

MECKLENBURG - UNION TECHNICAL COORDINATING COMMITTEE

Summary Meeting Minutes

Charlotte-Mecklenburg Government Center

Innovation Station, 8th Floor

January 3, 2008

Voting Members: Wayne Herron-chairman (Monroe), Bill Coxe-vice-chair (Huntersville), Danny Pleasant (CDOT) Ken Tippet (CDOT-Bike Coordinator), Jonathan Wells-alt. for Debra Campbell (CMPD) Desmond Cole (LUESA), Leslie Rhodes (LUESA), David McDonald-alt. for John Muth (MTC/CATS), Louis Mitchell (NCDOT-Div. 10), Jack Flaherty (NCDOT-PTD), Jonathan Parker (NCDOT-TPB), Lauren Blackburn (Davidson), Scott Kaufhold (Indian Trail), Kevin Icard (Pineville), Brian Matthews (Stallings), Greg Mahar (Waxhaw), Mary Jo Gollnitz (Weddington), Justin Krieg (Wesley Chapel), Amy Helms (Union County)

Staff: Robert Cook (MUMPO), Barry Mosley (MUMPO), Stuart Basham (MUMPO), Norm Steinman (CDOT), Andy Grzymiski (CDOT), Crissy Huffstickler (CMPD), Jim Loyd (Monroe), Rick Mason (NCDOT-Div. 10), Steve DeWitt (NCTA), Reid Simons (NCTA), Jennifer Harris-via phone (NCTA), Loretta Barren (FHWA), George Hoops (FHWA), Dana Stoogenke (Rocky River RPO)

Guests: Steve Blakley (Kimley-Horn)), Saxby Chaplin (Trust for Public Land), Srinivas Pulugurtha (UNCC)

Mr. Coxe opened the meeting at 10:05 AM and asked if there were any changes to the agenda.

1. Election of Officers

Presenter: Bill Coxe

Summary/Requested Action:

Mr. Coxe requested nominations for the position of TCC chairman. David McDonald nominated Wayne Herron. Jonathan Wells moved to close the nomination process and his motion passed. Mr. Coxe called for a vote and Mr. Herron was unanimously elected TCC chairman.

Mr. Herron then requested nominations for TCC vice-chairman. Mr. Herron nominated Bill Coxe to be vice-chairman. Mary Jo Gollnitz moved to close the nomination process and her motion passed. Mr. Herron called for a vote and Mr. Coxe was unanimously elected TCC vice-chairman.

2. Consideration of December Minutes

Presenter: Wayne Herron

Summary/Requested Action:

Mr. Herron asked if everyone had had an opportunity to review the December minutes and called for a motion. Mr. McDonald made a motion to approve the December minutes and Jonathan Wells seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

3. Carolina Thread Trail

Presenter: Saxby Chaplin

Summary/Requested Action:

Mr. Chaplin appeared before the TCC to request its recommendation on an MPO endorsement of the Carolina Thread Trail project. He reviewed the concept of the project, noting that it is a 15 county network of trails. A map was displayed and Mr. Chaplin stated that the depicted greenways were conceptual and that the actual locations would be determined by local planning processes. The

project's fundraising goal is \$40 million; \$16 million has been raised thus far. It is hoped the private sector dollars will leverage public sector funds. The total build-out cost is estimated to be \$124 million.

Lauren Blackburn questioned why the network appeared denser in some counties than in others. Mr. Chaplin replied that the network depended upon feedback from the counties. Ken Tippetts asked if utility easements will be considered for future trails. Mr. Chaplin stated that they would. Mr. Herron noted the local Union County greenway plans and asked that Union County be involved.

Motion:

Mr. Tippetts made a motion to recommend to the MPO that it endorse the Carolina Thread Trail. Mr. Cox seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

4. Goldmine Road Thoroughfare Plan Amendment

Presenter: Jim Loyd

Summary/Requested Action:

Mr. Loyd reviewed the proposed amendment, which if approved by the MPO, would result in the Thoroughfare Plan being amended to show a realigned Goldmine Road. The realignment is necessary to accommodate an expansion of the runway at Monroe Regional Airport. He discussed the public involvement efforts which consisted of group and/or individual meetings with affected property owners. Justin Krieg asked about the future of the Airport Road/Goldmine Road intersection. Mr. Loyd stated that it would be signalized.

