Wilmington Urban Area Technical Coordinating Committee Wednesday, June 10, 2020 Remote Meeting Minutes

Members Present

Mike Kozlosky, Chair, MPO Executive Director
Abby Lorenzo, Transportation Demand
Management (TDM)
Robert O'Quinn, Wrightsville Beach
Rebekah Roth, New Hanover County Planning
Department
Granseur Dick, Wilmington International Airport
Stephanie Ayers, NC State Ports Authority
Ashli Barefoot, Town of Leland

Barnes Sutton, Town of Navassa
Sam Shore, Pender County Planning Department
Patrick Flanagan, Cape Fear Council of
Governments
Caitlin Marks, Division of Highways, NCDOT
Nazia Sarder, Transportation Planning Branch,
NCDOT
Albert Eby, Cape Fear Public Transportation
Authority

1) Call to Order

Mr. Kozlosky called the remote meeting to order at 10:02 a.m., and took a roll-call pursuant to Section 4.31 of Senate Bill 704 (Session Law 2020-3), as follows:

Present: Mike Kozlosky, Abby Lorenzo, Robert O'Quinn, Rebecca Roth, Granseur Dick, Stephanie Ayers (and Intern Cody Basile), Ashli Barefoot, Barnes Sutton, Sam Shore, Patrick Flanagan, Caitlin Marks, Nazia Sarder, and Albert Eby. **Absent:** Mandy Sanders, Jerry Haire, Athina Williams, and Helen Bunch.

2) Approval of the Agenda

Mr. Dick made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Ms. Ayers seconded the motion and it carried unanimously by roll-call as follows:

Ayes: Mike Kozlosky, Abby Lorenzo, Robert O'Quinn, Rebecca Roth, Granseur Dick, Stephanie Ayers, Ashli Barefoot, Barnes Sutton, Sam Shore, Patrick Flanagan, Caitlin Marks, Nazia Sarder, and Albert Eby. **Nays:** None. **Absent:** Mandy Sanders, Jerry Haire, Athina Williams, and Helen Bunch.

3) Election of Vice Chairman

Mr. Kozlosky stated that Mr. Bennett is on vacation for two weeks, after which he will retire. He requested nominations for the vice chairman.

Rebekah Roth offered to act as vice chairman. Ms. Marks nominated Ms. Roth for Vice Chairman. Ms. Sarder seconded the motion and it carried unanimously by roll-call as follows:

Ayes: Mike Kozlosky, Abby Lorenzo, Robert O'Quinn, Rebecca Roth, Granseur Dick, Stephanie Ayers, Ashli Barefoot, Barnes Sutton, Sam Shore, Patrick Flanagan, Caitlin Marks, Nazia Sarder, and Albert Eby. **Nays:** None. **Absent:** Mandy Sanders, Jerry Haire, Athina Williams, and Helen Bunch.

4) Consent Agenda

- a. Approval of TCC Meeting Minutes May 13, 2020
- b. Resolution approving 2018-2027 and 2020-2029 STIP/MPO Transportation Improvement Program Administrative Modifications #20-3 and #20-4
- c. Opening of the 45-day public comment period for the Public Participation Plan
- d. Opening of the 30-day public comment period 2020-2029 STIP/MPO Transportation Improvement Program Amendment #20-3
- e. Resolution supporting the proposed Gullah Geechee Heritage Corridor multi-use greenway/blueway corridor

f. Resolution amending award of Section 5310 Community Grant Project Funds

Mr. Shore made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda, Items 3a through 3f, as presented, and to forward the items to the MPO Board for consideration. Mr. Dick seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously by roll-call as follows:

Ayes: Mike Kozlosky, Abby Lorenzo, Robert O'Quinn, Rebecca Roth, Granseur Dick, Stephanie Ayers, Ashli Barefoot, Barnes Sutton, Sam Shore, Patrick Flanagan, Caitlin Marks, Nazia Sarder, and Albert Eby. **Nays:** None. **Absent:** Mandy Sanders, Jerry Haire, Athina Williams, and Helen Bunch.

5) Discussion

a. Proposed revisions to Cape Fear Moving Forward 2045

Ms. Lorenzo gave an overview of proposed changes to the Cape Fear Moving Forward 2045 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) based on public comments received on the draft plan. She stated that the comments and a memo summarizing them have been included in the agenda packet.

