Wilmington Urban Area MPO Technical Coordinating Committee Wednesday, June 16, 2021 Meeting Minutes

Members Present

Mike Kozlosky, WMPO Executive Director Marty Little, New Hanover County Nick Cannon, MPO Go Coast Program Ed Parvin, Town of Carolina Beach Stephanie Ayers, NC State Ports Authority Athina Williams, Town of Belville Ashli Barefoot, Town of Leland Barnes Sutton, Town of Navassa Helen Bunch, Brunswick County Vanessa Lacer, Pender County Patrick Flanagan, Cape Fear Council of Governments Caitlin Marks, NCDOT Division of Highways Nazia Sarder, NCDOT Transportation Planning Branch Megan Matheny, Cape Fear Public Transportation Authority

Others Present

Abby Lorenzo, WMPO Rachel McIntyre, WMPO Zachary Manfredi, WMPO Regina Hopkins, WMPO Trevor Stewart, WMPO Marie Parker, Wave Transit Paula Kempton, Town of Carolina Beach Brenda Williams, Town of Belville Lucy Kreuger, NC State Ports Authority Cheryl Hannah, HDR

1) Call to Order

Chairman Mike Kozlosky called to order the remote meeting at 10:00 a.m. and took a roll call pursuant to Section 4.31 of Senate Bill 704 (Session Law 2020-3). A quorum was present, as follows:

Present: Mike Kozlosky, Marty Little, Nick Cannon, Ed Parvin, Stephanie Ayers, Athina Williams, Ashli Barefoot, Barnes Sutton, Helen Bunch, Vanessa Lacer, Caitlin Marks, Nazia Sarder and Megan Matheny. **Absent:** Denys Vielkanowitz, Mandy Sanders, Robert O'Quinn, Granseur Dick and Patrick Flanagan.

2) Approval of the Agenda

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

Ayes: Mike Kozlosky, Marty Little, Nick Cannon, Ed Parvin, Stephanie Ayers, Athina Williams, Ashli Barefoot, Barnes Sutton, Helen Bunch, Vanessa Lacer, Caitlin Marks, Nazia Sarder and Megan Matheny. **Nays:** None. **Absent:** Denys Vielkanowitz, Mandy Sanders, Robert O'Quinn, Granseur Dick and Patrick Flanagan.

3) <u>Presentations</u>

a. NCDOT Project Update- Caitlin Marks, NCDOT

Ms. Marks gave a project update. She said that the STI Committee for Reprioritization (STICR) was formed to review projects with an increased cost greater than 35% or \$25 million. If so, STICR decides if projects will remain in the STIP or be included in the next cycle for reprioritization. The

committee has met a few times since November 2020. Also, NCDOT is working on new estimates for every committed project in the STIP by June 30, pursuing value engineering proposals to identify creative cost-cutting measures, and searching for other possible cost savings and reductions in scope to retain fiscal constraint of the STIP.

Ms. Marks gave a brief overview of projects in the first and second five years of the STIP and post year projects with construction beyond 2029. She explained that committed projects do not have to be reprioritized and not all projects in the STIP are committed, historically those in the last four years of the STIP tend to be noncommitted. She noted that the project updates now include a column to identity those committed and those not. Planned projects in the near future include the Hampstead Bypass (R-3300B and R-3300A); Military Cutoff at Eastwood (U-5710 and U-5710A, Drysdale Drive); NC 133 Widening (U-5914); and Gordon Road Widening (U-6202), which has been moved from 2030 to 2024. Active construction projects include the Market Street Median (U-4902D), 43% complete and the Military Cutoff Extension (U-4751), 50% complete. In addition, replacement of the Smith Creek Bridge (B-4590) has been advanced to July 2021 due to an accident with a trash truck that damaged structural components.

b. 2021 Bike Month Results- Nick Cannon, WMPO

Mr. Cannon gave an overview of results from this year's Bike Month. He said that in previous years, the event was held as Go Coast Bike Week. Due to positive feedback from participants the duration of the event was extended to a month to count bike use for recreation as well as commuting. He noted that the event was promoted via e-mail blast (Constant Contact), social media and a press release. Registration and reporting were conducted through an online survey (SurveyMonkey). Results were as follows:

- 121 participants
- 800 trips by bicycle (500 commuting, 300 for leisure or exercise)
- 4,922 total miles ridden

Mr. Cannon also gave a brief overview of most popular routes and highest participating employers.

