

**Wilmington Urban Area
Technical Coordinating Committee
Meeting Minutes for May 17, 2017**

Members Present:

Mike Kozlosky, City of Wilmington	Ashli Barefoot, Town of Leland
Adrienne Harrington, TDM	Helen Bunch, Brunswick County
Ed Parvin, Town of Carolina Beach	Megan Crowe, Pender County
Ken Vafier, New Hanover County	Allen Serkin, Cape Fear COG
Stephanie Ayers, NC State Ports Authority	Nazia Sarder, NCDOT Planning Branch
Athina Williams, Town of Belville	

1. Call to Order

Mr. Kozlosky called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m.

Ms. Williams introduced the Technical Coordinating Committee's newest member, Mr. John Allen, Planner, Town of Belville. Mr. Allen expressed appreciation and made some brief comments regarding his background.

2. Approval of Agenda

With no changes to the agenda, Ms. Williams made the motion to approve the agenda. Ms. Harrington seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

3. Presentation

a. Cape Fear Regional Bicycle Plan, Allen Serkin, Cape Fear RPO

Mr. Serkin gave a presentation on the Cape Fear Regional Bicycle Plan. He told members that this final draft of the regional plan has a large study area irrespective of county boundaries, and will be moved forward to various planning and elected boards for adoption. He gave an overview of its history, purpose, and study area. He encouraged members to review the recommendations for their respective communities, and to provide feedback on the appropriateness of the designations. He noted that maps would be distributed after plan adoption. He added that he would be in contact with members regarding presentations to their respective boards.

In response to an inquiry by Ms. Williams, Mr. Serkin stated that no short-term projects are planned for coastal Pender County. He noted that many short-term projects are partnering with municipalities to use Powell Bill funds or other means to maintain facilities independent of NCDOT.

Ms. Crowe commented that several plans are emerging that keep developers on the hook.

Mr. Serkin pointed out that these may not be regional in nature.

In response to an inquiry by Ms. Williams, Ms. Harrington reported that about 509 people have pledged to participate in Bike to Work Week, whether for cycling to work or running errands. (The actual number of participants is expected to differ.)

Ms. Crowe expressed concerns regarding bicycle safety. Mr. Serkin responded that the fold-out map will include bicycle safety tips.

Ms. Barefoot requested that an electronic version of the brochure be distributed to members.

Mr. Serkin responded that it would be.

4. Consent Agenda

- a. Approval of TCC Meeting Minutes - April 12, 2017
- b. Opening of the 30-day public comment period for STIP/MTIP Amendment (May)
- c. Resolution approving the STIP/MTIP Amendment (April)
- d. Resolution approving the STIP/MTIP Modification (April)
- e. Resolution adopting the Cape Fear Regional Bicycle Plan
- f. Resolution authorizing the Executive Director to sign the letter of engagement with Smith Moore Leatherwood LLP for General Legal Representation
- g. Resolution supporting Alternative MA and/or Alternative NA as the Wilmington Urban Area MPO's preferred alternatives for the Cape Fear Crossing project

Ms. Ayers requested to pull Item 4g (Resolution supporting Alternative MA and/or Alternative NA as the Wilmington Urban Area MPO's preferred alternatives for the Cape Fear Crossing project) from the Consent Agenda for further discussion.

Ms. Barefoot made a motion to approve Items 4a through 4f on the Consent Agenda and to forward them to the Board for consideration. Ms. Harrington seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Ms. Ayers proposed that the resolution (Item 4g) include a stipulation regarding a height requirement for any southern alignment. She stated that the Port would require a 235-foot height clearance to meet current and future shipping needs.

With no other questions, Ms. Ayers made the motion to approve revised Item 4g to include the required height clearance.

Mr. Kozlosky reminded the Committee that a merger team meeting is planned for the end of this month. He stated that the alternatives were presented during a work session of the WMPO Board on April 26, 2017. He noted that the Board supported not removing alternatives B, G, MA, NA and Q, and removing the remainder. He added that the Board requested a resolution supporting Alternatives MA and NA as their preferred alternatives for its May agenda.

Ms. Harrington seconded the motion. Following further consideration the motion carried unanimously.

5. Discussion

a. Prioritization 5.0 Bike/Pedestrian Projects

Ms. Doliboa told members that the Bike/Ped Committee last month decided to submit MTP (Metropolitan Transportation Plan) projects that rank the highest. She stated that project #62 was added because it's part of the Middle Sound Loop Multiuse Path, and is both in the STIP (Statewide Transportation Improvement Program) and a DA (Direct Attributable) project. She explained that project #47 and project #72 were also added as regional projects in Brunswick and Pender counties. A brief question/answer and discussion period was held.

