

**Wilmington Urban Area MPO
Technical Coordinating Committee
Wednesday, July 13, 2022
Remote Meeting Minutes**

Members Present

Stephanie Ayers, NC State Ports Authority
Ashli Barefoot, Town of Leland
Patrick Flanagan, Cape Fear Council of Governments
Jeremy Hardison, Town of Carolina Beach
Adrienne Harrington, Town of Belville
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

Others Present

Zachary Bugg, Kittelson & Associates
Cheryl Hannah, HDF
Regina Hopkins, WMPO
Grayson Jackson, NCDOT
Scott A. James, WMPO
Jamar Johnson, WMPO
Sean Kane
Rachel McIntyre, WMPO
Amy Passaretti
Ron Satterfield, City of Wilmington
Greer Shivers, WMPO
Emma Stogner, WMPO

Members Absent

Michelyn Alston, Town of Navassa
Helen Bunch, Brunswick County
Adrienne Cox, NCDOT Division of Highways
Granseur Dick, Wilmington International Airport
Mike Kozlosky, WMPO

1) Call to Order

Vice Chair Nazia Sarder turned the meeting over to MPO Deputy Director Abby Lorenzo, who called the remote meeting to order at 10:01 a.m. Ms. Lorenzo took the roll call pursuant to N.C.G.S. Section 166A-19.24, and determined that a quorum was present, as follows:

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

2) Approval of the Agenda

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

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

3) Presentation

a. Congestion Management Process Data Support- Zachary Bugg P.E., Kittelson

Mr. Bugg gave a presentation on Kittelson's data support for the WMPO's biennial Congestion Management Process (CMP). He said that the study focused on 30 critical study corridors within the

MPO area for which Probe Data, the National Performance Management Research Data set, was available. He noted that although Level of Travel Time Reliability (LOTTR) greater than 1.3 is considered unreliable, MPOs can set individual goals. He reported that none of the study corridors were greater than 1.3 and that those with LOTTR greater than 1.2 are as follows:

AM Peak

- Gordon Road
- US 17 (Porters Neck)
- US 17/76/Memorial Bridge
- Front Street

PM Peak

- College Road
- Gordon Road
- Market Street (east of College Road)
- Oleander Drive
- Front Street

Mr. Bugg said that generally, travel time and reliability have improved due to more people working from home. He noted that the exceptions include South Front Street from Lake Shore Drive to the Cape Fear Memorial Bridge during the morning peak, College Road from Wilshire Boulevard to Pinecliff Drive during the afternoon peak, and US 17/NC 210 from Washington Acres to Sloop Point Road for both afternoon and evening peak times. He added that although travel time has decreased year over year in most cases, the peaks are more pronounced.

Mr. Bugg explained that the hot spot analysis is based on level volumes and capacity of each signalized intersection. He said that several intersections have a Level of Service (LOS) F and E, and some have LOS D or better. He noted that College Road worsened, and Market Street and Carolina Beach Road improved. He gave a brief demo of the dashboard soon to be posted on www.wmpo.org for the public to explore the data, which is intended ultimately to support project prioritization.

In response to an inquiry by Mr. Vielkanowitz, Mr. Bugg clarified that the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) considers a LOTTR of greater than 1.3 to be unreliable for all major metropolitan areas in the U.S. He reiterated that LOTTR is relative to metropolitan areas, which have the flexibility of setting independent goals.

Ms. Lorenzo expressed appreciation to Mr. Bugg and said that MPO staff will use the data for the 2022 biennial report, which will be brought back for consideration later this fall.

4) Consent Agenda

- Approval of TCC Meeting Minutes- June 15, 2022**
- Opening of the 30-day public comment period for 2020-2029 STIP/MPO Amendment #22-5**
- Resolution approving 2020-2029 STIP/MPO Administrative Modification #22-6**

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

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

5) Discussion

- 2020-2029 STIP/MPO Transportation Improvement Program Administrative Modifications #22-7**

Ms. Lorenzo said that this item is for information purposes only and will be brought back for consideration at the TCC's next meeting.

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

Ms. Lorenzo said that the initial draft of the 2024-2033 State/MPO Transportation Improvement Program (STIP/MTIP) has changed. She noted that on Monday, Governor Cooper signed the FY22-23 Budget, which includes the phased transfer of auto related sales tax revenues equaling approximately \$625 million annually by 2025 to NCDOT. She noted that the funds will be split between the Highway and the Highway Trust Funds, which will further reduce the deficit in the state's 10-year work plan. She added that NCDOT is in the process of updating funding projections and impacts, and updates will be provided when available.

c. Cape Fear Memorial Bridge Replacement

Ms. Lorenzo said that NCDOT will give a presentation to the MPO Board later this month regarding its findings of the three possible funding options that are being explored for the replacement of the bridge. She encouraged interested members of the committee to attend the MPO Board meeting either virtually or in person.

6) Updates

a. Wilmington Urban Area MPO

Ms. Lorenzo said that the updates are included in the agenda packet.

b. Cape Fear Public Transportation Authority

Ms. Parker reminded committee members that new services went into effect on July 3rd. She noted that as a result, Wave Transit is experiencing a 10% to 15% increase in ridership. She added that micro-transit has new hours on Saturday and Sunday in both north and south zones, providing direct access to the beaches as well as the northern part of New Hanover County.

c. NCDOT Division

d. NCDOT Transportation Planning Division

Ms. Sarder reported that the 2050 Travel Demand Model is progressing. She noted that NCDOT has requested the MPO's data verification by the end of August.

7) Announcements

a. Wilmington MPO Bike/Pedestrian Committee – August 9th

b. Next TCC meeting- August 17th

8) Adjournment

There being no further business, Ms. Ayers made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Ms. Barefoot, and meeting was adjourned at 10:31 a.m. by roll call as follows:

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

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