

**Wilmington Urban Area MPO
Technical Coordinating Committee
Wednesday, February 10, 2021
Meeting Minutes**

Members Present

Mike Kozlosky, WMPO Executive Director	Barnes Sutton, Town of Navassa
Rebekah Roth, New Hanover County	Helen Bunch, Brunswick County
Denys Vielkanowitz, City of Wilmington	Sam Shore, Pender County
Nick Cannon, MPO Go Coast Program	Patrick Flanagan, Cape Fear Council of Governments
Mandy Sanders, Town of Kure Beach	Caitlin Marks, Division of Highways, NCDOT
Robert O'Quinn, Town of Wrightsville Beach	Nazia Sarder, Transportation Planning Branch, NCDOT
Granseur Dick, Wilmington International Airport	Vanessa Lacer, Cape Fear Public Transportation Authority
Adrienne Harrington, Town of Belville	

Others Present

Abby Lorenzo, WMPO Deputy Director
Trevor Stewart, WMPO GIS Analyst
Scott James, WMPO Transportation Planning Engineer

1) Call to Order

Chairman Mike Kozlosky called the remote meeting to order at 10:01 a.m. and called the roll pursuant to Section 4.31 of Senate Bill 704 (Session Law 2020-3). A quorum was present, as follows:

Present: Mike Kozlosky, Rebekah Roth, Nick Cannon, Mandy Sanders, Granseur Dick, Adrienne Harrington, Barnes Sutton, Helen Bunch, Sam Shore, Patrick Flanagan, Caitlin Marks, Nazia Sarder and Vanessa Lacer. **Absent:** Denys Vielkanowitz, Ed Parvin, Robert O'Quinn, Stephanie Ayers and Ashli Barefoot.

2) Approval of the Agenda

Ms. Bunch made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Vice Chair Roth seconded the motion and it carried unanimously by roll call, as follows:

Ayes: Mike Kozlosky, Rebekah Roth, Nick Cannon, Mandy Sanders, Granseur Dick, Adrienne Harrington, Barnes Sutton, Helen Bunch, Sam Shore, Patrick Flanagan, Caitlin Marks, Nazia Sarder and Vanessa Lacer. **Nays:** None. **Absent:** Denys Vielkanowitz, Ed Parvin, Robert O'Quinn, Stephanie Ayers and Ashli Barefoot.

3) Presentations

a. Go Coast TDM Update - Nick Cannon, WMPO

Go Coast TDM Program Coordinator Nick Cannon gave brief presentation on the Go Coast TDM Program for the first and second quarters of FY2021. He gave an overview of the Go Coast Committee Transportation Demand Management (TDM) program, the Go Coast Committee, an update on ongoing initiatives from July 2020 to February 2021, COVID-19 impacts and plans for the remaining fiscal year.

Mr. Cannon stated that the major initiative of the program was to update the short-range TDM Plan, Cape Fear Change in Motion 2020. He noted that more than 250 survey responses were received for the plan update, which underwent a 30-day public comment period from December 2020 to January 2021. He added that the plan, which guides Go Coast initiatives and strategies to decrease vehicle miles traveled in the MPO region for the next five years, will be presented to the MPO Board in March 2021.

Mr. Cannon reported that the fifth annual Commuter Challenge took place during the last two weeks of October and had 100 participants. He noted that due to COVID-19, this year's event had greater telecommuting participation. Although, on premises promotion at major employers was weaker since many employees were working remotely.

Mr. Cannon stated that one of the initiatives of the program is to increase visibility of Go Coast and expand awareness of its purpose. He noted that this has been undertaken with videos and visual posts on social media. As a result, Go Coast Instagram followers increased by 400 since November 2020. He displayed a clip of one of the videos posted. Another of the program's milestones was the designation of Wilmington as a bronze level Bicycle Friendly Community by the League of American Bicyclists.

Mr. Cannon said the July 2020 survey revealed that telecommuting in the MPO area increased from 28% to 69%, employer-offered telecommuting increased from 44% to 100%, alternative work schedules doubled, and bicycling for recreation and commuting also increased. Meanwhile, carpooling and transit ridership decreased.

Mr. Cannon stated that future initiatives include a subcommittee to improve and increase participation in the annual Go Coast Commuter Challenge, and a task force to work toward achieving a silver level in the 2024 for Wilmington as a Bicycle Friendly Community. An update to the WMPO area bike suitability map, Bike Month in May, and early planning for the 31st Annual River to Sea Bike Ride in the fall are other upcoming Go Coast initiatives.

b. Streetlight Data – Abby Lorenzo, WMPO

Deputy Director Abby Lorenzo gave an overview of the Streetlight Data subscription purchased by the WMPO. She explained that location-tracking data is collected from smartphones and navigation devices such as GPS on board cars and trucks and integrated with geographic verifying data sources such as road networks and parcel data to contextualize it. She noted that Streetlight also validates the data with traffic calculations. In addition, the platform allows for analysis and comparisons and provides visualization tools.