Mr. Serkin inquired about the ranking of project #47 and project #72. Ms. Doliboa explained that they were submitted in Prioritization 4.0.

Ms. Crowe stated that Pender County proposes exchanging project BP72 with project BP70. She noted that the preference is to start with Jenkins Road from US Hwy 17. Ms. Motsinger responded that this revision would be made.

In response to an inquiry by Mr. Vafier regarding project #62, Ms. Doliboa stated that a gap exists between the multiuse path and the intersection.

In response to an inquiry by Mr. Serkin, Mr. Kozlosky reminded members that a final list would be presented for consideration at the Committee's June meeting.

b. Prioritization 5.0 Highway Projects

Ms. Motsinger told members that a list of potential highway projects has been included in the agenda packet to be brought back for consideration at the Committee's June meeting and consideration. She reminded members that a similar list came to the Committee in February at which time the DOT (Department of Transportation) requested a pre-submittal list. She noted that the local Division indicated it would submit project R6 and project R46 from the MTP (Metropolitan Transportation Plan).

Mr. Vafier pointed out an error in the note on project R6. Ms. Motsinger stated that the note should refer instead to the length of Gordon Road from US 17 to Market.

Ms. Barefoot requested that project #34 (Old Fayetteville Road widening) be reviewed for consistency with the Town of Leland's Master Plan once the scope is defined.

Ms. Motsinger agreed and stated that the list would be brought back to the Committee for approval at its next meeting.

c. Prioritization 5.0 Ferry and Waterway Projects

Ms. Doliboa told members that these two (2) projects are listed in the MTP (Metropolitan Transportation Plan). She noted that Mr. Sterling Baker, Director of the NCDOT Facilities Management Unit, requested to change project #F1 from New River Call Vessel to Additional River Call Vessel.

Mr. Serkin offered to add project #F2 since it is outside the MPO boundary. A brief question/answer and discussion period was held.

d. Wilmington Bike Share Program

Mr. Kozlosky told members that the Board received a presentation on the potential bike share program in the region. He noted that the City is willing to support it; however, has no resources to do so. He added that it's in the TDM Plan.

Ms. Harrington stated that UNCW initiated a bike share on campus in November, and added a few more bikes in January for a total of 70 bikes and seven (7) stations. She noted that university plans to add a few more stations.

Mr. Kozlosky inquired about any potential interest in using TDM resources for a bike share program.

In response to an inquiry by Mr. Serkin, Ms. Harrington stated that the TDM Plan includes a list of strategies prioritized as high, medium or low that includes a bike share. She noted that she is working with many employers in the region, which may provide an opportunity to expand the bike share program. She added that the bike share operator typically provides assistance in managing it.

Mr. Kozlosky pointed out that a cost is associated with the program. He noted that DA (Direct Attributable) funds could only be used for capital (not operations). A question/answer and discussion period was held.

Ms. Harrington stated that UNCW has more than 14,000 rides for the spring semester alone.

Mr. Kozlosky pointed out that the transportation fee is being used to pay for it.

Ms. Harrington stated that the cost in excess of the user fee is about \$110 per bike per month; which covers maintenance every two (2) weeks, marketing, outreach, and establishing a funding structure. She noted that UNCW is paying for it, and will be seeking sponsorships in the future. She added that Charleston's program is paid for by the hospital, and Charlotte's, by BlueCross/BlueShield.

Mr. Kozlosky stated that it will be necessary to meet with the County to assess interest and then to send out a Request for Proposals (RFP) to determine cost. He estimated that even with support the program would take a number of years to implement.

Ms. Harrington added that the new smart bike model allows stations to be shifted easily.

In response to an inquiry by Mr. Parvin, Mr. Kozlosky stated that bike rentals in beach towns may be concerned regarding competition.

Mr. Parvin commented that beach rentals in Carolina Beach would welcome the amenity.

Mr. Serkin commented that more information would be necessary.

6. Updates

Updates are included in the agenda packet.

7. Announcements

- Ms. Harrington reported May Bike Month Events as follows: River to Sea, April 22, 2017 – 380 participants; Bike to School event with Holly Tree Elementary – 120 participants; Bike to Work Week (including errands that save a vehicle trip) this week – 509 pledges; and Cape Fear Cyclists have a few events planned (<http://www.capefearcyclists.org/>).

Ms. Barefoot expressed interest in gathering geographic information about participants in order to calculate growth and prioritize capital improvements.

- WMPO Bike/Ped Committee Meeting, June 14th

8. Adjournment

With no further items, the meeting was adjourned at 10:51 a.m.

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.