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WMPO Technical Coordinating Committee (TCC) Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, March 12, 2025
525 N 4th Street
Wilmington, NC 28401

Members Present, In person
Sam Boswell, Cape Fear Rural Planning Organization
Carolyn Caggia, WMPO
Adrienne Cox, NCDOT Division 3

Members Present, Remote
Gloria Abbotts, Town of Carolina Beach
Ashli Barefoot, Town of Leland
Granseur Dick, Wilmington International Airport
Karlene Ellis Vitalis, New Hanover County
Mark Hairr, Cape Fear Public Transportation Authority
Adrienne Harrington, Town of Belville
Adam Moran, Pender County
Mandy Sanders, Town of Kure Beach
Nazia Sarder (Vice Chair), NCDOT TPD

Others Present, In Person
Caitlin Cerza, WMPO
Tessa Jones, WMPO
Beth King, WMPO
Abby Lorenzo, WMPO
Greer Templer, WMPO

Others Present, Remote
Kelly Becker, NCDOT Traffic Safety
Sarah Brown, Kittleson & Associates
Krysden Burden, WMPO
Cheryl Hannah, HDR Engineering
Brian Murphy, NCDOT Traffic Safety
Bill Kincannon, HDR Engineering

1. **Call to Order**
   Abby Lorenzo called the meeting to order at 10:01am.

2. **Approval of the Agenda**
   Carolyn Caggia made a motion to approve the agenda, seconded by Granseur Dick. The motion passed unanimously.

3. **Presentations**
    a. **NCDOT Safety Program and Vision Zero- Brian Murphy, NCDOT**
    Brian Murphy from NCDOT Traffic Safety made a presentation regarding statewide and regional safety trends and programs. The presentation included an overview of statewide and WMPO planning area safety trends, a high level overview of NCDOT's safety programs, performance measures utilized, and safety data resources.

    Following the presentation, Ms. Caggia asked Mr. Murphy how vehicle miles traveled (VMT) are calculated. Mr. Murphy explained that traffic estimates are based on traffic counts and are factored up to the regional level. Adam Moran expressed his appreciation for the information provided and commented that he is hopeful that safety will continue to be a priority. Mr. Murphy spoke about the WMPO's upcoming Safety Action Plan being a great opportunity to emphasize local safety initiatives and projects. He also talked about NCDOT's process for individual crash review, and how this is used to identify locations that could benefit from low-cost, high-impact safety projects.

    Karlene Ellis Vitalis commented on the need to educate the public, especially young people, on safe pedestrian behaviors. Mr. Murphy agreed, adding that safety culture is the hardest to change and requires coordinated efforts. Ms. Lorenzo said that WMPO will send follow up materials from NCDOT and reminded the committee that the upcoming Safety Action Plan and ongoing Be A Looker campaign are efforts being undertaken for roadway safety.

4. **Consent Agenda**
    a. Approval of TCC Meeting Minutes—February 12, 2025
    b. Resolution Approving 2024-2033 STIP/MPO Administrative Modifications #25-1
    c. Opening of the 30-day public comment period for 2024-2033 STIP/MPO Amendment #25-2
    d. Resolution endorsing the Model Trail Lighting Policy

    Adrienne Harrington made a motion to approve the consent agenda, seconded by Mark Hairr. The motion passed unanimously.

5. **Regular Agenda**

   a. **Resolution approving Amendment #3 to the FY25 Unified Planning Work Program**
   Ms. Lorenzo overviewed the item, stating that budget shifts in the proposed amendment are for housekeeping purposes only and that no shifts in total funding occurred. A motion to approve the amendment was made by Sam Boswell, seconded by Mr. Moran. The motion passed unanimously.

   b. **Resolution adopting the FY26 Unified Planning Work Program**
   Ms. Lorenzo introduced the FY26 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP), stating that it had been first brought to the committee in January and has gone through the required 30-day public comment period. She highlighted that PL 104 funds are shifted from environmental justice to Title VI to align with changes on the federal level. Ms. Lorenzo stated that staff recommends approval, as the UPWP must be submitted to NCDOT by March 31, 2025.

