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## **WMPO Board Meeting Minutes**

**Wednesday, October 29, 2025**

525 N 4<sup>th</sup> Street

Wilmington, NC 28401

### **Members Present, In person**

Hank Miller, Chairman, Town of  
Wrightsville Beach  
Luke Waddell, Vice Chairman, City of  
Wilmington  
Mike Forte, Brunswick County  
John Ellen, Town of Kure Beach  
Lynn Barbee, Town of Carolina Beach  
Brenda Bozeman, Town of Leland  
Bill Rivenbark, New Hanover County  
Chuck Bost, Town of Belville  
Landon Zimmer, NC Board of  
Transportation  
Dane Scalise, Cape Fear Public  
Transportation Authority  
Brad George, Pender County  
Eulis Willis, Town of Navassa  
Kevin Spears, City of Wilmington

### **Others Present, In Person**

Mike Kozlosky, WMPO  
Abby Lorenzo, WMPO  
Trevor Carroll, NCDOT  
Greer Templer, WMPO  
Tessa Jones, WMPO  
Krysdan Burden, WMPO  
Beth King, WMPO  
Ronda Hogan, WMPO  
Jeff Dale, Kimley-Horn  
Regina Hopkins, WMPO

Vivian Partin, Town of Wrightsville Beach  
Doug Pruden, Wilmington Resident  
Eric Plummer, Wilmington Resident  
MaryAnn Plummer, Wilmington Resident  
Gary Gischel, Wilmington Resident  
Colleen Issac  
Caitlin Melvin, Volkert, Inc.  
Chris Couprier, NHC  
Granseur Dick, ILM  
Jerod Patterson, BASE  
Michelle Howes, NCDOT  
Mark Hairr, WAVE  
Bijan Saleri, A Caring  
Larry Cleveland, CF Cyclist

### **Others Present, Remote**

Cheryl Hannah, HDR  
Katie Hite, NCDOT  
Nazia Sarder, NCDOT  
Greg Laughter, WMPO  
Chad Kimes, GFT  
Veronica Carter, Town of Leland  
Natasha Henderson, NCDOT TSMO  
Planning  
Caitlin Cerza, WMPO  
Steve Persico  
Eric Stewart  
Veronica Newsome, NCDOT Div. 3

Wilmington Urban Area Metropolitan Planning Organization

City of Wilmington • Town of Carolina Beach • Town of Kure Beach • Town of Wrightsville Beach  
County of New Hanover • Town of Belville • Town of Leland • Town of Navassa • County of Brunswick  
County of Pender • Cape Fear Public Transportation Authority • North Carolina Department of Transportation

**1. Call to Order**

Chairman Hank Miller called the meeting to order at 3:00pm.

Mike Kozlosky, WMPO Executive Director, called the roll.

**2. Roll Call**

**Present:** Chuck Bost, Lynn Barbee, Brenda Bozeman, John Ellen, Hank Miller, Bill Rivenbark, Luke Waddell, Mike Forte, Brad George, Dane Scalise, Keving Spears, Eulis Willis, and Landon Zimmer.

**3. Conflict of Interest Statement**

Chairman Miller read the conflict-of-interest statement as required by General Statute and requested any conflicts of interest be disclosed by the Board.

Landon Zimmer requested to recuse himself from item 8d. on the Consent Agenda (Resolution approving the 2024-2033 and 2026-2035 State/MPO Transportation Improvement Programs Administrative Modifications #25-8).

**4. Approval of Board Member Excused Absences**

There were no absent Board members.

**5. Approval of the Agenda**

Chairman Miller requested a motion to approve the agenda. Luke Waddell made the motion to approve the agenda recusing Landon Zimmer from item 8. d. Hank Miller seconded the amended agenda, the motion carried unanimously.

**6. Public Comment Period**

Chairman Miller opened the public comment period.

