

**Wilmington Urban Area MPO
Technical Coordinating Committee
Wednesday, May 11, 2022
Remote Meeting Minutes**

Members Present

Stephanie Ayers, NC State Ports Authority
Helen Bunch, Brunswick County
Adrienne Cox, NCDOT Division of Highways
Granseur Dick, Wilmington International Airport
Patrick Flanagan, Cape Fear Council of Governments
Jeremy Hardison, Town of Carolina Beach
Adrienne Harrington, Town of Belville
Mike Kozlosky, WMPO
Vanessa Lacer, Pender County
Rachel LaCoe, New Hanover County
Abby Lorenzo, MPO Go Coast Program
Robert O'Quinn, Town of Wrightsville Beach
Marie Parker, Wave Transit
Mandy Sanders, Town of Kure Beach
Nazia Sarder, NCDOT Transportation Planning Branch
Denys Vielkanowitz, City of Wilmington

Members Absent

Claudia Bray, Town of Navassa
Matt Kirkland, Town of Leland

Others Present

Brianna D'Itri, Cape Fear Public
Transportation Authority
Cheryl Hannah, HDR
Regina Hopkins, WMPO
Scott A. James, WMPO
Jamar Johnson, WMPO
Sean Kane
Rachel McIntyre, WMPO
Emma Stogner, WMPO
Tony Sumter, NCDOT

1) Call to Order

Chairman Mike Kozlosky called the remote meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. He took the roll call pursuant to N.C.G.S. Section 166A-19.24. A quorum was present, as follows:

Present: Stephanie Ayers, Granseur Dick, Jeremy Hardison, Adrienne Harrington, Mike Kozlosky, Vanessa Lacer, Rachel LaCoe, Abby Lorenzo, Robert O'Quinn, Marie Parker, Mandy Sanders, Nazia Sarder and Denys Vielkanowitz. **Absent:** Claudia Bray, Helen Bunch, Adrienne Cox, Patrick Flanagan and Matt Kirkland.

2) Approval of the Agenda

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

Ayes: Stephanie Ayers, Helen Bunch, Adrienne Cox, Granseur Dick, Patrick Flanagan, Jeremy Hardison, Adrienne Harrington, Mike Kozlosky, Vanessa Lacer, Rachel LaCoe, Abby Lorenzo, Robert O'Quinn, Marie Parker, Mandy Sanders, Nazia Sarder and Denys Vielkanowitz. **Nays:** None. **Absent:** Claudia Bray and Matt Kirkland.

3) Consent Agenda

- a. **Approval of TCC Meeting Minutes- April 13, 2022**
- b. **Opening of the 30-day public comment period for 2020-2029 STIP/MPO Amendment #22-4**
- c. **Resolution approving 2020-2029 STIP/MPO Administrative Modification #22-4**
- d. **Resolution approving the 2022 Focus Areas and Action Steps for Implementation of the 2022-2026 Strategic Plan**

Ms. Cox made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda, Items 3a through 3d as presented, and to forward the items to the MPO Board for consideration. Ms. Lorenzo seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously by roll call as follows:

Ayes: Stephanie Ayers, Helen Bunch, Adrienne Cox, Granseur Dick, Patrick Flanagan, Jeremy Hardison, Adrienne Harrington, Mike Kozlosky, Vanessa Lacer, Rachel LaCoe, Abby Lorenzo, Robert O'Quinn, Marie Parker, Mandy Sanders, Nazia Sarder and Denys Vielkanowitz. **Nays:** None. **Absent:** Claudia Bray and Matt Kirkland.

4) **Regular Agenda**

a. **Resolution approving Amendment #1 to the FY 23 Unified Planning Work Program**

Ms. Lorenzo said that this item is a continuation of the 5304 grant funds that were incorporated into the MPO's FY22 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) with an amendment. She noted that the funds are granted via a two-year contract between the Federal Transit Administration, NCDOT's Integrated Mobility Division, and Wave Transit. She explained that the funds are allocated for the creation of a zero-emissions transition plan. She added that Federal 5304 funding requires a 20% match, which will be provided by the state. Thus, there will be no cost to the members.

Ms. Bunch made a motion to approve Amendment #1 to the FY23 UPWP. Ms. Lacer seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously by roll call as follows:

Ayes: Stephanie Ayers, Helen Bunch, Adrienne Cox, Granseur Dick, Patrick Flanagan, Jeremy Hardison, Adrienne Harrington, Mike Kozlosky, Vanessa Lacer, Rachel LaCoe, Abby Lorenzo, Robert O'Quinn, Marie Parker, Mandy Sanders, Nazia Sarder and Denys Vielkanowitz. **Nays:** None. **Absent:** Claudia Bray and Matt Kirkland.

5) **Discussion**

a. **2020-2029 STIP/MPO Transportation Improvement Program Administrative Modifications #22-5**

Mr. Kozlosky said that this item is for informational purposes only and will be brought back for consideration by the TCC at its next meeting.

b. **2024-2033 Initial Draft State/MPO Transportation Improvement Program**

Mr. Kozlosky said that staff is in the process of reviewing the initial draft of the 2024-2033 State/MPO Transportation Improvement Program (STIP/MTIP), which was released by NCDOT on April 25th. He noted that although Prioritization 6.0 was halted due to the Department being overprogrammed, the initial draft was released consistent with prioritization through the efforts of the workgroup and guidance from the NC Board of Transportation.

