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# WMPO Technical Coordinating Committee (TCC) Meeting Minutes Wednesday, August 13, 2025

525 N 4<sup>th</sup> Street Wilmington, NC 28401

## **Members Present, In person**

Marcy Waters, Pender County
Sam Boswell, Cape Fear Rural Planning
Organization
Denys Vielkanowitz, City of Wilmington
Abby Lorenzo, WMPO
Eric Ritzel, NCDOT
Karlene Ellis Vitallis, New Hanover County

## Members' Present, Remote

Adrienne Harrington, Town of Belville Stephanie Ayers, NC State Ports Authority Gloria Abbotts, Town of Carolina Beach Jon Dodson, Cape Fear Public Transportation Authority Mandy Sanders, Town of Kure Beach Nazia Sarder (Vice Chair), NCDOT TPD Ben Andrea, Town of Leland Helen Bunch, Brunswick County Beth King, WMPO

#### Others Present, In Person

Caitlin Cerza, WMPO
Krysden Burden, WMPO
Regina Hopkins, WMPO
Ronda Hogan, WMPO
Luke Hutson, WMPO
Amanda Halbert, WMPO
Tessa Jones, WMPO
Adrienne Cox, NCDOT

## **Others Present, Remote**

Chad Staradumsky, Town of Belville Zach Bugg, Kittelson & Associates Cheryl Hannah, HDR Bill Kincannon, HDR Kim Nguyen, NCDOT Travis Henley, City of Wilmington

#### 1. Call to Order

Abby Lorenzo called the meeting to order at 10:01a.m and took roll call.

#### 2. Approval of the Agenda

Adrienne Harrington made a motion to approve the agenda, seconded by Stephanie Ayers. The motion passed unanimously.

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#### 3. Presentations

a. WMPO SS4A Comprehensive Safety Action Plan Development Update – Zach Bugg, Kittelson & Associates
Zach Bugg began his presentation by stating the urgency of putting the safety action plan together, highlighting several fatal incidents that have occurred just since the start of developing this plan. Mr. Bugg gave an overview of the components of the WMPO Safe Streets For All Safety Action Plan and schedule from kickoff to implementation. Mr. Bugg went over the total number of crashes in the MPO region, breaking them down into crash types and locations of these incidents. Mr. Bugg spoke about the public engagement that is ongoing through the end of September, including in-person events as well as online engagement. He explained where and when these in-person events will be taking place. To conclude his presentation, Mr. Bugg covered the next steps of the plan and opened the floor for questions. There were no questions.

## 4. Consent Agenda

- a. Approval of TCC Meeting Minutes- July 16, 2025
- Resolution Supporting the Wave Connect Advisory Committee's Recommendations for the Award of the FY 2026 Section 5310 Community Grant Project Funds
- c. Resolution Approving 2024-2033 STIP/MPO Transportation Improvement Program Administrative Modifications #25-6

Sam Boswell made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda, Eric Ritzel seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

#### 5. Regular Agenda

- a. Resolution adopting the Wilmington Urban Area Metropolitan Planning
  Organization's Aviation Project Submittals for Prioritization 8.0
  Abby Lorenzo gave a quick overview of the resolution. Denys Vielkanowitz made a motion to adopt the resolution; Sam Boswell seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
- b. Resolution adopting the Wilmington Urban Area Metropolitan Planning
  Organization's Bicycle and Pedestrian Project Submittals for Prioritization 8.0
  Abby Lorenzo gave a quick overview of the resolution. Karlene Ellis Vitalis made a motion to adopt the resolution; Adrienne Harrington seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
- c. Resolution adopting the Wilmington Urban Area Metropolitan Planning
   Organization's Ferry Project Submittals for Prioritization 8.0
   Abby Lorenzo gave a quick overview of the resolution. Adrienne Harrington made a motion to adopt the resolution; Nazia Sarder seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
- d. <u>Resolution adopting the Wilmington Urban Area Metropolitan Planning</u> Organization's Public Transportation Project Submittals for Prioritization 8.0

