



**Citizens Advisory Committee**  
**6<sup>th</sup> Floor Conference Room, 320 Chestnut Street**  
**Wednesday, December 13, 2017**  
**Meeting Minutes**

**Members Present:**

Laura Padgett, Chair, City of Wilmington  
John Cawthorne, Vice Chair, Town of  
Kure Beach  
Sallie Rochelle, Pender County  
Valorie Hatten, Town of Navassa  
Vanessa Lacer, Cape Fear Public  
Transportation Authority  
Stuart Smith, Town of Belville  
Tom Campbell, Town of Carolina Beach  
Terry Obrock, Town of Leland  
Harold King, Town of Wrightsville Beach  
Jason Windham, City of Wilmington  
Web Bostic, New Hanover County  
David Hollis, Brunswick County  
Neal Andrew, NC Board of Transportation

**Others Present:**

Will Letchworth, Consultant, WSP  
Leta Huntsinger, Consultant, WSP  
Nazia Sarder, Transportation Engineer III,  
NCDOT Planning & Systems Unit  
Mike Kozlosky, Executive Director, WMPO  
Brittany Strait, Accountant, WMPO  
Michael Madsen, GIS Analyst, WMPO  
Abigail Lorenzo, Associate Planner, WMPO  
Jason O'Brien, Associate Planner, WMPO

**1. Call to Order**

Ms. Padgett called the meeting to order at 2:03 p.m.

**2. Approval of Minutes – November 8, 2017**

Mr. Smith made the motion to approve the minutes of November 8, 2017, seconded by Mr. Cawthorne, and the motion carried unanimously.

**3. Cape Fear Transportation 2040 Plan Review**

Mr. Kozlosky gave a presentation reviewing the Cape Fear Transportation 2040 Plan, the development in which Mr. Obrock, Mr. Smith and Mr. Hollis participated. He stated that this presentation was also made to the member jurisdictions when the plan was adopted, as well as, to the planning boards of each. He reminded members that federal requirements of the Plan require improvements to be multi-modal and take into account socio-economic data that considers demographics, land uses and travel patterns. He noted that this would be discussed further at the Committee's next meeting at which Ms. Sarder will discuss the Travel Demand Model.

Mr. Kozlosky gave an overview of the history and responsibilities of MPOs. He reminded members that they are required to provide transportation planning in a continuing, cooperative and comprehensive manner. He noted that the next meeting of the Citizens Advisory Committee will all address a public involvement plan, with which WSP, a consultant, will assist. He reminded members that the 20-year plan is required to be fiscally constrained, requiring the presence of revenues to pay for its projects. He noted that the plan is also the basis for the State and Metropolitan Transportation Improvements Plans (STIP/MTIP), in which all federally funded projects must be included.

Mr. Kozlosky reminded members that the plan analyzes all six modes of transportation and takes into consideration transportation demand management, which strives to reduce single occupancy vehicles and increases alternative forms of transportation. He noted that transportation management involves improving systems with technologies such as advanced warning or other intelligent transportation systems.

Mr. Kozlosky stated that during development of the last plan, fiscal constraints were applied in a cutline approach to the Comprehensive Transportation Plan (similar to a wish list). He noted that support from the MPO Board was sought to identify alternative funding sources such as transportation bonds, local option sales tax, vehicle registration fees and tolls in order to relax the cutline. He distributed an executive summary of the 2040 Transportation Plan, which was adopted on November 18, 2015 by the MPO Board.

Mr. Kozlosky stated that the Cape Fear 2040 Plan identified goals and a vision, which will need to be done for this plan as well. He noted that planning factors will be updated with the current legislation of the FAST Act. He gave an overview of goals for each of the transportation modes of the past plan. He added that this Committee will guide and develop the 2045 Plan with the assistance of subject matter experts and subcommittees.

#### **4. Cape Fear Transportation 2040 Plan Recent Successes**

Mr. Kozlosky gave an overview of successes of the 2040 Plan. He pointed out that portions of the plan that have been completed can be removed from the project list. He gave a status update on several projects in each mode of transportation; a brief overview of those funded in the adopted STIP/MTIP or through the city's capital improvements program and/or its transportation bond; and roadway projects in the STIP/MTIP currently under study. A question/answer and discussion period was held.

Mr. Smith expressed concerns regarding economic development and job creation, particularly in northern Brunswick County. Mr. Kozlosky responded that economic development could be added as a subcommittee if the Committee desires.

Ms. Padgett pointed out that this Committee is a support mechanism for others with that focus.