   A motion to approve the FY26 UPWP was made by Mr. Hairr, seconded by Mr. Moran. The motion carried unanimously.

   c. **Resolution certifying the FY26 Wilmington Urban Area Metropolitan Planning Organization's Transportation Planning Process**
   Ms. Lorenzo explained that the WMPO must submit its self-certification with its annual UPWP to ensure that it is addressing transportation issues in accordance with federal regulations. A motion to certify the WMPO's Transportation Planning Process was made by Ms. Harrington, seconded by Mr. Boswell. The motion carried unanimously.

   d. **Resolution requesting a 2024-2033 State/MPO TIP Amendment for the Cape Fear Public Transportation Authority for project TM-6113 Shelter Upgrades**
   Ms. Lorenzo stated that Wave requested modifications to the 2024-2033 State/MPO TIP for shelter upgrades throughout New Hanover County, adding $612,000 in FY26 from FTA funds and$153,000 from locally contributed capital funds.

   A motion to approve the amendment was made by Mr. Moran, seconded by Ashli Barefoot. The motion passed unanimously.

e. **Resolution requesting NCDOT evaluate the intersection of Causeway Drive and Salisbury Street in Wrightsville Beach**
Ms. Lorenzo stated that WMPO would like to request that NCDOT evaluate the intersection of Causeway Drive and Salisbury Street to see what interim improvements may be made, as the intersection is planned for improvements in 2045 per the adopted Cape Fear Moving Forward MTP.

A motion to approve the request was made by Adrienne Cox, seconded by Ms. Caggia. The motion passed unanimously.

f. **Resolution supporting the allocation of additional Direct Attributable funds to the City of Wilmington for the Downtown Trail Phase I**
Ms. Lorenzo stated that the Downtown Trail Phase I design project requires additional funding to account for additional design elements due to the projects location within NCDOT Rail and CMX right of way. Ms. Lorenzo added that this allocation of additional funds from WMPO is contingent upon the resolution going before the City of Wilmington Council.

Ms. Cox asked if this request is being presented to the WMPO Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee (BPAC) so that the Committee can help encourage approval by Council. Ms. Lorenzo stated that this type of project is not typically taken to the BPAC.

A motion to support the allocation of additional funds was made by Ms. Harrington, seconded by Mr. Moran. The motion passed unanimously.

6. **<u>Discussion</u>**

a. **DRAFT 2026-2035 State/MPO Transportation Improvement Programs**
Ms. Lorenzo reminded the committee that NCDOT is accepting comments regarding the draft 2026-2035 State/MPO TIP through April 4, 2025.

b. **2024-2033 STIP/MPO Transportation Improvement Program Administrative Modifications #25-2**
Ms. Lorenzo stated that this item is for informational purposes only, and will be brought back at the next meeting for approval.

c. **NCAMPO 2025 Conference**
Ms. Lorenzo overviewed the upcoming NCAMPO conference, hosted by the WMPO. Tessa Jones provided a brief description of the events included in the conference and requested volunteers to help with moderating sessions.

7. **Updates**
   a. **WMPO**
      Ms. Lorenzo stated that the updates are included in the packet, and also introduce Caitlin Cerza, WMPO's new Transportation Planning Engineer, to the committee.

   b. **Cape Fear Public Transit Authority**
      Included in the packet.

   c. **NCDOT Division 3**
      Ms. Cox highlighted the Hampstead Bypass Section A, which is scheduled to be let in July, and the start of the resurfacing project in Wrightsville Beach.

   d. **NCDOT Integrated Mobility Division**
      Included in the packet.

   e. **NCDOT Transportation Planning Division**
      Nazia Sarder stated that the WMPO Travel Demand Model is continuing to run scenarios. In addition, she provided updates on the Brunswick County and Pender County CTPs.

8. **Announcements**
   a. WMPO Bicycle/Pedestrian Committee—April 8, 2025

9. **Next Meeting— April 9, 2025**

10. **Adjournment**
    Mr. Boswell made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Ms. Ellis Vitalis. The meeting was adjourned at 11:35am.

Respectfully submitted,

Mike Kozlosky
Executive Director
Wilmington Urban Area Metropolitan Planning Organization

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