Eric Plummer, 1800 Eastwood Road, spoke about NCDOT Project U-5710. Mr. Plummer stated that he watched the NCDOT presentation last month at the WMPO Board meeting and he has some concerns about the scheduling of the U-5710 project and the impacts of the construction. Mr. Plummer's second concern was the re-routing of traffic, he questioned where the traffic numbers in NCDOT's presentation came from, and if they were current. Mr. Plummer's third concern was the "Texas U-turn", his concerns are based on people not being familiar, and the new traffic pattern could cause chaos. Mr. Plummer has concerns about the traffic signals and would like some details about how the signals will be addressed. Mr. Plummer's last concern was about the stormwater runoff. He stated that the culvert in place already overflows regularly and he believes these projects will increase the runoff, Mr. Plummer is wondering how it will be addressed.

Gary Gischel, 901 Fox Ridge Place, spoke about NCDOT Project U-5710. Mr. Gischel reviewed the NCDOT Presentation, but he believes the comments concerning the Eastwood/Military Cutoff Overpass were misleading. Mr. Gischel also believes that the Economic Impact Study that was presented raises some questions. Mr. Gischel's opinion is that the money spent on U-5710 is unnecessary, he believes the Drysdale Extension offers a viable, less disruptive alternative. Mr. Gischel is encouraging the Board to request the NCDOT hold a public hearing, so the public can ask questions and have them answered, he would also like the Board to review the viability of the studies and the assumptions they make.

Doug Pruden, 1825 Vincennes Place, spoke about NCDOT Project U-5710. Mr. Pruden expressed his concerns that the U-5710 project has eliminated the 8-phase signal, when he sees a more viable option. Mr. Pruden would like Eastwood/Military Cutoff to be a 2-phase, red/green signal intersection and that combined with Drysdale Drive Extension, he believes, should cut the current wait time down considerably. Mr. Pruden questions whether the U-5710 Project is worth the \$81 million in taxpayers' dollars, just to cut a wait time at a traffic signal. Mr. Pruden would like the Board to reconsider how they are asking to have tax dollars spent.

Bijan Saleni, Wilmington Resident, spoke about upgrades he would like to see, including bike lanes, sidewalks, drainage systems, pedestrian crossings, planting of trees, widening of roads and repaving of existing roads.

Larry Cleveland, 4916 Trailing Vine Lane, spoke about the rumble strips being installed on bike routes. Mr. Cleveland is an avid biker and is very concerned about rumble strips being installed, he would like some explanation on how the rumble strips make things safer. Mr. Cleveland highlighted some bike safety issues throughout the City and would like to help, if possible, to make biking safer in Wilmington.

## **7. Presentations**

### **a. Wilmington International Airport Update- Granseur Dick, ILM**

Granseur Dick gave an update on the improvements being made to the Wilmington International Airport, beginning with the continuous growing number of non-stop routes to over 500 destinations and the continuous number of filled seats. Mr. Dick reviewed the forecasts for passenger demands and passenger capacity at parking, baggage handling systems, and ticket counters. Mr. Dick also highlighted the active capital projects at ILM and the schedules for completion or commitment. He then reviewed the conditions of the ramp and concourse and the expansions planned for the next three years and some long-range plans for expansion starting in 2028. Mr. Dick reviewed the curb and parking improvements with numerous renderings of what

the improvements will look like, also including a video of the final results. Mr. Dick presented a brief overview of the estimated capital program cash flow and how ILM compares with other small hub airports. He concluded his presentation with an overview of the ILM Business Park, reviewing current and future tenants.

b. Wilmington Urban Area Regional Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) Strategic Deployment Plan- Jeff Dale, Kimley Horn & Associates