Motion:

Brian Matthews made a motion to recommend to the MPO that it amend the Thoroughfare Plan to depict a realigned Goldmine Road. Ms. Gollnitz seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

5. Draft 2009-2015 Transportation Improvement Program

Presenter: Andy Grzymiski

Summary/Requested Action:

Mr. Grzymiski noted that comments were still being requested on the content of the draft. He also noted that staff is discussing the need for a meeting with NCDOT officials. Mr. Grzymiski discussed the STP-DA funding issue, noting that January 18 was the deadline for proposals on how to allocate the funds. A total of \$20 million must be allocated: \$10 million in FY 14 and \$10 million in FY 15. There was some discussion about the expected adoption date-March or May. Jonathan Parker noted that March is not an absolute deadline for adopting the TIP.

6. FY 09 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)

Presenter: Robert Cook

Summary / FYI:

Mr. Cook discussed the FY 09 UPWP, noting that it is approved annually and lays out the tasks staff expects to undertake during a given fiscal year. He reviewed the available funding, and stated that the figures for the Section 5303 funding source were FY 08 amounts. This was because the FY 09 numbers were not yet available, and that for planning purposes staff would use the FY 08 figures until the updated information was made available. Mr. Cook went on to discuss the fact that the update to the LRTP would be staff's primary focus in FY 09.

Also discussed were PL fund suballocations. Mr. Cook stated that Davidson had submitted a request for funds for two different projects: updated street design guidelines (\$20,000) and transportation-related improvements to the town's APFO. Also, the towns of Weddington, Wesley Chapel, Waxhaw and Marvin had jointly submitted a proposal for the development of a local transportation plan (\$80,000). A May adoption of the UPWP is expected.

7. Stallings Comprehensive Transportation Plan

Presenter: Brian Matthews & Srinivas Pulugurtha

Summary / FYI:

Mr. Matthews informed the TCC that Stallings was preparing a local transportation plan and had enlisted the help of UNC-Charlotte to do so. He introduced Dr. Srinivas Pulugurtha who prepared the plan. Dr. Pulugurtha went through a presentation that touched on the highlights of the plan and its key findings.

Mr. Coxe asked if the plan would be used to amend the town's land development code to assist in protecting right-of-way (ROW). Mr. Matthews replied that it would not be necessary since the town's standards were greater than MUMPO's. Mr. Coxe urged Stallings to consider roundabouts at appropriate intersections. Danny Pleasant inquired if the town considered additions to the existing network in order to enhance connectivity. Mr. Matthews responded by saying Stallings geographic layout did not permit much in the way of connectivity enhancements.

8. Monroe Connector/Bypass Update

Presenter: Steve DeWitt

Summary/Requested Action:

Mr. DeWitt discussed the route 18 and 18A, noting that 18 was an alignment being considered by NCDOT when that agency led the project. He also discussed the differences between 18A and 2. Mr. Coxe raised the possibility of shifting at least a portion of 18A onto 18 in order to avoid floodplain impacts. Jonathan Parker asked if the school proximity issue is the main concern of the citizens group known as CARE (Citizens Against Route Eighteen)? Mr. DeWitt said that CARE has a variety of concerns.

9. North Mecklenburg Transportation Committees

Presenter: Bill Coxe

Summary / FYI:

Mr. Coxe briefly discussed the three transportation committees that have recently formed in northern Mecklenburg County: the Mayor's Transportation Task force, representing the three North Meck mayors (and the Mooresville mayor); the 2020 Committee formed by state representative Thom Tillis; the Huntersville Transportation Committee. Mr. Coxe stated that he will keep the TCC updated on the activities of the three groups.

10. Adjourn: The meeting was adjourned at 11:40 AM.