

**Wilmington Urban Area
Technical Coordinating Committee
Meeting Notes for January 13, 2010**

Members Present:

Mike Kozlosky, City of Wilmington
Sam Burgess, New Hanover County
Robert Waring, Town of Leland
Shane York, NCDOT
Allen Pope, NCDOT
Coke Gray, NCDOT
Patrick Riddle, NCDOT
Don Bennett, City of Wilmington
Travis Barnes, Town of Navassa
Helen Bunch, Brunswick County
Ken Vafier, Pender County
Albert Eby, WAVE Transit

Others Present:

Ben Hughes, NCDOT
Joshuah Mello, City of Wilmington
Anthony Prinz, City of Wilmington

1. Call to Order

Mr. Kozlosky called the meeting to order at 10:07 am.

2. Approval of Minutes

The motion to approve the minutes for the December 2, 2009 meeting carried unanimously.

3. Presentations

a. Wake County Corridor Preservation

Mr. Kozlosky gave a presentation on the efforts made to preserve the corridor for the south eastern expressway in Wake County.

4. Old Business

Mr. Pope updated the members on the color selection for the Cape Fear Memorial Bridge. The color chosen by the Color Committee was pale green for the structure and darker green for the top and bottom girders. He will take the selection to the TAC for consideration at their next meeting on the 27th.

5. New Business

a. Opening of 30-day Public Comment Period for EB 5118, ER 5100, U 5200 and TO 4733

Mr. Kozlosky told members staff will open the 30-day Public Comment Period for STIP Amendments EB5118, ER5100 U5200 and TO4733 on January 24th. The 30-day period must begin prior to the TAC Meeting on January 27th in order to meet the 30-day public comment period.

- EB-5118: Various Routes, Statewide Bike and Pedestrian (STE) facility development Construction FFY 10 \$2,000,000. Added construction in FFY 10 -not previously programmed.

- ER-5100: Various Locations. Landscaping and tree planting Construction FFY 10 -\$5,500,000 (ST). Added construction in FFY 10 -not previously programmed.
- U-5200: Wilmington, 3rd Street, south of Bridge over abandon Railroad to US 17 Business (Market Street), Construction FFY 10 - \$650,000 (ST) No. 35, New Hanover County. Resurface roadway.
- TO- 4733: Operating assistance in the amount of \$139,000.00 for the CFPTA.

Mr. Eby said TO – 4733 will not need to be included in the 30-day Public Comment Period because FTA said it was eligible as an Administrative Modification since there is operating assistance programs in future years. Mr. Kozlosky said he will remove it from the public comment period based on the comments received from FTA. Mr. Eby stated that the TCC and the TAC will have to allow the Administrative Modifications. Concord could not use all their stimulus money so this is a reallocation of Stimulus money.

b. Resolution Supporting the MTIP/STIP Amendment to the Public Transportation Program

Mr. Kozlosky told member staff opened the 30-day Public Comment Period for the MTIP/STIP Amendment. Staff will present the items to the TAC at their January meeting. Mr. Pope made the motion to support the amendments to the Public Transportation Program and forward to the TAC for consideration. Mr. Burgess seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

c. Resolution Supporting an administrative modification for TO 4751

Mr. Kozlosky asked Mr. Eby if we are looking at the Administrative Modification for TO-4751 or are we looking at the Administrative Modification TO-4733. Mr. Eby said TO-4751 is operating assistance for future years. Mr. Eby asked what is the difference between TO-4733 and TO-4751. Mr. Kozlosky said they are both for \$139,000. Mr. Eby said they only needed one of them. Mr. Kozlosky said then we will remove TO-4733 - "Item 5a." from the request to open the 30-day comment period.

Mr. Eby told members there should only be one TO and according to the FTA Planning Manager, if we have an operating assistance program in an outlying year where funds have not been obligated by FTA, we are permitted to reallocate the funds for the 5307 funds via an Administrative Modification. The planning process is allowing us to do an administrative modification since we do have operating assistance programs all the way through 2015.

