Wilmington Urban Area MPO
Technical Coordinating Committee
Wednesday, February 8, 2023
Remote Meeting Minutes

Members Present

Stephanie Ayers, NC State Ports Authority
Helen Bunch, Brunswick County
Carolyn Caggia, WMPO
Adrienne Cox, NCDOT
Greg Feldman, Pender County
Patrick Flanagan, Cape Fear Council of
   Governments
Adrienne Harrington, Town of Belville
Paula Kempton, Town of Carolina Beach
Mike Kozlosky, TCC Chairman, WMPO
Vanessa Lacer, Town of Leland
Rachel LaCoe, New Hanover County
Marie Parker, Wave Transit
Nazia Sarder, TCC Vice Chair, NCDOT
Denys Vielkanowitz, City of Wilmington

Members Absent

Michelyn Alston, Town of Navassa
Granseur Dick, Wilmington International Airport
Robert O'Quinn, Town of Wrightsville Beach
Mandy Sanders, Town of Kure Beach

Others Present

Abie Bonevac, City of Wilmington
Thomas Bradshaw, City of Wilmington
Zachary Bugg, Kittelson
Cheryl Hannah, HDR
Regina Hopkins, WMPO
Scott James, WMPO
Ronnie Keeter
Andrew Ooms, Kittelson
Greer Shivers, WMPO
Nicole Smith, City of Wilmington
Emma Stogner, WMPO
E L Stupka

1) Call to Order

Chairman Mike Kozlosky called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. A quorum was present, as follows:

Present: Stephanie Ayers, Helen Bunch, Carolyn Caggia, Greg Feldman, Patrick Flanagan, Adrienne Harrington, Paula Kempton, Adrienne Cox, Mike Kozlosky, Vanessa Lacer, Rachel LaCoe, Marie Parker, Nazia Sarder and Denys Vielkanowitz. **Absent:** Granseur Dick, Robert O'Quinn, Mandy Sanders and a representative of the Town of Navassa.

2) Approval of the Agenda

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

Ayes: Stephanie Ayers, Helen Bunch, Carolyn Caggia, Adrienne Cox, Greg Feldman, Patrick Flanagan, Adrienne Harrington, Paula Kempton, Mike Kozlosky, Vanessa Lacer, Rachel LaCoe, Marie Parker, Nazia Sarder and Denys Vielkanowitz. **Nays:** None. **Absent:** Granseur Dick, Robert O'Quinn, Mandy Sanders and a representative of the Town of Navassa.

3) Presentation

a. Navassa Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan- Zachary Bugg, PE, Kittelson & Associates

Zachary Bugg, Kittelson & Associates, gave an overview of the Navassa Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan and acknowledged the presence of Andrew Ooms, Kittelson, who provided oversight for the project.

A brief question/answer and discussion period followed regarding costs.

4) Consent Agenda

a. Approval of TCC Meeting Minutes- January 11, 2023
b. Opening of the 30-day Public Comment Period for 2020-2029 STIP/MPO Amendment #23-1

c. **Resolution approving 2020-2029 STIP/MPO Administrative Modification #23-1**

d. **Resolution supporting the North Carolina State Ports Grant Application for the USDOT FY 23 Port Infrastructure Development Grant Program to fund a new North Gate at the Port of Wilmington**

e. **Resolution supporting Targets for Performance Measures Established By NCDOT**

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

Ayes: Stephanie Ayers, Helen Bunch, Carolyn Caggia, Adrienne Cox, Patrick Flanagan, Adrienne Harrington, Paula Kempton, Mike Kozlosky, Vanessa Lacer, Rachel LaCoe, Marie Parker, Nazia Sarder and Denys Vielkanowitz. **Nays:** None. **Absent:** Granseur Dick, Greg Feldman, Robert O'Quinn, Mandy Sanders and a representative of the Town of Navassa.

5) **Regular Agenda**

a. **Resolution adopting the 2023 Wilmington Urban Area Metropolitan Planning Organization Legislative Agenda**
Chairman Kozlosky said that this item was presented to the committee for discussion at its last meeting and to the MPO Board, which raised the question of electric assist bicycles, support for which has been included. He noted that regulations per jurisdiction have been included in the memo.

Ms. Bunch made a motion to adopt the 2023 WMPO Legislative Agenda. Mr. Flanagan seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously by roll call vote, as follows:

Ayes: Helen Bunch, Carolyn Caggia, Adrienne Cox, Patrick Flanagan, Adrienne Harrington, Paula Kempton, Mike Kozlosky, Vanessa Lacer, Rachel LaCoe, Marie Parker, Nazia Sarder and Denys Vielkanowitz. **Nays:** None. **Absent:** Stephanie Ayers, Granseur Dick, Greg Feldman, Robert O'Quinn, Mandy Sanders and a representative of the Town of Navassa.

b. **Resolution adopting the Wilmington Urban Area Metropolitan Planning Organization's Conflict of Interest Policy**
Chairman Kozlosky said that at the last MPO Board meeting, the Board expressed the desire for staff to bring forward a conflict-of-interest policy. He noted that the proposed draft policy was crafted by staff and the MPO attorney to provide guidelines for recusals.

