

Meeting Minutes
Wilmington Urban Area Metropolitan Planning Organization
Transportation Advisory Committee
Date: August 27, 2014

Members Present:

Laura Padgett, Chair, City of Wilmington
Pat Batleman, Vice-chair, Town of Leland
Dean Lambeth, Town of Kure Beach
Gary Doetsch, Town of Carolina Beach
Eulis Willis, Town of Navassa
Earl Sheridan, City of Wilmington
Frank Williams, Brunswick County
David Williams, Pender County
Joe Breault, Town of Belville

Staff Present:

Mike Kozlosky, Executive Director

1. Call to Order

Ms. Padgett called the meeting to order at 3:32pm.

2. Conflict of Interest Reminder

Ms. Padgett 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 July 23rd meeting were approved unanimously.

4. Public Comment Period

Mr. Andy Koeppel addressed members regarding Item 7e, the resolution supporting the removal of the US 17 designation from the Wilmington Bypass and applying the designation to certain streets in New Hanover County and the City of Wilmington. He stated that he was in favor of moving of the designation and urged members to pass the resolution.

5. Presentation

a. WMPO Role in Transportation Project Delivery

Ms. Harrington gave a presentation on the WMPO's role in the Transportation Project Delivery process from planning to construction. She explained the process used in taking projects forward from the planning stage to final construction.

6. Consent Agenda

- a. **Resolution approving the STIP/MTIP Amendments (June and July)**
- b. **Resolution approving STIP/MTIP Modifications (June)**
- c. **Resolution providing comments on Performance Measures for MAP-21**
- d. **Resolution supporting the Shipyard sidewalk and bus pull-out for 2013 STP-DA funding**
- e. **Resolution supporting the City of Wilmington's Transportation Infrastructure (Streets and Sidewalks) Bond Initiative**

Mr. David Williams made the motion to adopt the items on the consent agenda. Mr. Lambeth seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

7. Regular Agenda

a. Resolution adopting the Final Local Input Methodology Ranking and Scoring for Prioritization 3.0

Mr. Kozlosky told members that the MPO adopted a local input methodology for Prioritization 3.0. He noted that the NCDOT Division used a project cost threshold of \$40 million for Regional projects and a \$30 million threshold for Division projects. Anything over that threshold was deemed too expensive. He told members that the MPO staff followed a similar cost guideline and projects were scored and ranked based on the adopted methodology. Mr. Kozlosky stated that staff held a Public Input Comment Period, but received no comments.

Mr. Frank Williams made the motion to adopt the Final Local Input Methodology Ranking and Scoring for Prioritization 3.0. Mr. Doetsch seconded the motion and it carried with eight members voting in favor. Mr. David Williams voted in opposition.

b. Resolution supporting the utilization of funds from the UPWP to complete an update to the US 17 Business Corridor Study

Mr. Kozlosky told members in 2007 the MPO completed the US 17 Business Corridor Study. The study recommended a road-diet on Market Street from Covil Avenue to 3rd Street, reducing the number of lanes down from 4 lanes to 2 lanes with bicycle lanes and limited parking in designated locations. He stated that a key requirement of the road-diet was the need to extend Independence Boulevard from Randal Parkway to the Martin Luther King, Jr. Parkway. At that time, the project was identified for funding as a "loop-eligible" project. Based on the current Strategic Transportation Investment Formula, the project did not score very high; therefore, it's not envisioned that the project will be completed within the next 10 years.

Mr. Kozlosky told members that the citizens surrounding Market Street continue to request the road-diet. The Wilmington City Council adopted a resolution supporting an update of the 2007 study at their August 2nd meeting. The cost of the study will be \$30,000 and the City will contribute \$15,000. They are requesting that the MPO provide the remaining \$15,000 match.

Mr. David Williams made the motion to approve the utilization of funds from the UPWP to complete an update to the US 17 Business Corridor Study. Dr. Sheridan seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

c. Resolution supporting the utilization of funds from the UPWP to complete an update to a Pender County Collector Street Plan

Mr. Kozlosky told members the MPO completed a Coastal Pender Collector Street Plan in May 2007. He noted that the MPO boundary expanded and the Pender County Commissioners requested that the plan be updated based on the amended jurisdictional boundary. Pender County asked the MPO to share the cost for updating the plan. The MPO's match would be \$30,000.

Ms. Batleman made the motion to approve the utilization of funds from the UPWP to complete an update to a Pender County Collector Street Plan. Mr. David Williams seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

d. Resolution Amending the FY 2014-2015 Unified Planning Work Program

Mr. Kozlosky told members the resolution is asking members to amend the FY 2014-2015 Unified Planning Work Program to increase the special studies line item by \$45,000 to cover the cost of the MPO's match to update the US 17 Business Corridor Study and the Pender County Collector Street Plan.

Ms. Batleman made the motion to approve the resolution amending the FY 2014-2015 Unified Planning Work Program. Mr. Frank Williams seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

e. Resolution supporting the removal of the US 17 Designation from the Wilmington Bypass and applying the designation to certain streets in New Hanover County and City of Wilmington

Mr. Kozlosky told members NCDOT is requesting to modify the US 17 designation from the Wilmington Bypass to certain streets in New Hanover County and City of Wilmington. Those streets would on Market Street from the bypass down to Military Cutoff Road, then down from Military Cutoff Road to Oleander Drive, down Oleander Drive to Dawson and Wooster and then across the river.

Mr. Coke Gray, the Regional Traffic Engineer with NCDOT told members Military Cutoff Road is one of the biggest routes in New Hanover County that does not have a primary designation. He stated that the US designation will allow access to more funding sources and the designation will get more attention from an economic development perspective.

Mr. David Williams made the motion to support the removal of the US 17 Designation from the Wilmington Bypass and applying the designation to certain streets in New Hanover County and City of Wilmington. Mr. Frank Williams seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

8. Discussion

a. STIP/MTIP Modifications (August)

Mr. Kozlosky told members the modification is to change the timeline for the Military Cutoff Road Extension planning and environmental design from FY17 to FY18. The item will be included on the September meeting agenda.

Ms. Padgett asked why the design work is being delayed. Ms. Fussell told members the delay is primarily due to utility issues. Mr. Kozlosky stated that some problems also have to do with design at the interchange at Military Cutoff Road and Market Street.

b. TAC Meeting Time

Ms. Padgett told members that staff suggested moving the meeting to 3:00pm beginning with the September meeting.

Mr. David Williams made the motion to begin the TAC meetings at 3:00pm for the balance of 2014 meeting calendar year. Mr. Frank Williams seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

9. Updates

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

Closed session

Ms. Padgett told members there is a need to waive the rules and enter into a closed session pursuant to the provisions of GS #143-318.11 A3 in order to consult with Attorney Matt Nichols regarding the legal matter of Jamestown Pender, LP vs. North Carolina Department of Transportation and Wilmington Urban Area Metropolitan Planning Organization, Pender County file 14CVS528.

Ms. Padgett made the motion to waive the rules and enter into a closed session. Dr. Sheridan seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Call back to order

Ms. Padgett called the meeting back into open session. She told members no action was taken other than to provide direction to Attorney Matt Nichols regarding the MPO's responses to the legal matter of Jamestown Pender, LP vs. North Carolina Department of Transportation and Wilmington Urban Area Metropolitan Planning Organization.

10. Adjournment

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:40pm

Respectfully submitted

Mike Kozlosky

Executive Director

Wilmington Urban Area Metropolitan Planning Organization

**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.**