Halifax Road, SR1544) - \$23M (work began 9/9/2021) 16% complete. The completion date is 4/29/2024.

U-5996 Old Carriage Road widening – Let Date January 18, 2022. Awarded to Barnhill Construction for \$20 million.

U-5947 Benvenue Rd/US 64 Ramp Roundabout – Revised Tentative Let Date April 2022

NCDOT Prioritization Scores Mr. Reedy shared that the MPO staff and the TAC submitted projects into P6.0, but the NCDOT has delayed the development of the STIP till December of 2022. The MPO staff provided the TAC with the scores received back from the NCDOT from the P6.0 submitted projects, and Mr. Reedy opened the floor for TAC members to ask any questions regarding the scores. Jennifer Collins shared that the Board of Transportation needs to make a decision soon (hopefully in March) on where to draw the line on “committed projects”. The current STIP has 6 years of committed projects, and the MPO Work group has suggested to the Board of Transportation to revise that to a 5 year committed phase.

TAC Roster Update Mr. Reedy pointed the TAC members to the new TAC Roster in their agenda’s. The only change that has been made is that W.B Bullock has been replaced on the committee by Rocky Mount City councilman Reuben Blackwell.

TAC Attendance 2021 Mr. Reedy shared that the TAC’s groups average attendance was 85%, above a quorum. The MPO staff gave thanks to the TAC members for their attendance at the meetings.

2022 TAC Ethics Requirements Mr. Reedy shared that the State Ethics Commission requires all TAC members to file their statement of economic interest, and real estate disclosure forms, by April 18 2022. The forms are best filed electronically, but can be done by paper as well. Jordan Reedy shared that he is here to help TAC members file their ethics requirements, but he is not permitted by law to file these forms for the members. Jordan Reedy shared his contact information with TAC members and encouraged them to contact him at anytime with questions about filing, or to schedule an appointment with him to help them file their ethics agreements.

Other Business

Secretary Kerr asked if there was any other business. Robbie Davis entertained the idea of meeting again in person. Brad Kerr claimed he was open to that idea, and hopefully by May the covid case numbers would be favorable to meet in person if that is what the board would like. Jordan Reedy added that in the event that we would meet in person, he would make accommodations for those to meet virtually for those who would like to attend virtually. Jennifer Collins shared that Jordan Reedy submitted two projects into the “MOBI” awards, the Hunter Hill Road improvements, and the CSX Intermodal Facility. Jennifer gave praise to Jordan Reedy on his swift submittal of these projects, and that the public voting portion of the awards were live and encouraged members to go vote for our local projects! Elton Daniel’s asked if we could find another time that would work for these meetings, Robbie Davis mentioned that we have already moved the time back to help with his county commissioner meetings. Jordan Reedy mentioned that he would make a poll and send it out to committee members to gauge when they would like to meet. Robbie Davis asked if the Chairman of the TAC attends the TCC meetings, in which Brad Kerr answered that the TCC meeting is a staff only meeting and that the Chairman is not required to attend.

Announcements

Mr. Kerr announced the next TAC meeting will be held in person in city hall, with a virtual option, on May 16, 2022, at 4:30 pm.

Adjournment

Chris Miller made the motion to adjourn, seconded by Melvin Mitchell, the meeting was adjourned at 5:15 PM.