- Abby Lorenzo gave a quick overview of the resolution. Carolyn Caggia made a motion to adopt the resolution; Denys Vielkanowitz seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
- e. Resolution adopting the Wilmington Urban Area Metropolitan Planning
  Organization's Rail Project Submittals for Prioritization 8.0
  Abby Lorenzo gave a quick overview of the resolution. Denys Vielkanowitz made a motion to adopt the resolution; Jon Dodson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
- f. Resolution adopting the Wilmington Urban Area Metropolitan Planning
  Organization's Roadway Project Submittals for Prioritization 8.0
  Abby Lorenzo gave a quick overview of the resolution. Adrienne Harrington made a motion to adopt the resolution; Denys Vielkanowitz seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
- g. Resolution Requesting an Amendment to the 2024-2033 and 2026-2035

  State/MPO Transportation Improvement Programs for Bus Replacements, Bus

  Stop Amenities, and Station Facilities Equipment

  Regina Hopkins, WMPO Accounting Manager, gave an overview of the resolution explaining the amendment, where the funds came from and the capital improvements scheduled for these funds. Denys Vielkanowitz made a motion to adopt the resolution; Carolyn Caggia seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
- h. Resolution Requesting a Modification to the 2024-2033 and 2026-2035
  State/MPO Transportation Improvement Programs to Reduce the Funding
  Amount for the Country Club Multiuse Trail Design Project (BL-0154)
  Krysden Burden, WMPO Grants Coordinator, reviewed the resolution which requests modifications to the 2024-2033 and 2026-2035 State and Metropolitan Planning Organizations Transportation Improvement Programs to reduce the federal and local funding amounts for the Country Club Multi-Use Trail Design Project in Pender County. The Federal funds to be modified from \$886,000 to \$708,800, and local match funds from \$222,000 to \$177,200, with a new total project cost of \$886,000. Sam Boswell made a motion to approve the resolution, Carolyn Caggia seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

## 6. Discussion

- a. 2024-2033 and 2026-2035 STIP/MPO Transportation Improvement Programs Administrative Modifications #25-7 Abby Lorenzo stated that this item is for informational purposes only and will be brought back at the next meeting for approval. Ms. Lorenzo opened the floor for questions, there were none.
- b. WMPO Federal Functional Classifications Revisions
  Abby Lorenzo overviewed the Federal Functional Classification Revisions,
  beginning with what they are and why they matter. Ms. Lorenzo stated that this
  process is a federal requirement and MPO's must approve proposed functional
  classification changes within their planning area prior to submitting the changes
  to FHWA for approval. Ms. Lorenzo highlighted road definitions and their criteria
  and reviewed the recommendations for the WMPO specifically. Abby Lorenzo

opened the floor for questions, Karlene Ellis Vitalis asked if there are any more opportunities for comments. Ms. Lorenzo stated that there can be a discussion on this now. Ms. Ellis Vitalis voiced her concern about the implications of the recommendations going forward. Ms. Lorenzo explained that roadway classifications are not tied to roadway improvements, they are just reflective of how the road is operating currently. Denys Vielkanowitz asked if all local jurisdictions are represented on the functional classifications committee, Abby Lorenzo, and Nazia Sarder stated who is on the committee.

## 7. Updates

- a. Wilmington Urban Area MPO All updates are in the packet.
- b. Cape Fear Public Transportation Authority All updates are in the packet.
- c. NCDOT Integrated Mobility Division All updates are in the packet.
- d. NCDOT Division 3
  All updates are in the packet.
- e. NCDOT Transportation Planning Division
  Nazia Sarder, gave a quick highlight of Pender County CTP, stating that they have pretty much finalized the draft bicycle pedestrian and multi-use path recommendations and at the next meeting they will start reviewing rail transit and volume and capacity maps.

## 8. Announcements

WMPO LAPP Pre-Application Review submittal deadline is this Friday, August 15<sup>th</sup>. GoCoast meeting will be on Thursday August 21<sup>st</sup>.

WMPO LAPP Final Electronic Submittal deadline is due September 19<sup>th</sup>.

## 9. Next meeting – September 10, 2025

# 10. Adjournment

Sam Boswell made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Helen Bunch, the meeting was adjourned at 10:47 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Mike Kozlosky
Executive Director
Wilmington Urban Area Metropolitan Planning Organization

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

THE ENTIRE PROCEEDINGS ARE RECORDED DIGITALLY AS PART OF THIS

RECORD.