Mr. Kozlosky said that he and NCDOT will give a joint presentation to the MPO Board on May 25th and to the TCC on June 15th. He noted that NCDOT has a goal of releasing a draft by the end of the year. He added that an opportunity exists to swap projects through September 30th and that a list of projects within the MPO boundary eligible for swapping has been included in the agenda packet. He noted that the MPO has received two project swapping requests, one from NCDOT's Aviation Division and the other from the NC State Ports Authority.

Mr. Kozlosky pointed out that much work will go into the initial draft in the coming months. He noted that the presentation to the MPO Board and the TCC will include an overview of the initial draft creation and changes to the project schedules.

In response to an inquiry by Mr. Vielkanowitz regarding criteria for swapping projects, Mr. Kozlosky said that swaps may not exceed 110% of the cost of the project to be swapped. Since many projects have been pushed to preliminary engineering or outside the program, he pointed out that this may be an opportunity to bring some of those back into the program. Ms. Cox said she will provide the presentation to the committee in June and will go into more detail about swapping at that time.

c. **Go Coast Committee's model policy for Telecommuting and Alternative Work Schedules**

Ms. Lorenzo said that the model policy for alternative work schedules and teleworking was developed by the Go Coast Committee this past winter. She noted that the model was developed in response to the need for navigating a return to the workplace following the COVID-19 pandemic. She added that the Go Coast Committee compiled examples from private and public organizations to develop the model policy. She commented that the policy is intended to serve as a starting point and assumes that the language used may need to be revised to incorporate into various workplace environments.

Ms. Lorenzo requested that committee members review the model policy and provide comments to her by close of business June 1st. She noted that the final model policy developed by the Go Coast Committee will be brought to the MPO Board for consideration to make it available officially to private and public organizations for use in the region.

6) **Updates**

a. **Wilmington Urban Area MPO**

Mr. Kozlosky acknowledged the presence of the MPO's new GIS Analyst, Greer Shivers, who expressed appreciation and gave a brief overview of her background.

Mr. Kozlosky said that in February the MPO Board endorsed a resolution requesting that the Department explore all potential options for the replacement of the Cape Fear Memorial Bridge. He noted that NCDOT is exploring a three-pronged approach:

1. Traditional delivery through the STIP and potential discretionary grant programs made available by the Infrastructure Bill (IIJA)
2. Conventional toll delivery
3. Alternative delivery methods

Mr. Kozlosky said that NCDOT released a Request for Information (RFI) related to the alternative delivery methods, which is due by May 26th. He noted that staff anticipates a discussion regarding delivery methods at the MPO Board's July 27th meeting.

Mr. Kozlosky added that on May 4th, staff attended the MOBI Awards hosted by NCDOT. He acknowledged that the MPO and the Town of Leland were successful in receiving the Small Urban Award for the Old Fayetteville Multi-use Trail and Resurfacing project. He noted that he will give a presentation to the Town of Leland and present the award to Mayor Bozeman later today. He commented that the project was a joint effort that overcame several challenges.

b. **Cape Fear Public Transportation Authority**

Ms. Parker announced that Wave Transit received of the Statewide Transit System of the Year award last month.

Mr. Kozlosky added that the New Hanover County Commissioners at their last meeting supported putting on the ballot in November an initiative for a potential quarter-cent sales tax that would go toward public transportation as well as bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure and the rail realignment project. He commented that, if supported, it would be a huge influx of funds for Wave.

c. **NCDOT Division**

Ms. Cox said that NCDOT has been busy advertising and letting maintenance projects in all the counties of the Division. She noted that projects include milling, cutting trees, tree removal,

landscaping, ADA curb ramps, resurfacing, and signal maintenance. She added that some projects have been let and others will be let by the end of the month through the beginning of June.

d. NCDOT Transportation Planning Division

Ms. Sarder said that NCDOT began efforts on the 2050 Travel Demand Model (TDM) in March that will accompany the Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) for Wilmington, which should be adopted by the end of 2025. She noted that the other updates have been included in the agenda packet.

7) Announcements

a. Co Coast Committee meeting - May 19th

b. Next TCC meeting- June 15th

8) Adjournment

There being no further business, Ms. Cox made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Ms. Bunch, and meeting was adjourned at 10:25 a.m. by roll call as follows:

Ayes: Stephanie Ayers, Helen Bunch, Adrienne Cox, Granseur Dick, Patrick Flanagan, Jeremy Hardison, Adrienne Harrington, Mike Kozlosky, Vanessa Lacer, Rachel LaCoe, Abby Lorenzo, Robert O'Quinn, Marie Parker, Mandy Sanders, Nazia Sarder and Denys Vielkanowitz. **Nays:** None. **Absent:** Claudia Bray and Matt Kirkland.

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