Ms. Parker made a motion to adopt the WMPO Board's Conflict of Interest Policy. Chairman Kozlosky seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously by roll call vote, as follows:

Ayes: Helen Bunch, Carolyn Caggia, Adrienne Cox, Patrick Flanagan, Adrienne Harrington, Paula Kempton, Mike Kozlosky, Vanessa Lacer, Rachel LaCoe, Marie Parker, Nazia Sarder and Denys Vielkanowitz. **Nays:** None. **Absent:** Stephanie Ayers, Granseur Dick, Greg Feldman, Robert O'Quinn, Mandy Sanders and a representative of the Town of Navassa.

6) **Discussion**

a. **2020-2029 STIP/MPO Transportation Improvement Program Administrative Modifications #23-2**
Chairman Kozlosky said that this item is for information purposes only and will be included for consideration at the next meeting.

b. **2020 Urbanized Area (UZA) Census Data- Organizational Boundaries, Structure, and Governance**

Chairman Kozlosky said that as discussed at the last meeting, the Census released the Wilmington MPO's Urbanized Area (UA) population of 255,329 on December 29th, and the Urbanized Area data on January 11th. He noted that the MPO is awaiting federal guidelines for the creation of MPOs and MPO planning area boundaries. He pointed out that the MPO anticipates having one year from the issuance of the guidance to set its Urban Area boundary.

Chairman Kozlosky said that the agenda packet includes the maps for the Urbanized Area as well as a map demonstrating the proximity of other MPOs and the Urbanized Areas. He pointed out that Hampstead is a separate Urbanized Area from the Wilmington Urbanized Area, and the WMPO's boundary encompasses a significant portion of the Hampstead Urbanized Area. Additionally, the Census released data showing that there is an Urbanized Area in Brunswick County.

Chairman Kozlosky said that since the Census released the 2020 data, the MPO is required by state law to evaluate and consider its boundary as well as its organizational structure and governance. He noted that he anticipates this topic to be included on the committee's agenda for the next several months as the MPO moves forward with discussing the future of its organizational boundary. He added that it will be a collaborative process.

A brief question/answer and discussion period was held regarding the difference between the Urban Area and the MPO planning area boundaries.

c.   Military Cutoff Road/Eastwood Road interchange
Chairman Kozlosky said that in October, the Board requested MPO staff to bring forward ideas for potential project swaps to delay the Military Cutoff Road and Eastwood Road interchange project (U-5710). He noted that the discussion moved into conflicts of interest and a request for a policy, which the committee approved on its regular agenda today. He added that no action has been taken by the Board on consideration of the potential project swap of Military Cutoff Road/Eastwood Road for the College Road/Oleander Drive intersection improvements. He reminded committee members that any project swaps must be approved by March 17th and by the Division.

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

Chairman Kozlosky said that the updates are included in the agenda packet. There were no additional updates from Ms. Parker, Ms. Cox, or Ms. Sarder.

8)   Announcements
   a.   Wilmington MPO Bike/Pedestrian Committee- February 14, 2023
   b.   Wilmington MPO Go Coast Committee- February 16, 2023
   c.   Congestion Management Plan Comments Due- February 24, 2023
   d.   **Next TCC meeting- March 15, 2023**

Chairman Kozlosky announced that although there has been no press release yet, the NC Board of Transportation approved awarding several feasibility studies for paved trails and sidewalks to the MPO and its members. He reminded the committee that at its January meeting, it approved the MPO applying for studies for the Downtown Trail Phases 2 and 3, as well as the Gullah Geechee Heritage Corridor in

Brunswick County and the East Coast Greenway's submission in Kure Beach. He said that the Board of Transportation approved all three studies yesterday.

9)   <u>**Adjournment**</u>

There being no further business, Ms. Bunch made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Chairman Kozlosky, and the meeting was adjourned at 10:43 a.m. by roll call, as follows:

Ayes: Helen Bunch, Carolyn Caggia, Adrienne Cox, Adrienne Harrington, Paula Kempton, Mike Kozlosky, Vanessa Lacer, Rachel LaCoe, Marie Parker, Nazia Sarder and Denys Vielkanowitz. **Nays:** None. **Absent:** Stephanie Ayers, Granseur Dick, Greg Feldman, Patrick Flanagan, Robert O'Quinn, Mandy Sanders and a representative of the Town of Navassa.

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