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WMPO Technical Coordinating Committee (TCC) Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, May 14, 2025

525 N 4th Street

Wilmington, NC 28401

Members Present, In person

Sam Boswell, Cape Fear Rural Planning Organization
Helen Bunch, Brunswick County
Carolyn Caggia WMPO
Karlene Ellis Vitalis, New Hanover County
Abby Lorenzo, WMPO
Ben Andrea, Town of Leland

Members' Present, Remote

Gloria Abbotts, Town of Carolina Beach
Stephanie Ayers, NC State Ports Authority
Granseur Dick, ILM
Mark Hairr, Cape Fear Public Transportation Authority
Adrienne Harrington, Town of Belville
Adam Moran, Pender County
Nazia Sarder (Vice Chair), NCDOT TPD

Others Present, In Person

Ben Hughes, NCDOT
Adrienne Cox, NCDOT
Eric Ritzel, NCDOT
Caitlin Cerza, WMPO
Greer Templer, WMPO
Krysdan Burden, WMPO
Regina Hopkins, WMPO
Ronda Hogan, WMPO
Tessa Jones, WMPO
Andrew Ooms Kittelson & Associates
Catherine Suria Kittelson & Associates
Ryan Lopez, NCDOT
Frank Mike Jr., NCDOT

Others Present, Remote

Chad Staradumsky, Town of Belville
Kim Nguyen, NCDOT
Seth Davis, Cape Fear Realtors
Travis Henley, City of Wilmington
Cheryl Hannah, HDR

1. Call to Order

Abby Lorenzo called the meeting to order at 10:03am.

2. Approval of the Agenda

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

Wilmington Urban Area Metropolitan Planning Organization

3. Presentations

a. Town of Leland Comprehensive Safety Action Plan – Ben Andrea, Town of Leland

Ben Andrea from the Town of Leland presented TCC an overview of the Town of Leland’s Safety Action Plan (SAP) starting with a definition of “What Is Vision Zero” and why should Leland participate. He proceeded to share how the Town of Leland thought they could approach a safer system and shared the timeline for the project, Leland SS4A SAP. Mr. Andrea highlighted the focus groups and public outreach the Town used to gather feedback and how that feedback and historical data were used to establish two tiers of recommended projects. The first tier are projects that can be done right away, fairly simple projects, low cost, with relatively high benefits. The second tier are more complex projects that need more funding, time, and projects that may need to be tied into the Town’s CIP/MTP or STIP. Mr. Andrea then spoke about how they implemented the next steps and how that is happening quickly after the adoption of the plan. He also stated that they will be measuring successes and being proactive with the plan. Mr. Andrea wrapped up his presentation by thanking all the people who helped with the plan and asked if there are any questions. There were no questions.

4. Consent Agenda

- a. Approval of TCC Meeting Minutes- April 9, 2025
- b. Resolution approving 2024-2033 STIP/MPO Amendment #25-3
- c. Resolution adopting the Town of Leland’s Comprehensive Safety Action Plan

Adam Moran questioned the resolution approving the 2024-2033 STIP/MPO Amendment #25-3, wanting to know what the term “add project break means”. Ms. Lorenzo clarified that it is a pause. Mr. Moran did not feel the need to pull this item from the agenda to discuss it further. Stephanie Ayers made a motion to approve the consent agenda, seconded by Ben Andrea. The motion passed unanimously.

5. Discussion

- a. 2024-2033 STIP/MPO Transportation Improvement Program Administrative Modifications #25-4
- b. Cape Fear Navigating Change 2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan
- c. WMPO Direct Attributable Call for Projects and Submittal Guidelines
- d. Prioritization 8.0 Schedule and Process
- e. Federal Functional Classification

Abby Lorenzo opened the floor for questions regarding the Administrative Modifications and the Metropolitan Transportation Plan, there were no questions. Krysdyn Burden and Caitlin Cerza presented an overview of the updated process for

“Call for Direct Attributable Projects” noting the changes to the process and reasoning why for those changes. Ms. Burden and Ms. Cerza also went over the next steps, as far as adopting the changes to the process. Ben Andrea questioned what projects would be eligible for this process, Abby Lorenzo stated that the actual types of projects that are eligible has not changed, it is just an updated way of processing the projects.

Abby Lorenzo gave a brief overview of the Prioritization 8.0 Schedule and Process and opened the floor for questions, there were no questions.

Greer Templer gave an overview of the post-census roadway functional classification system review and presented what the proposed recommendations/changes would be. Ms. Templer then opened the floor for questions, Ben Andrea asked if there are any implications, either with funding or bike/ped elements with the proposed changes. Ms. Templer explained with funding, yes, there are implications, such as opening the door for some of the rural areas to be eligible for federal monies for projects. Adam Moran mentioned a concern he has with the reclassification of some of the roads/streets, wondering if the reclassification would lead for them to be widened; without primary concern for bike/ped and hence exacerbating the issue that is currently trying to be solved. Ms. Templer addressed his concerns by stating that in no way would projects, such as a road widening, be done just because of the classification of the road. She stated that the goal is to accurately depict the type of vehicle activity that is already happening in these areas. Adrienne Cox added that the proposed changes are kind of like a “bottom up” approach; where you report what is going on and it gets checked at a Federal level, which also, informs the STIP process and may make it eligible for a widening if that is the route the area would like to take.

6. Updates

a. Wilmington Urban Area MPO

Updates are in the packet. Ms. Lorenzo did give a quick update about the annual River to Sea Bike Ride, saying that it went very well.

b. Cape Fear Public Transit Authority

Mark Hairr stated that all updates are in the packet, and he has nothing additional.

c. NCDOT Division 3

Adrienne Cox introduced Eric Ritzel, the new Corridor Development Engineer for the NCDOT Division 3.

d. NCDOT Integrated Mobility Division

All updates in the packet.

e. NCDOT Transportation Planning Division

Nazia Sarder stated that most of the updates are in the packet but she has two updates; first for the Wilmington Travel Demand Model, they have run a few scenarios for the next MTP and second, for Pender County CTP the last meeting was April 28th and the next meeting will be on May 27th.

7. **Announcements**

- a. WMPO Go Coast Committee – May 15, 2025

8. **Next Meeting— June 11, 2025**

9. **Adjournment**

Sam Boswell made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Helen Bunch. The meeting was adjourned at 10:55am.

Respectfully submitted,

Mike Kozlosky
Executive Director
Wilmington Urban Area Metropolitan Planning Organization

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