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WMPO Board Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, September 24, 2025

525 N 4th Street

Wilmington, NC 28401

Members Present, In person

Hank Miller, Chairman, Town of
Wrightsville Beach
Luke Waddell, Vice Chairman, City of
Wilmington
Frank Williams, 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

Members Absent

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
Tessa Jones, WMPO
Krysdyn Burden, WMPO
Beth King, WMPO
Ronda Hogan, WMPO
Caitlin Cerza, WMPO
Regina Hopkins, WMPO

Mike Forte, Brunswick County
Eric Ritzel, NCDOT
Vivian Partin, Town of Wrightsville Beach
Doug Pruden, Wilmington Resident
Nancy Patch, Wrightsville Beach &
Wilmington Resident
Jerod Patterson, BASE
Veronica Newsome, NCDOT
Charlene Dail, GFT
Michelle Howes, NCDOT
Tom Buckland, New Hanover County
Becky Jaskey, Wilmington Resident
Alan Rusher, Wilmington Resident
Sue Bullock, WBCC
Francine Sulak, Wilmington Resident
Ronald Sulak, Wilmington Resident
Diane Krantz, Wilmington Resident
Susan Draper, AECOM
Tyler Newman, The Endowment
Chase Horton, Maynard Nexsen
Leo Williams, Wilmington Resident

Others Present, Remote

Greer Templer, WMPO
Mark Hairr, WAVE
William Kincannon, HDR
Katie Hite, NCDOT
Nazia Sarder, NCDOT
Shea Carver, Port City Daily
Adrienne Cox, NCDOT
Veronica Carter, Town of Leland

Wilmington Urban Area Metropolitan Planning Organization

John Sloan, Ward and Smith
Peter Loftus, Wilmington Resident
Wrightsville Beach Chamber of Commerce
Dale Hafer
Mary Wills Bode
Mark Johnson
Erik Whitestone
Eric Seidel, CFPUA
Lee Bryant
Linda Murphy
Leland Hyer
Ellen Solov

Kyle Hanlin
Nelson Hughes
Anthony Nash
Ron Vetter
Patrick Kelly
Robert Gabel
Richard Gongaware
Barry Johnson
Gary O'Connell
John Stike
Darius Lalier
Catherine Bonnette

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, Frank Williams, and Landon Zimmer.

Absent: Brad George, Dane Scalise, Kevin Spears, and Eulis Willis.

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. None were disclosed.

4. Approval of Board Member Excused Absences

Mr. Kozlosky reported that Brad George, Dane Scalise and Eulis Willis had requested excused absences. Luke Waddell entered a motion to approve of their absences, seconded by Frank Williams. The motion passed unanimously.

5. Approval of the Agenda

Chairman Miller requested a motion to approve the agenda. Frank Williams made the motion to approve the agenda with item 13. Closed Session, removed. Bill Rivenbark seconded the amended agenda, the motion carried unanimously.

6. Public Comment Period

Chairman Miller opened the public comment period.

Becky Jaskey, Wilmington Resident, shared a passage from the bible that spoke about people's roles as citizens and government. Ms. Jaskey thanked the Board for serving in their roles and shared a prayer.

7. Presentations

a. NCDOT Division 3 Project Update – Trevor Carroll, NCDOT

Trevor Carroll thanked the Board for the opportunity to speak and present a project update. Mr. Carroll gave a quick overview of NCDOT Division 3, the area they serve, and the infrastructure that is included in that area. He gave a brief synopsis of transportation funding, highlighting revenue distribution and where the monies come from. Mr. Carroll explained the 22 Total Funding Categories and how the projects compete within their "bucket" for the funding for their project. He explained the STIP Programming, explaining that sometimes a lower scoring project will be constructed sooner, it depends on the complexity of the project.

Mr. Carroll reviewed projects in development at this time, discussing details and where every project is in the construction phase. He shared some good news, that the WMPO has \$1.6 billion STIP dollars in projects in development.

Mr. Carroll answered questions from the Board; Bill Rivenbark asked what was done in the last couple of years to the bridge on Causeway Drive. Mr. Carroll explained they have done a "shotcrete rehab" meaning they demolished the unsound concrete under the bridge and replaced it with new concrete. Mr. Carroll explained the new repairs and reinforcing to the bridges are being made with non-corrosive materials to alleviate the salt deterioration problem. Mr. Rivenbark also asked about replacing both bridges at the same time and Mr. Carroll explained that they cannot because it would block the residents' access to the area.

Trevor Carroll gave the history of project U-5710 (Military Cutoff and Eastwood Road), explaining what was discussed at prior public meetings, the solutions that were reviewed and the solution that was decided upon. He presented a rendering of what the completed project will look like and explained that there is the same type of bridge at the other end of Military Cutoff. Mike Kozlosky added that the rendering included some of the aesthetic improvements funded by the City of Wilmington. Mr. Carroll continued presenting data on the intersection, showing the average speed, delay and vehicles travelling, currently and with the project completed.