Mr. Kozlosky told members the resolution has not yet been drafted because staff has not had the information from FTA. Staff is proposing to do an Administrative Modification to include \$139,000 in operating assistance funds that were previously allocated to Concord. Mr. Eby told members Concord waited so long before they told NCDOT that they were not going to utilize the money and all ARRA funds have to be allocated by March 15th. The Department of Labor reviews the allocations.

Mr. Kozlosky said this was another one of those projects that needed an immediate response from NCDOT. Because we need to obligate the funds immediately, staff will request that the TAC waive the Public Involvement Policy and conduct an administrative modification due to the time-sensitive nature of the funding and we don't want to loose \$139,000.

Mr. Eby said the reason Administrative Modification is allowed is because Operating Assistance has gone through the Public Comment Policy Period. Mr. Kozlosky said staff supports this because it is an operating expense, not a capital project expense. Staff is asking for permission

from the TCC to move forward in preparing a resolution to take to the TAC allocating the \$139,000 for operating expenses.

Mr. Pope made the motion to allow staff to prepare a resolution for Administration Modification for operating assistance funds to CFPTA under TO-4751. Ms. Ayers seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

d. Resolution supporting painting of the Cape Fear Memorial Bridge

(removed from the agenda)

e. Election of Officers

Mr. Eby made the motion to re-elect Mr. Kozlosky as Chairman and Mr. Don Bennett as Vice-Chair of the TCC. Ms. Ayers seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

6. Discussion

a. Legislative Agenda Items

Mr. Kozlosky said staff is putting together a legislative agenda for the TAC. He asked members if they had any items they would like to include on the list for consideration.

Mr. Kozlosky suggested including gap-funding for the Cape Fear Skyway and the pursuit of funding through the legislature as one of the items.

Mr. Kozlosky asked Mr. Pope for his thoughts on removing Independence Boulevard from the loop-fund eligible projects. Mr. Kozlosky stated that SPOT is going through their prioritization process and we are going to see how Independence Boulevard Extension falls out. However, if the new prioritization process shows that it is not going to be a top priority, then the project needs to be moved out of that legislation or at least have discussions about it with the legislature. Mr. Pope suggested waiting until after the prioritization process is complete. He said he felt that project will rank fairly high because it will have a high cost/benefit ratio, particularly if non-traditional moneys are added.

Mr. Eby asked if reauthorization and earmarks had been addressed on the legislative agenda. He said he felt now would be a good time to look at it with the extension of SAFETEA-LU.

Mr. Kozlosky said he was looking at amending legislation currently under General Statute 136 – the MPO has the authority to file a corridor preservation map for projects identified in General Statute 179. The only project identified in GS 179 is the Hampstead Bypass. Staff would like to look at the possibility of having the MPO file the corridor maps for all projects. Mr. Eby said if not all projects, then at least projects that deal with multiple jurisdictions to help avoid any power struggles. Mr. Kozlosky told members the MPO needs to be proactive in filing these maps in order to preserve corridors.

Mr. Pope suggested including transportation financing to the list of topics for the legislature. It should also include public transportation.

Mr. Kozlosky said he will work to put the legislative agenda list together for presentation to this committee in February and members should contact him with any other issues that should be included.

b. Urban Loop Prioritization Process

Mr. Kozlosky told members the staff submitted comments to the Department regarding the proposed Urban Loop Prioritization Process. They reviewed all comments received and made changes to the proposed process. Mr. Kozlosky distributed a copy of the revised process and the comments

received from the all the MPOs. He said the Department is asking that the revised ranking criteria be reviewed and any comments sent to the Department by February 26th. Mr. Kozlosky asked members to submit any comments regarding the revised prioritization process to him by February 20th. That will give staff time to include those comments in the letter to the Department on the new criteria.

7. Updates

a. Cape Fear Commutes 2035 (Citizen Advisory Committee)

b. Cape Fear Public Transportation Authority

d. Wilmington MPO/City of Wilmington

e. NCDOT Project Update

8. Announcements

7. Adjournment

With no further items, the meeting was adjourned at 10:57 am