

**Wilmington Urban Area MPO
Technical Coordinating Committee
Wednesday, September 11 2024,
Remote Meeting Minutes**

Members Present in Person

Mike Kozlosky, TCC Chairman, WMPO
Carolyn Caggia, WMPO
Michelle Howes, NCDOT
Sam Boswell, Cape Fear Council of Governments

Members Absent

Michelyn Alston, Town of Navassa
Robert O'Quinn, Town of Wrightsville Beach
Adam Moran, Pender County
Granseur Dick, Wilmington International Airport
Mandy Sander, Town of Kure Beach

Others Present In-Person

Tera Cline, WMPO
Abby Lorenzo, WMPO
Greer Shivers, WMPO
Beth King, WMPO
Regina Hopkins, WMPO
Chad Staradumsky, Town of Belville
Adrienne Cox, Division 3

Members Present Remote

Helen Bunch, Brunswick County
Mark Hairr, Cape Fear Public Transportation Authority
Adrienne Harrington, Town of Belville
Jeremy Hardison, Town of Carolina Beach
Denys Vielkanowitz, City of Wilmington
Julian Griffiee, Town of Leland
Karlene Ellis Vitalis, New Hanover County
Stephanie Ayers, NC State Ports Authority
Beshad Norowzi, NCDOT
Ashley Barefoot, Brunswick County

Others Present Remote

Katie Ryan, Town of Wrightsville Beach
Trevor Carroll, Division 3
Nick Morrison, FHWA

1) Call to Order

Chairman Mike Kozlosky called the meeting of the Technical Coordinating Committee to order at 10:00 a.m., confirmed a quorum was present, and called the roll as follows:

Present In Person: Mike Kozlosky, Michelle Howes, Sam Boswell, and Carolyn Caggia. **Present Remotely:** Helen Bunch, Mark Hairr, Adrienne Harrington, Jeremy Hardison, Deny Vielkanowitz, Julian Griffiee, Stephanie Ayers, Beshad Norowzi, and Ashely Barefoot. **Absent:** Michelyn Alston, Robert O'Quinn, Adam Moran, Granseur Dick, and Mandy Sander.

Mike Kozlosky asked for a moment of silence to commemorate all that lost their lives 23 years ago today.

2) Approval of Agenda

Mark Hairr made a motion to approve the agenda, seconded by Helen Bunch and the motion carried unanimously

3) Presentations

a. Get There Greener/Bike to Work Day- Carolyn Caggia, WMPO

Carolyn Caggia, WMPO presented the Go Coast annual sustainable transportation challenge, Get There Greener and Bike to Work Day. Get There Greener takes place every October. In 2023 it was rebranded from the Commuter Challenge that was established in 2016. The challenge encourages participants to track their trips and report their miles when they travel by carpooling, public transportation, bicycling, walking, or teleworking. Teleworkers will log how many miles they would have traveled by single occupancy vehicle.

She stated that the spirit of the challenge is to reduce single occupancy vehicle travel and encourage alternative transportation that is sustainable. She noted the website address is GoCoastNC.org/get-there-greener. Ms. Caggia then gave a brief history of the challenge noting various platforms that were used and some fluctuating participation as well. The My Open Road application has been used in the past but it no longer exists. Ride NC was also used which is a statewide matching database that also had the functionality for trip tracking. The past two years Google forms has been used to try and reduce barriers to participation by using a familiar platform.

Ms. Caggia then stated that in 2023 there were 26 participants that logged 3,857 miles for a total of 1,542 kg of carbon dioxide savings. She stated that this year's challenge runs from October 1st through the 31st and the interest form is on the website. Starting October 1st the tracking form will be up and running. At the end of the challenge prizes will be awarded from area businesses.

She then presented information on Bike to Work Day that will be held on October 11th. The concept is to encourage local businesses and organizations to sponsor pit stops at their place of business or at a bicycle spot nearby. They could offer coffee, snacks, and swag. A map of the pit stops is available at gocoastnc.org/bike-to-work-day-2024. She encouraged everyone to spread the word and participate.

b. Wrightsville Beach Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan-Katie Ryan

Katie Ryan stated that the bicycle/ pedestrian plan that was just adopted by the Board of Alderman in June had the most public involvement and enthusiasm of any plan she has worked on before.

She noted that following the award of the NCDOT bike/pedestrian planning grant in August 2022, the NCDOT selected Kimley Horn as the consultant. The Board in February 2023 appointed the Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee to serve on the steering committee as well as WMPO staff and NCDOT staff. There were four steering committee meetings and two public workshops. She stated the workshops were well attended with 64 residents at the first meeting and 27 at the second. She noted that non-residents participated as well and they had over 600 survey responses, and 81% of those were full-time or part-time Wrightsville Beach residents.