Ms. Lorenzo stated that the middle tier subscription offers data and analysis of origins and destinations, corridors, cut throughs, speed limits, traffic counts, and other trip attributes as well as heavy and medium trucks (freight throughout the region).

GIS Analyst Trevor Stewart gave a demonstration of the dashboard and an origin and destination analysis within the MPO boundary, selecting traffic zones, dates, day types, day parts down to 15 minutes, and trip and traveler attributes from Census data. He explained that the visualization color codes origins and destinations, with grading increasing relative to density. He noted that advanced visualization controls can rotate the map for a 3-D view. He noted that the data can be downloaded and joined in GIS or in a relational database for further analysis.

Ms. Lorenzo commented that Streetlight Data is a powerful tool for monitoring and reporting traffic in the region, which is available to member jurisdictions. She noted that a procedure has been developed for requesting the data in the form of an application, which would be distributed to member jurisdictions. She added that the application is the first step in initiating a discussion with staff to better understand expectations and timelines.

In response to an inquiry by Mr. Flanagan, Ms. Lorenzo stated that that Streetlight Data is based on what is seen applied to the population of the Transportation Analysis Zone (TAZ) and verified using observable data such as traffic counts.

4) **Consent Agenda**

- a. **Approval of TCC Meeting Minutes – January 13, 2021**
- b. **Opening of the 30-day Public Comment Period for Draft FY 22 Unified Planning Work Program**
- c. **Resolution Supporting the Allocation of Additional Direct Attributable Funds to the City of Wilmington for the South College Road/Holly Tree Crosswalk (U5534Q) Project**
- d. **Resolution Supporting the Allocation of Additional Direct Attributable Funds to the City of Wilmington for the Wilmington Multi-Modal Transportation Center Phase 1B (U-6234) Project**
- e. **Resolution Supporting the Allocation of Additional Direct Attributable Funds to the Town of Leland for the Village Road Multi-use Path (U5534I) Project**
- f. **Resolution Supporting the Allocation of Direct Attributable Funds to the Town of Leland for the Leland Middle School Sidewalk (U-5534K) Project**
- g. **Resolution Supporting the Endorsement of Targets for Safety Performance Measures Established by the North Carolina Department of Transportation for 2021**
- h. **Resolution approving the 2020-2029 STIP/MPO Transportation Improvement Program Administrative Modifications #21-1**

No one desired to pull any item from the Consent Agenda.

Mr. Shore made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda, Items 4a through 4h, as presented, and to forward the items to the MPO Board for consideration. Ms. Harrington seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously by roll call as follows:

Ayes: Mike Kozlosky, Rebekah Roth, Denys Vielkanowitz, Nick Cannon, Mandy Sanders, Robert O'Quinn, Granseur Dick, Adrienne Harrington, Barnes Sutton, Helen Bunch, Sam Shore, Patrick Flanagan, Caitlin Marks, Nazia Sarder and Vanessa Lacer. **Nays:** None. **Absent:** Ed Parvin, Stephanie Ayers and Ashli Barefoot.

5) **Discussion**

a. **FY 22 Surface Transportation Block Grant-Direct Attributable and Transportation Alternatives Set Aside-Direct Attributable Funding Requests**

Transportation Planning Engineer Scott James reminded committee members that there was a call for projects in November of 2020. In response to the call, the MPO received two applications by the deadline of February 5, 2021, as follows:

- Middle Sound Loop Connector Construction in the Porters Neck Walmart Connective Construction Project, New Hanover County
- Automatic Passenger Counting Technology Solution in Transportation Services, Cape Fear Public Transportation Authority/Wave Transit

Mr. James stated that due to a miscommunication, one applicant was not able to submit a revised application by the deadline. He proposed extending the deadline to allow the North Carolina Ports Authority to submit a revised application if it so desires.

There being no objections, Mr. Kozlosky stated that the proposed projects would be brought forward for consideration at the March meetings of the TCC and MPO Board.

b. 2020-2029 STIP/MPO Transportation Improvement Program Administrative Modifications #21-2

Mr. Kozlosky stated that this item is for information purposes only and will be brought back for consideration at the next TCC meeting.

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 regarding the updates.

7) Announcements

a. Bike/Pedestrian Committee Meeting – February 9, 2021

Mr. Kozlosky stated that there is a recommendation to move the River to Sea Bike Ride to the fall and an item would be brought forward for consideration at a future meeting.

b. Go Coast TDM Committee Meeting – February 18, 2021

c. Next TCC meeting – March 17, 2021

8) Adjournment

Mr. Flanagan made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Vielkanowitz, and the motion carried unanimously by roll call as follows:

Ayes: Mike Kozlosky, Rebekah Roth, Denys Vielkanowitz, Nick Cannon, Mandy Sanders, Robert O'Quinn, Granseur Dick, Adrienne Harrington, Barnes Sutton, Helen Bunch, Sam Shore, Patrick Flanagan, Caitlin Marks, Nazia Sarder and Vanessa Lacer. **Nays:** None. **Absent:** Ed Parvin, Stephanie Ayers and Ashli Barefoot.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:42 a.m.

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