

Transportation Staff Meeting

June 26, 2013

2:00 PM

Uptown Conference Room, 8th floor

AGENDA

1. Greenway Project TIP Amendments

a. EB-5011, Bearskin Creek Greenway (Stiwinter)

Description:

The Bearskin Creek Greenway project is currently programmed as a feasibility study. The request is to program it for construction. The project will cost \$220,000 for planning and design and \$1,420,000 for construction totaling \$1,640,000. Planning and design will occur in FY 2014 and construction in 2015. The funding for the project is proposed to come from Enhancement Bike Funds (80%) and State funds (20%). The City of Monroe will be responsible for all ROW acquisition.

b. Toby & Little Sugar Creek Greenways (G. Cook & Higginbotham)

Description:

See attachment.

2. MOU Revision Update (Cook)

Description:

Update on the outcome of the June 19 MOU Subcommittee and MPO meetings.

3. MPO Meeting Public Comments (Cook)

Description:

Chairwoman Sarah McAulay formed a subcommittee to develop procedures to be placed in the MPO bylaws for the public comment period at MPO meetings. The subcommittee has requested staff/ TCC recommendations on this topic.

4. I-77 HOT Lanes Amendments Recommendations (Coxe)

Description:

The MPO's adoption of amendments to the 2035 LRTP and 2012-2018 TIP to include HOT lanes on I-77 also included an endorsement of eight recommendations (see attachment). The purpose of this discussion will be to initiate the necessary follow up that some of the recommendations require.

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Agenda Item 1b: Toby & Little Sugar Creek Greenways-TIP Amendments

Information below was provided by the Mecklenburg County Park & Recreation Department staff.

Currently Toby Creek Phase II EB-5524 has a fund allocation of \$1.5 million. Since this project was a duplicate of C-5225, Mecklenburg County Park & Recreation proposes to use the funding as follows:

Toby Phase II budget shortfall:

\$700,000 for added construction costs. Toby II, currently funded through a CMAQ grant (C-5225), is running over budget. The additional funds from EB-5524 will help us cover costs associated with several scope items that would otherwise need to be significantly reduced and/or deleted from the project.

Little Sugar Creek (LSC) Greenway Phase E:

\$1,100,000 in additional funds for LSC Phase E (EB-4715E). We currently have \$1,000,000 in existing construction funds from EB-4715E. However, this amount will not be enough to build the full 5 mile section which is currently funded for design. The additional funds (from EB-5524) plus County funds we anticipate being available, would allow the County to significantly increase the amount of trail we can build immediately, and likely allow us to build the entire 5 mile project.

Note that the above two amounts equal \$1.8 million. This is a \$300,000 increase to the original \$1.5 million in EB-5524. NCDOT Bike/Ped Division has indicated that the additional \$300,000 is available from federal enhancement dollars and new federal transportation alternatives dollars that can be programmed on more projects than previously programmed in the TIP for FY 14 and 15. There is more federal funding available for bike-ped than anticipated when the STIP was formed several years ago.

This adjustment can be achieved in one of two ways. The best/preferred option has yet to be determined by NCDOT.

1) Activate EB-5524 at the revised amount of \$700,000 to go towards Toby II (in addition to, but separate from C-5225). Then revise LSC EB-4715E, increasing it by \$1.1 million.

2) NOT activate EB-5524 at all, and instead revise C-5225 increasing it by \$700,000 (shifting funds over from EB-5524). Then revise LSC EB-4715E, increasing it by \$1.1 million.

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Agenda Item 4: I-77 HOT Lanes Amendments Recommendations

The recommendations listed below were endorsed by the MPO when it amended the 2035 LRTP and 2012-2018 TIP to include HOT lanes on I-77.

1. The MPO acknowledges that under current NCDOT financial structure, approximately \$40M in project delays would need to occur to accomplish the project.
2. MUMPO acknowledges that these actions only allow the project to move further into procurement.
3. The TCC should develop additional I-77 North projects, including General Purpose lanes north of Cornelius, and evaluate them in the LRTP update.
4. The MPO recommends that a strategic study of all travel corridors (including I-77) from Charlotte to Statesville begin as soon as possible.
5. The MPO recommends that NCDOT continue its high level of coordination with MUMPO and local staff through procurement, implementation and operation.
6. The MPO recommends that NCDOT and MUMPO convene a joint task force to coordinate this project with other area managed lanes projects.
7. The MPO recommends that NCDOT should appoint a project manager to coordinate all activities associated with the project.
8. No action should be taken by NCDOT or any other party to discourage informal (i.e. non-prearranged) carpooling.