

**MECKLENBURG - UNION TECHNICAL COORDINATING COMMITTEE**  
**Summary Meeting Minutes**  
**Charlotte-Mecklenburg Government Center**  
**Uptown Conference Room**  
**November 4, 2010**

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**Voting Members:** Wayne Herron-Chair (Monroe), Bill Coxe-Vice-Chair (Huntersville), Norm Steinman – alt. for Danny Pleasant (CDOT), Ken Tippet (CDOT Bicycle Coordinator), Jonathan Wells – alt. for Debra Campbell (C-M Planning), Louis Mitchell – alt. for Barry Moose (NCDOT-Div. 10), Anil Panicker (NCDOT-TPB), Bill Sherrill (Matthews), Shannon Martel – alt. for Brian Matthews (Stallings), Amy Helms (Union County), Joshua Langen (Wesley Chapel), David McDonald (CATS), Kevin Icard (Pineville), Andrew Grant (Cornelius), Jack Flaherty (NCDOT-Public Transportation), Lauren Blackburn (Davidson), Jim Keenan (Charlotte Engineering & Property Management), Greg Mahar (Waxhaw), Brad Sellers (Wingate)

**Staff:** Stuart Basham (MUMPO), Robert Cook (MUMPO), Nick Polimeni (MUMPO), Crissy Huffstickler (Planning), Andy Grzymiski (CDOT), Tracy Newsome (CDOT), Anna Gallup (CDOT), Eldewins Haynes (CDOT), John Rose (CATS), Jim Loyd (Monroe), Pate Butler (NCDOT), Richard Hancock (NCDOT-Div. 10), Trisha Henry (NCDOT-Dist. 3), Jan Whitesell (C-M Planning), Larry Kopf (CATS), Zachary Gordon (Huntersville)

**Guests:** Jana McMakin (CCOG), Debora Sparks (Council on Aging), Lynda Paxton (MPO Vice-Chair – Stallings), Steve Blakley (Kimley-Horn)

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TCC Chairman Wayne Herron opened the meeting at 10:00 AM.

**1. Consideration of October Meeting Minutes**

Mr. Herron asked if there were any changes needed to the October minutes. Mr. Wells made a motion to approve the October minutes. Mr. Coxe seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**2. JARC & New Freedom Project Selection**

Presenter: Jana McMakin, Centralina COG

Summary/Requested Action:

Ms. McMakin informed the TCC that a 2<sup>nd</sup> call for projects for JARC and New Freedom funds that were left over from the first call for projects was completed, and that four applications were submitted. She stated that the selection committee recommended funding for two JARC projects and one New Freedom project and that the fourth project was not applicable to receive funds. It was also noted that all of the New Freedom funds were used, but that approximately \$134,000 in JARC funds were still available. Ms. McMakin indicated that a 3<sup>rd</sup> call for projects would be issued after the first of the year in order to solicit more projects with which to award the remaining JARC funds.

Motion:

Mr. Coxe made a motion to approve the project submittals for JARC and New Freedom funding as presented. Mr. Flaherty seconded the motion. Upon being put to a vote, the motion passed unanimously.

### **3. Mobility Management Project**

Presenter: Debora Sparks, Council on Aging

#### Summary/FYI:

Ms. Sparks informed the TCC about a mobility management project that was awarded New Freedom grant funds. She stated that the purpose of the project is to design a plan to provide easily accessible and safe transportation for residents throughout the area. A subcontractor, Gannett Fleming, was identified through a RFP process and work is currently under way to finalize the contract.

### **4. CATS TIP Amendments**

Presenter: David McDonald, CATS

#### Summary/Requested Action:

Mr. McDonald provided information to the TCC regarding four grants that are eligible for transit only. He summarized the grants awarded, and indicated that amendments to the TIP would be required to reflect the grants awarded. It was also stated that CATS worked with NCDOT to identify the TIP projects that would need amending.

#### Motion:

Mr. Grant made a motion to recommend that the MPO approve the CATS TIP amendments as presented. Mr. Panicker seconded the motion. Upon being put to a vote, the motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Coxe stated that the TCC would appreciate if CATS could provide the resolutions for TIP amendments prior to the day of the TCC meeting in the future.

### **5. FY 11 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)**

Presenter: Robert Cook

#### Summary/Requested Action:

Mr. Cook stated that Planning (PL) funds previously rescinded were being restored; \$291,642 will be available for programming in FY 11, which requires an amendment to the UPWP. Several project allocations were outlined in a memo to the TCC dated October 28, 2010, which Mr. Cook summarized. Mr. Cook concluded by noting that solicitation for FY 12 UPWP projects would take place soon.