Ms. Lorenzo gave a brief overview of the two-year timeline leading up to the 30-day public comment period, which opened on February 26th and was advertised per the adopted Public Participation Plan via press releases and the WMPO.org website. She noted that of the five regional open houses that were scheduled, three were canceled due to COVID-19 precautions. As a result, the public comment phase was extended through May 15th and written comments were received via mail or e-mail. She added that staff reviewed the comments and answered each or provided recommendations for changes to the plan.

Ms. Lorenzo stated that three comments warranted changes to the fiscally constrained project list. She noted that two comments relating to the roadway element led to a revised cost estimate that enabled the addition of five projects to the fiscally constrained list, as follows:

- 1. RW-222 Independence Widening (Carolina Beach Road to River Road),
- 2. RW-42 US 17 Access Management Improvements,
- 3. RW-175 NC 210 and Island Creek Road Intersection Improvements,
- 4. RW-57 Plantation Road Extension, and
- 5. RW-36 NC 210 NC 133 Intersection.

Ms. Lorenzo stated that the other comment pertained to the bicycle and pedestrian element, and expressed concerns regarding several fiscally constrained projects that were already part of roadway projects anticipated for funding. She noted that staff reviewed the list and recommends removal of standalone bicycle and pedestrian projects that are complete or committed for funding as part of a roadway project (BP-16, BP-574, BP-647, BP-788, BP-722, BP-581, BP-646, BP-648, and BP-577). Those in the STIP (Statewide Transportation Improvement Program), but not under design yet, remain on the fiscally constrained bicycle and pedestrian project list. Based on the remaining ranked projects and the revenue made available by the removal of projects, the following projects are recommended for inclusion in the fiscally constrained list:

- 1. BP-147A Central Boulevard/Morningside Drive Bike Lanes,
- 2. BP-406 Princess Street Sharrows,
- 3. BP-442 Lumina Avenue Sharrows,
- 4. BP-239 Brunswick Nature Park Connector 1,
- 5. BP-471 Front Street Sharrows,

- 6. BP-370 Front Street Sharrows,
- 7. BP-441 Causeway Drive Sharrows, and
- 8. BP-561 Carolina Beach Road & Myrtle Grove Road

Ms. Lorenzo stated that staff recommends adding information to the appendices regarding the second phase of public involvement, proposed scopes (aviation, ferry/water transportation, freight/freight rail, and public transportation) and cross sections (bicycle/pedestrian, and roadway) for fiscally constrained projects. Staff also recommends the addition of language to assist the Port of Wilmington in securing federal grants. Additionally, the Environmental Justice and Critical Resources Appendix will include an expanded degree of impact analysis to include fiscally constrained bicycle/pedestrian and public transportation projects, an estimate of the distribution of impacts in the four levels of the assessment, and a table of benefits, burdens, and mitigation strategies for project impacts.

Ms. Lorenzo stated that next steps will include bringing forward the final draft of the plan in July, presenting the final draft to member jurisdictions in August and September, and presenting the final plan to the MPO Board for consideration in October.

In response to an inquiry by Ms. Marks, Ms. Lorenzo stated that the removed bike/pedestrian projects would not impact the Complete Streets Policy. She noted the projects are committed roadway STIP projects, and the bike/pedestrian component is included in the cross section.

6) Updates

- a. Wilmington Urban Area MPO
- b. Cape Fear Public Transportation Authority
- c. NCDOT Division
- d. NCDOT Transportation Planning Division

Mr. Kozlosky stated that updates are included in the agenda packet. There were no questions on the updates.

7) Announcements

- a. Bike/Pedestrian Committee Meeting June 9th
- b. Next TCC meeting July 15th

Mr. Kozlosky stated that the Bike/Pedestrian Committee meeting was held yesterday despite some challenges. He noted that the next meeting of the TCC would be held on July 15th.

8) Adjournment

Ms. Ayers made a motion to adjourn. Mr. O'Quinn seconded the motion and the meeting was adjourned unanimously at 10:24 a.m. by roll-call as follows:

Ayes: Mike Kozlosky, Abby Lorenzo, Robert O'Quinn, Rebecca Roth, Granseur Dick, Stephanie Ayers, Ashli Barefoot, Barnes Sutton, Sam Shore, Patrick Flanagan, Caitlin Marks, Nazia Sarder, and Albert Eby. **Nays:** None. **Absent:** Mandy Sanders, Jerry Haire, Athina Williams, and Helen Bunch.

THE ABOVE MINUTES ARE NOT A VERBATIM RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS.
THE ENTIRE PROCEEDINGS ARE RECORDED DIGITALLY AS PART OF THIS RECORD.