#### **5. Structure of Upcoming 2045 Metropolitan Transportation Plan**

Mr. O'Brien gave an overview of the structure of the upcoming 2045 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP), the main federally required product of the MPO. He stated that the process would begin with the defining the context and values of the region, and proceed with identifying the federal and state requirements, developing options, and making decisions to be approved by the MPO Board.

Mr. O'Brien stated that the Committee's task will start by reviewing existing conditions, and identifying successes and areas of opportunity. He pointed out that although the plan has a five-year life, its impacts go well beyond; more as a re-evaluation of the next 25 years. He added that the plan will influence local trends and keep up with national and global ones through its policies.

Mr. O'Brien stated that current trends include technology, freight and travelers' preferences. He commented that technology is anticipated to change more in this planning cycle than any other in the last 75 years and will have a tremendous impact on transportation. He noted that autonomous cars will evolve in stages with full autonomy expected in 50 years. Those in

common use during the next few years will require a licensed human driver in the vehicle. The next stage may exclude a human driver in certain districts and facilities. He added that autonomous drones will be implemented well in advance of fully autonomous cars, and displayed a video of one in action.

Mr. Obrock expressed concern regarding the reduced cost of technology and the increased cost of labor.

Mr. Bostic expressed concern regarding the absence of a passenger rail from Wilmington to Leland.

Ms. Padgett commented that it could be added to the project list.

Mr. King pointed out that a billion dollar bridge would be helpful in supporting many rail lines [across the river].

Mr. O'Brien stated that freight has begun to increase and is expected to grow 70% over the next few years. He added that the demand for walkable places and rental units is increasing nationwide. A recent national survey found that more than 60% of educated young professionals, ages 25-34, now choose where they want to live before finding a job. Also, high-tech/high talent employers follow the labor pool.

Mr. O'Brien pointed out that although this 25-year plan expires in five years, the infrastructure built as a result will last for 75 years or more. He clarified that the MPO does not suggest projects, but prioritizes and ranks projects. He noted that the MTP creates the selection framework for the pool of eligible projects for funding. He added that the CAC subcommittees will generate the projects by transportation mode, to be approved by the MPO Board following review by the Technical Coordinating Committee (TCC).

Mr. O'Brien stated that each of the six modal subcommittees is comprised of at least one representative from the CAC, subject matter experts, board members and other planning partners and stakeholders, which will meet during the second half of next year at a frequency to be determined. He reminded members that the CAC is the steering committee to develop the plan and project list, and gave an overview of the timeline through 2019.

#### **6. Subcommittee Assignments**

Mr. O'Brien distributed a sign-up form for subcommittee participation. He noted that members could serve on multiple subcommittees. A question/answer and discussion period was held.

#### **7. Introduction of Consultant Team Members**

Mr. Kozlosky introduced the consultant team members, Will Letchworth and Leta Huntsinger of WSP, a planning and engineering consulting firm that works on a variety of efforts.

Mr. Letchworth expressed appreciation and gave a brief overview of the consultant's tasks including assisting with public engagement, GIS data tracking and analysis, and financial analysis. He displayed a sample of a website ([www.NC98corridor.com](http://www.NC98corridor.com)) useful for public engagement that features a crowd source map.

#### **8. Vision, Goals, etc. (Exercise)**

Ms. Lorenzo conducted an interactive visioning exercise. The Committee identified strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats (SWOT).

Ms. Lorenzo offered to compile and e-mail today's findings to members, and receive other perceived threats from members to add to the SWOT analysis. She noted that the goals exercise would be continued to the next meeting.

Ms. Padgett requested that each member submit at least one threat.

**9. Additional Items**

Mr. Kozlosky circulated a memorandum that was not included on the agenda. He requested that members provide feedback regarding a color scheme for a website and name for the plan in order to begin the public engagement process in coordination with the consultant. He noted that the memo includes suggested names and color schemes, which Ms. Lorenzo will include in an online poll for members to provide responses by December 22nd. He added that fields will be provided for additional names and color schemes. Results will be returned to members at the next meeting in January for final approval. A brief question/answer and discussion period was held.

Ms. Padgett stated that the next meeting will be held on January 10, 2018 at 2:00 p.m. at this location.

Mr. Kozlosky stated that future meetings would be held at this location as well. Parking vouchers were distributed to members who parked at the 2nd Street Parking Deck.

Ms. Padgett expressed appreciation to members and reminded them of the importance of these plans. She stated that she meets with Mr. Kozlosky prior to each meeting and invited input from members via phone or email. She wished members a merry Christmas and a happy New Year.

**10. Adjournment**

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:11 p.m.

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.**