#### Motion:

Mr. Steinman made a motion to recommend that the MPO approve the amendments to the UPWP outlined in the memo dated October 28, 2010, and to reallocate funds as proposed. Mr. Coxe seconded the motion. Upon being put to a vote, the motion passed unanimously.

### **6. Draft Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)**

Presenter: Robert Cook

#### Summary/Requested Action:

Mr. Cook outlined several areas of the Draft TIP in which TCC guidance is being requested. The information was presented in a memo prepared prior to the November TCC meeting, dated October 28, 2010, that was based on discussion at a prior staff meeting, and was included in the TCC agenda packet. Mr. Cook emphasized the importance of the timeline for making decisions due to the required air quality conformity process, and cautioned that if funds are to be moved, consistency across all jurisdictions should

be practiced. It was suggested that the TCC go through the memo item by item in order to provide guidance to the MPO. The following issues were discussed, along with the accompanying TCC recommendations:

**a. Proposed project delays**

*Does the TCC wish to pursue restoring funding to any of the projects?*

Discussion: Mr. Cook outlined several projects in the Draft TIP that are proposed to be delayed by NCDOT. He indicated that more information regarding the delay of a few of the projects was necessary, but that the recommendation is to let the other delays stand.

TCC Recommendation to the MPO:

- 1) Pursue additional information on projects R-211EC, U-4024 and U-3467 (Rea Road Extension).
- 2) Let other delays stand.

**b. Proposed project acceleration**

*Does the TCC wish to not accelerate any of the projects?*

Discussion: The TCC did not recommend making any changes to these projects.

TCC Recommendation to the MPO:

No changes are recommended

**c. Unfunded projects**

*Does the TCC wish to request that any or all of the projects remain listed in the TIP?*

Discussion: Mr. Cook stated that the recommendation is to remove the unfunded projects from the TIP. There was some discussion regarding these projects, concluding with a comment that the TIP is a funding document and should not contain projects that are not funded. The Cornelius representative disagreed. It was also determined that more information was required for one project (U-4024), and that it should be included with the group of projects that are delayed.

TCC Recommendation to the MPO:

A motion was made by Mr. Steinman to recommend to the MPO that unfunded projects be removed from the TIP (with the exception of project U-4024 for the reasons discussed). Mr. Langen seconded the motion. Upon being put to a vote, the motion passed with one dissenting vote.

**d. Rea Road Extension (TIP #U-3467)**

*Does the TCC support funding this project?*

Discussion: Mr. Cook indicated that more information from NCDOT's Division 10 office was requested for this project. The project was requested to be included with the group of projects that are delayed, until further information can be acquired.

No action was taken by the TCC.

**e. STP funding to CATS (TIP #U-5210)**

*Does the TCC support providing \$1.5 million in STP funds to CATS?*

Discussion: Mr. Cook posed the question to the TCC if it supported providing STP funds to CATS. The TCC did not oppose CATS receiving STP funds, but only if the funds are to be used for a capital project and not for operations. Mr. McDonald confirmed that the funds would be used to replace the fuel farm at the N. Davidson Street garage. It was requested that the TIP description be modified to

reflect the specific use of the funds, but otherwise the TCC was in support of leaving this item in the TIP.

TCC Recommendation to the MPO:

The project should receive funding because the funds are for a capital project.

**f. Other issues**

- 1) *Does the TCC support funding the projects associated with the Augustalee development?*

Discussion: Mr. Grant, of Cornelius, provided information regarding the projects associated with Augustalee, stating that all the funds in the TIP are private funds that do not affect any state or federal dollars, and that removing the projects from the TIP would affect the town's ability to develop the land around the proposed projects. There was also debate about whether these projects are different than unfunded projects because they have private funding associated with them. It was noted that one of the Augustalee projects (U-5131) is already included in the TIP as a STP-DA project (U-5108).

TCC Recommendation to the MPO:

Mr. Grant made a motion to leave the projects in the TIP as they are, without any changes. Mr. Icard seconded the motion. A substitute motion was made by Ms. Helms to wait until the January TCC meeting to make a decision on these projects. Ms. Blackburn seconded the motion.

After further discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Steinman to remove projects I-5127, U-5128, U-5130 and U-5131 from the TIP, but to leave project I-5126 in the TIP. Mr. Coxe seconded the motion. Mr. Herron called for the vote. Six votes were cast in favor and nine votes were cast in opposition. The motion failed.

