

Meeting Minutes
Wilmington Urban Area Metropolitan Planning Organization
Transportation Advisory Committee
Date: February 26, 2014

Members Present:

Pat Batleman, Vice-chair, Town of Leland
Earl Sheridan, City of Wilmington
Eulis Willis, Town of Navassa
Gary Doetsch, Town of Carolina Beach
David Williams, Pender County
Hank Miller, Town of Carolina Beach
Michael Lee, NC Board of Transportation
Jonathan Barfield, Cape Fear Public Transportation Authority

Staff Present:

Mike Kozlosky, Executive Director

1. Call to Order

Ms. Batleman called the meeting to order at 4:02pm.

2. Conflict of Interest Reminder

Ms. Batleman asked if any members had a conflict of interest with any items on the meeting agenda. No members reported having a conflict of interest.

3. Approval of Minutes

The minutes for the February 6th meeting were approved unanimously.

4. Public Comment Period

No one requested to speak during the Public Comment Period.

5. Presentation

a. NCDOT Ferry Needs Presentation

Mr. Sterling Baker, NCDOT Division 1 Maintenance Engineer gave a presentation on NCDOT Ferry Division needs in light of the new state funding process. He discussed the Ferry Division's current funding practices versus the Strategic Transportation Investment process coming in 2015. He also discussed the tolling model under consideration by the Department. Mr. Baker reviewed the list of needs to be submitted from the Ferry Division in Prioritization 3.0.

b. Cape Fear Transportation 2040 Update

Ms. Suraiya Rashid gave a presentation on the Cape Fear Transportation 2040 update. She updated members on the progress made thus far in updating the plan. Ms. Rashid also reviewed the upcoming tasks for members of the Citizen Advisory Committee, the Modal Subcommittees and MPO staff. Staff anticipates that the Plan will be completed by December 2015.

6. New Business

a. Resolution adopting the Wilmington MPO Local Input Methodology for Prioritization 3.0

Mr. Kozlosky told members the final edits to the WMPO's draft methodology for the local input point allocation was reviewed and approved by NCDOT. He said the next step in the process is to adopt the local input methodology.

Mr. Kozlosky told member that following the adoption of the process, NCDOT will score new and existing projects for release in May. The TAC will need to approve a draft ranking and scoring in May and staff will then conduct public outreach. Mr. Kozlosky said the TAC will approve a final project ranking in June and scores will be submitted to the Department in July.

Mr. David Williams made the motion to adopt the Wilmington MPO Local Input Methodology for Prioritization 3.0. Mr. Doetsch seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

b. Resolution adopting Amendments to the Wilmington MPO Bylaws

Mr. Kozlosky told members staff is proposing to update the current MPO Bylaws. Article V - Meetings states that the meeting calendar will be adopted at the first meeting of the calendar, when actually the calendar is adopted at the last meeting in a calendar year for the upcoming calendar year. Under Article VI – Voting Procedures, staff is also proposing the creation of a consent agenda for routine matters to be acted upon by the board. Mr. Kozlosky noted that any member has the right to remove an item from the consent agenda, thereby moving the item to the regular agenda so it can be voted upon separately by the board.

Mr. Barfield made the motion to approve the resolution adopting the amendments to the Wilmington MPO Bylaws. Mr. David Williams seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

7. Discussion

a. Ferry Tolling

Mr. Kozlosky told member NCDOT is requesting consensus from the TAC regarding the increases in tolling fees for the Southport/Fort Fisher Ferry. He said staff is not aware of any significant opposition to the increases at this time; but, staff wanted to bring the request before the board prior to bring a resolution of support to the meeting in March 26th.

Dr. Sheridan noted that people will have an opportunity to voice their opinion regarding a toll increase during the public comment portion of the meeting.

8. Updates

Project updates for the Cape Fear River Work Group, the Wilmington MPO, CFPTA and NCDOT Division and Planning Branch are included in the agenda packet.

10. Adjournment

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:55 PM

Respectfully submitted

Mike Kozlosky

Executive Director

Wilmington Urban Area Metropolitan Planning Organization