

**MECKLENBURG-UNION METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION**  
**Charlotte-Mecklenburg Government Center Conference Room 267**  
**September 15, 2010 Meeting**  
**Summary Minutes**

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**Members Attending:**

David Howard (Charlotte), Jim Bensman (Cornelius), Brian Jenest (Davidson), Sarah McAulay (Huntersville), James Taylor (Matthews), Ted Biggers (Mint Hill), John Ashcraft (Monroe), Jim Eschert (Pineville), Lynda Paxton (Stallings), Daune Gardner (Waxhaw), Nancy Anderson (Weddington), Brad Horvath (Wesley Chapel), John Collett (NC BOT)

**Non-Voting Members:** Joel Randolph (Charlotte-Mecklenburg Planning Commission)

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**1. Call to Order**

MPO Chairman Ted Biggers called the September 2010 MUMPO meeting to order at 7:10 PM. Chairman Biggers indicated that the agenda would be revised to move agenda item #7 (Charlotte Railroad Corridor Improvements) to the top of the agenda.

**2. Charlotte Railroad Corridor Improvements**

Presenters:

Michael Shumsky & Matthew Simmons, NCDOT-Rail Division

Summary:

Mr. Shumsky and Mr. Simmons presented information to the MPO via a Power Point presentation, the contents of which are incorporated into the minutes. The presentation covered the following points:

- North Carolina received over \$500 million in economic stimulus funds
- The funds will be devoted to track improvements between Charlotte and Raleigh
- Local projects include
  - Constructing a grade separation between the CSX and Norfolk Southern railroads in Charlotte's Fourth Ward neighborhood
  - Installing a second track between Junker (Mecklenburg County) and Haydock (Cabarrus County)
- The double track project will result in curve realignments, bridge improvements and the installation of new signal systems.

**3. Approval of Minutes**

Summary:

Chairman Biggers asked if everyone had an opportunity to review the July 2010 minutes and called for a motion.

Motion:

David Howard made a motion to approve the July 2010 minutes as presented. Sarah McAulay seconded the motion. The July 2010 minutes were approved unanimously.

**4. Citizen Comment Period**

Summary:

There were no public comments.

**5. Lake Norman Bike Plan**

Presenter:

Blair Israel, Centralina COG

Summary:

Mr. Israel stated that the Lake Norman bike plan had been presented to the MPO earlier in the year for an "endorsement," but NCDOT now wants the affected MPOs, RPOs and municipalities to "adopt" the plan. The request before the MPO was to adopt the plan and to authorize the MPO chairman to sign a memorandum of understanding (MOU) that set forth the commitments of participating agencies. Mr. Howard asked

if there were plans to ensure that the routes associated with the plan could be used as transportation routes. Mr. Israel replied that one of the plan's goals is to make bicycling a more feasible transportation mode. Mayor Anderson expressed doubt that residents will use bicycles for transportation. She also expressed concern about the project diverting funds from roadway projects.

Motion:

Mr. Howard made a motion to adopt the Lake Norman Bike Plan and to authorize the MPO chairman to sign the MOU. John Collett seconded the motion. Upon being put to a vote, the motion passed with one dissenting vote cast by the Town of Weddington.

**6. FY 11 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) Amendment**

Presenter:

Robert Cook

Summary:

Mr. Cook stated that the request was twofold: to reallocate \$56,624 in Planning (PL) funds and to change the description of the Town of Davidson's transportation planning project.

The reallocation was presented as follows:

1. Reallocate \$50,000 from Task Code VI-12, Management & Operations, to Task Code VI-10, Corridor Projection Studies. The towns of Matthews and Stallings will each receive \$25,000 to participate in a transportation plan with Indian Trail.
2. Reallocate \$6,624 from Task Code VI-12, Management & Operations, to Task Code III-3, Travel Model Updates. This will support overall travel demand model maintenance.

Regarding the change to Davidson's project, the Town had sought the funds to assist in the preparation of study of the NC 115/Potts-Sloan-Beary corridor. Due to the Town's Board of Commissioners not including matching funds in its FY 11 budget, the PL funds will be used to support the preparation of a downtown parking study.

Motion:

Ms. McAulay made a motion to amend the FY 11 UPWP as presented. Mr. Howard seconded the motion. Upon being put to a vote, the motion passed unanimously.

**7. Monroe Parkway Project Status Update**

Presenter:

Reid Simons, NCTA

Summary:

Ms. Simons presented information to the MPO via a Power Point presentation, the contents of which are incorporated into the minutes. The presentation covered the following points:

- Record of decision (ROD)-signed in August
- The right-of-way (ROW) process will begin soon-approximately 500 parcels will have ROW or easement claims
- Bond sales and overall financial schedule
- Toll operations, including location of toll zones
- Transponder program

**8. Small Project Ranking**

Presenter:

Lauren Blackburn, TCC Representative, Town of Davidson & Barry Moose, NCDOT Division 10 Engineer

Summary:

Chairman Biggers requested that Mr. Moose review the highlights of a presentation from the May 2010 meeting. Mr. Moose briefly reviewed his presentation, covering some of the funding sources he uses to fund small projects. Jim Bensman stated that he preferred removing a percentage of equity funds for use on small projects and asked if

doing so would affect existing projects. Mr. Moose stated that there would be an impact, and that some projects might have to be delayed. Ms. McAulay recommended that the TCC continue to work on the project and that this topic should be added to the November agenda for a final decision.

**9. Adjourn**

The meeting adjourned at 9:40 PM.

**MPO Education Session**

The regular MPO meeting was preceded by an education session at 6:00 PM. The education session was focused on a review of the draft 2012-2018 TIP, as well as information on how to interpret the TIP as prepared by NCDOT.