Mr. Langen made a substitute motion to remove projects U-5128, U-5130 and U-5131 from the TIP, but to leave projects I-5126 and I-5127 in the TIP. Mr. Herron called for the vote. Ten votes were cast in favor and six votes were cast in opposition. The motion passed.

- 2) *Are any of the funded STP-DA projects in the Draft TIP no longer viable?*

Discussion: Mr. Cook and Mr. Polimeni provided a brief summary regarding the current projects in the TIP that are funded with STP-DA dollars, and indicated that more information is necessary to determine the viability of a few of the STP-DA projects.

No action was requested.

**g. Next Steps**

- 1) *CATS Streetcar:* It was announced that CATS will be receiving approximately \$25 million for the streetcar project. The representative from CATS stated that because the funds are not currently shown in the TIP, the 2009-15 TIP will need to be amended, and the funds will also need to be included in the Draft 2012-18 TIP.
- 2) *I-77 in North Mecklenburg:* The TCC indicated a desire to include in the TIP a managed lanes project for I-77. Several ideas were discussed regarding this issue which included having a conversation with NCDOT's Division 10 office about available statewide CMAQ funds, determining which TIP number should be used (or assigning a new TIP number) and following up with the North Carolina Turnpike Authority (NCTA) about its interest in preparing the environmental document.

Motion:

Mr. McDonald made a motion to recommend that the MPO adopt the TCC's recommendations regarding the Draft TIP, and request that a letter be prepared by the MPO in which it recommends that the NCTA be

involved with the preparation of an environmental document that studies the I-77 corridor in north Mecklenburg County, and that a TIP number be assigned to the I-77 project. Mr. Steinman seconded the motion. Upon being put to a vote, the motion passed unanimously.

#### **7. NCDOT Bicycle and Pedestrian Grant Initiative 2011**

Presenter: Brad Sellers, Town of Wingate

Summary/Requested Action:

Mr. Sellers provided a brief description of the Town of Wingate's proposal to use bicycle and pedestrian grant funds to create a pedestrian plan for the Town of Wingate. He noted that Wingate's Board was in support of the proposal.

Motion:

Mr. Tippet made a motion to recommend that the MPO endorse the proposal as presented. Mr. McDonald, of CATS, seconded the motion. Upon being put to a vote, the motion passed unanimously.

#### **8. Small Projects Update**

Presenter: Lauren Blackburn, Town of Davidson

Summary/Requested Action:

Ms. Blackburn briefly summarized the previous activity regarding the request by the MPO for a "small project" ranking process. She indicated that several informative discussions with the MPO had taken place but there was still not a clear definition for a "small project." In light of that, she asked the TCC if it is something that should be pursued. Ms. Blackburn recommended that it should not, and that the MPO delegates can continue to work with their TCC representatives and the NCDOT Division 10 office to pursue funding for "small projects."

Motion:

Mr. Coxe made a motion to support Ms. Blackburn's recommendation. Ms. Blackburn seconded the motion. Upon being put to a vote, the motion passed unanimously.

#### **9. Waxhaw Parkway Alignment Study Update**

Presenter: Steve Blakley, Kimley-Horn

Summary/FYI:

Mr. Blakley provided information to the TCC via a Power Point presentation, the contents of which are incorporated into the minutes [here](#).

#### **10. Metrolina Regional Travel Demand Model Update**

Presenter: Anna Gallup, CDOT

Summary/FYI:

Ms. Gallup provided a brief update on the Regional Travel Demand Model, specifically how the allocated Unified Planning Work Program money is being spent, including the execution of contracts and data purchasing.

### **11. NCDOT Complete Streets Advisory Group Update**

Presenter: Tracy Newsome, CDOT

#### Summary/FYI:

Ms. Newsome provided an update of the recent work accomplished by the Complete Streets Advisory Group. She noted that a presentation was given to the Board of Transportation and that draft framework and content could be available as early as December, and that there will be an opportunity for feedback at the time of its release. Mr. Steinman stated that cost sharing will be an important component of the process going forward and that this item could be discussed at the transportation staff meeting. Mr. Coxe asked if Ms. Newsome would be available for the upcoming staff meeting, and she confirmed she would.

### **12. Comprehensive Transportation Plan**

Presenter: Anil Panicker, NCDOT

#### Summary/FYI:

Mr. Panicker announced that the preliminary base map has been completed and that the CTP subcommittee meeting will take place on Wednesday, November 10.

### **Miscellaneous Announcements**

Mr. Herron announced that this would be his last TCC meeting. Mr. Coxe commended Mr. Herron for his time and service as chair of the TCC.

**13. Adjourn:** The meeting was adjourned at 12:20 PM.