The steering committee developed a vision statement which was to create a safe, accessible, and connected bicycle and pedestrian network in and around Wrightsville Beach for people of all ages and abilities. The Wrightsville Beach Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan will consider the unique environment and geographic challenges and focus on safe connections in the Town and broader region.

Ms. Ryan noted that the committee also had to consider the environment and accessibility, public health, economic development, and equity. All this information as well as public input were included in the draft as well as the prioritized improvements. The committee developed a prioritization tool based and weighted on safety, accessibility and connectivity, public input, cost effectiveness, and demand and density.

She mentioned that some of the improvements are currently being worked on, for example, the section of sidewalk on old Causeway Drive. In addition, Causeway Drive is about to be resurfaced with added bicycle lanes.

4) Consent Agenda

- a. Approval of TCC Meeting Minutes- August 14, 2024
- b. Resolution approving 2024-2033 STIP/MPO Amendment #24-4
- c. Opening of the 30-day public comment period for 2024-2033 STIP/MPO Amendment #24-5
- d. Resolution approving 2024-2033 STIP/MPO Administrative Modifications # 24-8
- e. Resolution authorizing the Chairman to enter into an agreement with the City of Wilmington and Cape Fear Public Transportation Authority for FY 25 Section 5303 Funding
- f. Resolution adopting the Wrightsville Beach Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan

Sam Boswell made a motion to approve the consent agenda; Carolyn Caggia seconded it. Motion passes unanimously.

5) Regular Agenda

a. Resolution approving Amendment #2 to the FY 25 Unified Planning Work Program

Mike Kozlosky, WMPO stated this amendment is to move \$6,300 from the management and operations line-item Ashley Barefoot, Brunswick County to the special studies line item, to allow the MPO to complete a compensation study for the organization. This is supported by the organizational assessment and strategic plan.

Motion to approve amendment #2 to the FY 25 Unified Planning Work Program was made by Adrienne Harrington and seconded by Stephanie Ayers Motion passes unanimously.

b. Resolution supporting the City of Wilmington's application for the USDOT's Small Bridge Grant Program

Mike Kozlosky, WMPO stated the city plans to apply for funding through the USDOT Small Bridge Grant program to replace the 4th Street Bridge, as well as the Pine Grove Bridge. Applications are due November 1st.

Motion to approve the resolution supporting the City of Wilmington applying for the USDOT's Small Bridge Grant made by Stephanie Ayers and seconded by Michelle Howes. Motion passes unanimously.

6) Discussion

a. 2024-2033 STIP/MPO Transportation Improvement Program Administrative Modifications #24-9

Mike Kozlosky stated this is for informational purposes only and will be brought back at the next meeting for consideration.

7) Updates

a. Wilmington Urban Area MPO

Mike Kozlosky introduced Tessa Jones the WMPO's new Public Information Officer, and she said a few words about herself. Mr. Kozlosky also noted that the Direct Attributable applications are due Friday, September 13 by 5 PM.

b. Cape Fear Public Transit Authority

Mark Hiarr, WAVE, stated that public outreach concludes September 15th on the Reimagine WAVE route and service improvements. There will then be a public hearing on September 26th and will move forward with consideration at the end of September.

c. NCDOT Division 3

Michelle Howes stated that the Banks Channel Bridge is done, and lanes restored, and they are still waiting to get the handrail materials to complete the repair. NC 133 in Belville had the final inspection on September 10th and will possibly have a few punch list items left to complete. Drysdale Drive is estimated to be open later this fall. The Hampstead Bypass is on track and is about 50% complete.

She then announced that Trevor Carroll is the new Division 3 engineer.

d. NCDOT Integrated Mobility Division

e. NCDOT Transportation Planning Division

Beshad Norowzi, NCDOT, stated that Nazia should be back by next week. Pender County survey is still open, and the Brunswick County CTP is officially closed. Carteret County is currently ongoing.

9) Announcements

a. Brunswick Heritage ride-September 28, 2024

b. WMPO BPAC October 8, 2024

10) Next meeting- October 10 , 2024

There being no further business Sam Boswell made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Michelle Howes and the motion carried unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:24 a.m.

THE ABOVE MINUTES ARE NOT A VERBATIM RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS.

THE ENTIRE PROCEEDINGS ARE RECORDED DIGITALLY AS PART OF THIS RECORD.