

**Wilmington Urban Area
Technical Coordinating Committee
Meeting Notes for May 21, 2014**

Members Present:

Mike Kozlosky, Wilmington MPO
Helen Bunch, Brunswick County
Ashley Frank, Pender County
Stephanie Ayers, NC Ports
Don Bennett, City of Wilmington
Adrienne Harrington, TDM Coordinator
Chris O'Keefe, New Hanover County
Zach Steffey, Town of Wrightsville Beach
Nora McCann, NCDOT Transportation Planning Branch

Ed Parvin, Town of Carolina Beach
Albert Eby, WAVE Transit
Trey Burke, Town of Navassa
Patrick Riddle, NCDOT Division 3
Robert Waring, Town of Leland
Nancy Avery, Town of Kure Beach

1. Call to Order

Mr. Kozlosky called the meeting to order at 10:06am.

2. Approval of Minutes

Ms. Bunch told members that on page two, the second paragraph states “.....the I-74 Alternate is currently proposed to traverse the Green Swamp in Columbus and Brunswick counties to Ocean Isle.” She said that the actual destination should be Myrtle Beach as opposed to Ocean Isle. With that correction, the minutes for the April 16, 2014 meeting were approved unanimously.

3. Consent Agenda

- a. **Opening of the 30-day public comment period for STIP/MTIP Amendments**
- b. **Resolution adopting STP-DA Project Submittal Guide**
- c. **Resolution adopting TAP-DA Project Submittal Guide**
- d. **Resolution adopting an amendment to the 2014-2015 UPWP**

Ms. Avery made the motion to approve the items on the consent agenda and forward to the TAC for consideration. Ms. Harrington seconded the motion and it carried unanimously

4. New Business

- a. **Resolution rescinding the request for the Wilmington MPO to be the federal designated recipient of Section 5310 funds**

Ms. Rashid told members that at their March 26th meeting, the TAC approved a resolution to appoint the Wilmington MPO as the designated recipient of Section 5310 funds. Following additional discussion with the NCDOT Public Transportation Division, FTA and other MPOs, staff was made aware that other MPOs have had their local transit authority be the designated recipient for the funds. She told members that staff would propose to divided the responsibilities so that the MPO would manage the decisions regarding how the funds are allocated. Ms. Rashid said that because the Cape Fear Public Transportation Authority (CFPTA) already handles the financial management of FTA funding, staff recommended that they be the designated recipient of the funds.

Ms. Bunch asked if this would impact county's transportation systems that historically has depended upon this money. Mr. Eby told members that won't change. The State will still receive its allocation of Section 5310 funding and that goes to the counties through the State. He noted that the selection process is not necessarily a competitive process, but it does require that funds be allocated through an established program of projects.

Ms. McCann made the motion to support the resolution rescinding the request for the Wilmington MPO to be the federal designated recipient of Section 5310 funds and forward to the TAC for consideration. Ms. Avery seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

b. Resolution supporting the Cape Fear Public Transportation Authority be the federal designated recipient of Section 5310 funds

Ms. Avery made the motion to support the resolution requesting that Cape Fear Public Transportation Authority be the federal designated recipient of Section 5310 funds and forward to the TAC for consideration. Mr. Eby seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

c. Re-schedule September 24th TAC Meeting Date

Mr. Kozlosky told members that the regularly scheduled TAC meeting for September 24th will be rescheduled.

5. Discussion

a. NCDOT response regarding the removal of certain routes within the Wilmington region from the North Carolina truck network with reasonable access routes designation

Mr. Kozlosky told members the request to remove certain routes within the Wilmington region from the NC truck network was denied by NCDOT. He will bring the information to the TAC for discussion at the May 28th meeting.

Mr. O'Keefe asked Ms. Ayers if the Port Authority had taken a stand on the request to limit certain routes. Ms. Ayers told members that the NC Ports Authority was not comfortable with limiting truck access to both of the bridges into Wilmington.

b. Strategic Transportation Investment Formula

Mr. Kozlosky told members that on May 14th the NCDOT released their scores for the highway and non-highway projects. Due to scheduling issues, the time frame for the submittal of scores to the Department has been extended. The MPOs, RPOs and Division Engineers now have the opportunity to submit scores between June 2nd and August 29th.

Mr. Kozlosky said staff has begun inputting information into the local methodology. He noted that during the process staff identified a few flaws in the methodology that will need to be corrected in Prioritization 4.0. Mr. Kozlosky said under this formula used for Prioritization 3.0, all modes will compete for the same funding. However, some of the criteria being used for the local methodology may not be applicable for all modes; and, their scores may be lower. An example of this is bike/ped projects. There is not a SPOT score for a congestion factor for bike/ped projects and those projects will receive a "zero" score because the criteria does not apply. Mr. O'Keefe suggested instead of receiving a zero, they should get all the points available for that criteria. Mr. Kozlosky said staff could consider that as an option.

Mr. Kozlosky told members that the next key step is to get resolutions of support for the projects from the local jurisdictions. He reminded members that these resolutions must specify facts and figures to justify the need for the project.

c. Strategic Highway Corridors

Mr. Kozlosky told members that NCDOT is in the process of updating their Strategic Highway Corridors. The Department has rated and ranked each of the strategic corridors. The score for the ranking was based on system connectivity, mobility and economic prosperity. Mr. Kozlosky stated that the Department is accepting comments and staff has prepared some initial comments. He said staff will be submitting those, as well as any comments submitted by TCC/TAC members to the Department by email. He noted that the comment form was included in the packet.

d. Statewide Rail Plan

Mr. Kozlosky told members that NCDOT is preparing a Statewide Rail Plan. The public comment survey is due back to the Department by June 15th. They are also accepting additional project submittals. The project submission form and the public comment survey form are included in the packet.

e. Shipyard Boulevard Sidewalk Project

Mr. Kozlosky told members that the Port requested that a sidewalk be constructed from Carolina Beach Road down to WECT. The project will also include bus pull-outs. Staff met with CFPTA and the Ports. The Authority has identified funds from the 2013 STP-DA allocation and staff is working through the process of identifying the remaining funds WAVE would have through their STP-DA allocation. Staff is working to develop a cost estimate for the project and will bring this back to the committee for consideration.

Ms. Ayers told members the Port is interested in the project for safety reasons. Often times there are several trucks queued up next to stopped transit buses with the neighborhoods residents, children, elderly and handicapped that are waiting for the bus. She noted that this project would offer safer access to transit for area residents.

Mr. Eby told members that this is one of the highest priority projects for safety. Mr. Kozlosky told members staff will add the project to the MPO's update in order to keep everyone informed on the projects status.

6. Updates

Updates are included in the agenda packet.

7. Announcements

8. Adjournment

With no further items, the meeting was adjourned at 10:50am.

THE ABOVE MINUTES ARE NOT A VERBATIM RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS.

THE ENTIRE PROCEEDINGS ARE RECORDED ON A COMPACT DISC AS PART OF THIS RECORD.