Mr. Carroll continued overviewing multiple projects in development. Ending with the Cape Fear Memorial Bridge Replacement. He presented the history of

the bridge, the costs to maintain it, the current and projected traffic flow. Mr. Carroll also discussed future milestones for the bridge in order to keep the project moving forward.

Trevor Carroll moved on to present updates to projects under construction: the Hampstead Bypass A, Hampstead Bypass B, Gordon Road Widening, and Market Street.

Mr. Carroll opened the floor for questions, Zeke Partin, Wrightsville Beach Alternate to the Board, asked about U-5710, asking if the grade separated interchange required less right of way than the other plans. Mr. Carroll agreed, saying she was correct. Mike Kozlosky asked about the design changes involved at the Commonwealth Drive and Eastwood intersection and the Commonwealth and Military Cutoff. Mr. Carroll replied that the intersection at Eastwood and Commonwealth will be closed and will become a cul-de-sac and the intersection at Commonwealth and Military Cutoff will be signalized to go left or right but not straight across.

Landon Zimmer stated that they had been presented with an economic study they had requested. They had just received it and have not had time to go over it completely and present it, but he wanted to highlight a few points. Mr. Zimmer stated that although the numbers are conservative, there will be over 150 temporary jobs created, 1,200 permanent jobs created, additional annual sales of one hundred ten million dollars, and a savings of over half a million-man hours in traffic and a reduction in greenhouse gases.

Luke Waddell thanked Mr. Zimmer and Mr. Carroll for coming to the Board with the presentation. He also presented a list of questions from his constituents for Mr. Carroll to answer, which Mr. Carroll did. Mr. Carroll concluded his presentation by stating that the NCDOT website is live and everyone can have access to this information on the website.

b. Get There Greener Update – Carolyn Caggia, WMPO

Carolyn Caggia gave a presentation explaining the Get There Greener/Bike to Work Day Challenge. Ms. Caggia defined what the challenge is, how anyone can participate and the rewards for participating. Ms. Caggia concluded her presentation by highlighting the second annual Bike To Work Day taking place on October 17, 2025, letting everyone know how to sign up to participate.

8. Consent Agenda

- a. Approval of WMPO Board Regular Meeting Minutes- August 27, 2025
- b. Resolution approving the 2024-2033 and 2026-2035 State/MPO Transportation Improvement Programs Amendment #25-4
- c. Opening of the 30-day public comment period for the 2024-2033 and 2026-2035 State/MPO Transportation Improvement Programs Amendment #25-5
- d. Resolution approving the 2024-2033 and 2026-2035 State/MPO Transportation Improvement Programs Administrative Modifications #25-7
- e. Resolution authorizing the Chairman to enter into an agreement with the City of Wilmington and Cape Fear Public Transportation Authority for FY 26 Section 5303 Funding
- f. Resolution supporting the Award of Additional FY 2026 Section 5310 Community Grant Project Funds
- g. Resolution clarifying the regular meeting location for the Wilmington Urban Area Metropolitan Planning Organization as the Board Room located at 525 North 4th Street in downtown Wilmington, North Carolina
- h. Resolution adopting the Wilmington Urban Area Metropolitan Planning Organization's Federal Functional Classification Maps

Frank Williams made a motion to approve the consent agenda; John Ellen seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

9. Discussion

- a. 2024-2033 and 2026-2035 STIP/MPO Transportation Improvement Programs Administrative Modifications #25-8
Mike Kozlosky stated that this item is for information only and it will be brought back at the next meeting for approval.
- b. Cape Fear Navigating Change 2050 Plan
Abby Lorenzo passed out the final draft of Cape Fear Navigating Change 2050 Plan for all the members, for their review before the next meeting, where it will be presented for approval by the Board.
- c. Alternative Funding Subcommittee Update
Frank Williams, Alternative Funding Subcommittee Chair, gave a quick summary of the meeting that was held directly before this meeting. The committee has decided to keep exploring alternative funding options for transportation projects, including but not limited to the Cape Fear Memorial Bridge. The committee also gave feedback on a draft white paper about the potential sales tax option and staff will bring the white paper back as well as recommendations at a future Board meeting.

10. Updates

a. Wilmington Urban Area MPO

Mike Kozlosky gave the WMPO updates, including the closing of the call for DA projects on September 19th, those are now in the review stage and will be brought back to the Board in October. Mr. Kozlosky acknowledged Tessa Jones' birthday, expressed a desire to have small group meetings regarding SS4A, and relayed the appreciation from the families of "Furniture Row" for the unveiling of the historical plaque last month.

b. Cape Fear Public Transit Authority

Updates are in the packet.

c. NCDOT Division 3

Updates are in the packet.

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 on the 2025 Mountain to the Sea Ride coming up in October, which he will be participating in.

11. Announcements

12. Next Meeting – October 29, 2025

13. Closed Session

The closed session was removed from the agenda.

14. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 4:59pm

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
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