4) <u>Consent Agenda</u>

- a. Approval of TCC Meeting Minutes- May 12, 2021
- b. Resolution approving 2020-2029 STIP/MPO TIP Amendments #21-3

- c. Opening of the 30-day public comment period for 2020-2029 STIP/MPO TIP Amendments #21-4
- d. <u>Resolution approving 2020-2029 STIP/MPO TIP Administrative Modifications #21-5</u>
- e. <u>Resolution adopting an amendment to the Go Coast Transportation Demand Management</u> <u>Committee Bylaws</u>
- f. <u>Resolution adopting the Targets for Public Transportation Safety Plan Performance Measures</u>
- g. <u>Resolution supporting the North Carolina State Ports Authority's Grant Application to fund a</u> <u>new North Gate at the Port of Wilmington</u>

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

Ayes: Mike Kozlosky, Marty Little, Nick Cannon, Ed Parvin, Stephanie Ayers, Athina Williams, Ashli Barefoot, Barnes Sutton, Helen Bunch, Vanessa Lacer, Patrick Flanagan, Caitlin Marks, Nazia Sarder and Megan Matheny. Nays: None. Absent: Denys Vielkanowitz, Mandy Sanders, Robert O'Quinn and Granseur Dick.

5) <u>Discussion</u>

a) <u>2020-2029 STIP/MPO Transportation Improvement Program Administrative</u> <u>Modifications #21-6</u>

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

b) FY 22 Unified Planning Work Program

Ms. Lorenzo stated that staff has proposed some changes to the FY22 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP). She noted that the MPO Board approved the UPWP in March, which included \$200,000 for special studies requested by member jurisdictions. These studies include a collector street plan update for the Town of Navassa, a bicycle and pedestrian plan for the Town of Kure Beach, and a transit feasibility study for northern Brunswick County requested by the Towns of Leland and Navassa as well as Brunswick County.

The Cape Fear Public Transportation Authority and Brunswick Transit System approached the Brunswick consortium about an opportunity with NCDOT for a pilot micro transit program. Although the study has support, stakeholders determined that the need for the study estimated at \$100,000 was not immediate.

While the pilot program was under consideration, MPO staff identified potential additional needs for FY22:

- Additional \$15,000 for enhancements to the Kure Beach Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan (total budget: \$40,000, Alta)
- Part-time GIS Intern to assist cleaning up existing database (\$5,000)
- Retain \$100,000 for specialized studies

Ms. Lorenzo reminded the committee that this item is up for discussion and that staff will forward TCC member comments to the MPO Board and bring back an amendment to the UPWP for consideration at the next meeting.

Ms. Williams expressed support for the MPO.

Mr. Barnes inquired about the scope of the micro-transit study. Wave Transit Executive Director Marie Parker responded the concept study would focus on New Hanover, Brunswick, and Pender Counties.

6) <u>Updates</u>

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

Mr. Kozlosky stated that the updates are included in the agenda packet.

7) <u>Announcements</u>

- a. <u>Coronavirus Response & Recovery Supplemental Appropriations Act Applications</u> <u>Due - August 9, 2021; Pre-consultation: July 9 with Scott James</u>
- b. Next TCC meeting July 14, 2021

Mr. Kozlosky announced that the TCC meeting will return to 320 Chestnut Street in-person.

8) <u>Adjournment</u>

There being no further business, Ms. Ayers made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Ms. Marks, and the motion carried unanimously by roll call as follows:

Ayes: Mike Kozlosky, Marty Little, Nick Cannon, Ed Parvin, Stephanie Ayers, Athina Williams, Ashli Barefoot, Barnes Sutton, Helen Bunch, Vanessa Lacer, Patrick Flanagan, Caitlin Marks, Nazia

Sarder and Megan Matheny. Nays: None. Absent: Denys Vielkanowitz, Mandy Sanders, Robert

O'Quinn and Granseur Dick.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:30 a.m.

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