Jeff Dale from Kimley Horn & Associates gave a presentation on the Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) Strategic Deployment Plan beginning with the scope and overview of the plan. Mr. Dale discussed the regional boundaries of the plan, stating that they pretty much align with the WMPO boundaries, just extended a bit in a few areas. He also reviewed the Vision and Guiding Principles of the plan and how they arrived at the final guidelines. Mr. Dale highlighted the goals of the plan and the recent investments that are currently in place; then moved on to speak about the gap assessment and how they evaluated and identified gaps. Mr. Dale stated that once they had the gaps identified, they were able to craft project sheets. The project sheets give a project description, the goals addressed with the project, the benefits, and challenges of the project, the proposed technologies, potential funding opportunities, and the performance measures of the project. Mr. Dale explained the systems engineering process, the systems engineering “V”, which all federally funded ITS projects must follow. Mr. Dale concluded his presentation by showing the recommended projects and their priorities. Mr. Kozlosky stated adoption of the plan is on the consent agenda.

**8. Consent Agenda**

- a. Approval of WMPO Board Regular Meeting Minutes- September 24, 2025
- b. Resolution approving the 2024-2033 and 2026-2035 State/MPO Transportation Improvement Programs Amendment #25-5
- c. Opening of the 30-day public comment period for the 2024-2033 and 2026-2035 State/MPO Transportation Improvement Programs Amendment #25-6
- d. Resolution approving the 2024-2033 and 2026-2035 State/MPO Transportation Improvement Programs Administrative Modifications #25-8
- e. Resolution confirming that previous approvals of the 2024-2033 State/MPO Transportation Improvement Programs are valid for the 2026-2035 State/MPO Transportation Improvement Programs
- f. Resolution adopting an amended Fiscal Constraint Statement, Performance Target Statement, and Updated List of Statewide Projects for the 2026-2035 State/MPO Transportation Improvement Programs
- g. Resolution accepting donations for the Get There Greener Challenge

- h. Resolution to dissolve the Cape Fear Navigating Change 2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan Committee (MTPC) and Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC)
- i. Resolution adopting the Wilmington Urban Area Metropolitan Planning Organization's Regional Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) Strategic Deployment Plan

Landon Zimmer made a motion to approve the consent agenda except for item d., (Resolution approving the 2024-2033 and 2026-2035 State/MPO Transportation Improvement Programs Administrative Modifications #25-8). Luke Waddell seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. Dane Scalise made a motion to approve item d. on the Consent Agenda. Hank Miller seconded the motion, the motion passed 12-0, with Landon Zimmer recused.

**9. Regular Agenda**

- a. Resolution supporting the allocation of additional Direct Attributable funds to the Town of Kure Beach for the Fort Fisher Boulevard and K Avenue intersection improvements (BL-0059)

Mike Kozlosky gave an overview of the resolution stating that in October 2021 the Town of Kure Beach was awarded Coronavirus Response and Recovery Supplemental Appropriations Act (CRRSAA) funding in the amount of \$359,559 for the Fort Fisher Boulevard and K Avenue intersection improvement project. However, when the agreement was developed, the funding was modified to \$110,000 in CRRSAA funding and \$250,000 in Surface Transportation Block Grant- Direct Attributable (STBG-DA) funding for a total of \$360,000. The Town committed funding in the amount of \$62,500 (20%) to match the STBG-DA allocation for this award. The negotiated right-of-way costs and anticipated construction costs both exceed the CRRSAA and STBG-DA allocations. The town is requesting an additional \$216,000 (80%) in Direct Attributable funding and will provide a local match in the amount of \$54,000 (20%) for right-of-way acquisition; and the Town is requesting an additional \$416,000 (80%) in Direct Attributable funding and will provide a local match in the amount of \$104,000 (20%) for construction of the intersection improvements.

John Ellen made a motion to approve the resolution. Brenda Bozman seconded the motion, the motion passed unanimously.

- b. Resolution requesting a modification to the 2024-2033 and 2026-2035 State/MPO Transportation Improvement Programs for the Carolina Beach Road/College Road intersection improvements (W-5703C)

Mike Kozlosky explained that the North Carolina Department of Transportation has a highway safety project (W-5703C) from US 117/NC 132 (College Road) to 200 feet north of Wiloughby Park to install curb and gutter, multi-use path, sidewalk,

pedestrian signals, crosswalks, and lighting. In September 2022, New Hanover County requested Wilmington Urban Area Metropolitan Planning Organization Direct Attributable funding in the amount of \$461,949 for 2,600 linear feet of multi-use path on the eastbound side of US 421/Carolina Beach Road as part of the Monkey Junction Pedestrian Improvement Project and committed the required local match in the amount of \$115,488. On October 26, 2022, the Wilmington Urban Area Metropolitan Planning Organization's Board approved allocating FY 23 Direct Attributable Funding in the amount of \$461,949 for the multi-use path as part of the Monkey Junction Pedestrian Safety Improvement Project (W-5703). Due to increasing project costs and lack of grant funds, the Monkey Junction Pedestrian Safety Improvement Project (W-5703C) has been value engineered with the multi-use trail being removed; and because the funds from the Wilmington Urban Area Metropolitan Planning Organization and New Hanover County were related to the multi-use path, there will not be a need for the cost share as it was originally agreed upon.

Mike Forte made a motion to approve the resolution. Kevin Spears seconded the motion, the motion passed unanimously.

- c. Resolution adopting Cape Fear Navigating Change 2050 and Wilmington Urban Area Metropolitan Planning Organization's 2050 Travel Demand Model.

Abby Lorenzo presented the final Cape Fear Navigating Change 2050 and the WMPO 2050 Travel Demand Model reviewing how the final plan has come into effect. Ms. Lorenzo explained that if adopted, the Cape Fear Navigating Change 2050 will replace the Cape Fear Moving Forward 2045.

Luke Waddell made a motion to approve the resolution. Landon Zimmer seconded the motion, the motion passed unanimously.

## **10. Discussion**

- a. 2024-2033 and 2026-2035 STIP/MPO Transportation Improvement Programs Administrative Modifications #25-9

Mike Kozlosky stated that this item is for information only and it will be brought back at the next meeting for approval.

## **11. Updates**

- a. **Wilmington Urban Area MPO**

Mike Kozlosky reminded everyone that there are small group meetings scheduled to discuss Safe Streets for All, and if members are not signed up, to reach out so we can accommodate. Mr. Kozlosky also shared that the WMPO was awarded Honorable Mention for Marvin Collins Outstanding Planning Award for the Gullah Geechee Heritage Trail Feasibility Study.

b. **Cape Fear Public Transit Authority**

Updates are in the packet.

c. **NCDOT Division 3**

Updates are in the packet, however, Trevor Carroll gave a little preview, stating that for next month's meeting NC Turnpike Authority will be giving a presentation on the comparative analysis for tolling of the Cape Fear Memorial Bridge replacement.

d. **NCDOT Integrated Mobility Division**

Updates are in the packet.

e. **NCDOT Transportation Planning Division**

Updates are in the packet.

f. **WMPO Board Members**

John Ellen gave a quick update about the 2025 Mountain to the Coast Ride being cancelled due to weather. Mr. Ellen also stated that he and approximately 600 others completed the ride in Wallace, 400 miles in six days.

**12. Announcements**

- a. WMPO Go Coast Committee Meeting- November 20, 2025

**13. Next Meeting – November 19, 2025**

**14. Closed Session**

The Board entered into closed session at 4:05pm and returned to the open meeting at 4:23pm

**15. Old Business**

- a. Resolution approving and authorizing the Chairman to execute the Lead Planning Agency Agreement between the Wilmington Urban Area Metropolitan Planning Organization and City of Wilmington

Luke Waddell made a motion to accept the resolution. John Ellen seconded the motion, the motion passed unanimously

**16. Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned at 4:27pm

Respectfully submitted,

Mike Kozlosky

Executive Director

Wilmington Urban Area Metropolitan Planning Organization

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