

French Broad River Metropolitan Planning Organization
 Technical Coordinating Committee
 Minutes: April 10, 2014

Meeting Date:

April 10, 2014

Representing	VotingTCC		Via Phone
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Asheville, City of	Ken	Putnam	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Asheville, City of - Transit	Mariate	Echeverry	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Buncombe County	Josh	O'Conner	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Canton, Town of	Jason	Burell	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fletcher, Town of	Mark	Biberdorf	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Henderson County	Autumn	Radcliff	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Henderson County/Apple Country Tra	Matthew	Cable	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Madison County	Forrest	Gilliam	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Maggie Vallev, Town of	Nathan	Clark	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mills River, Town of	Jaime	Laughter	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mountain Mobility	Denise	Braine	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NCDOT, Division 13	Rickv	Tipton	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NCDOT, Division 14	Joel	Setzer	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NCDOT, PTD	Nick	Scheuer	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NCDOT, TPB	Pam	Cook	<input type="checkbox"/>
15 Voting Members Present			

Non Voting At TCC			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FBRMPO/LOSRC	Paul	Black	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FBRMPO/LOSRC	Vicki	Eastland	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FBRMPO/LOSRC	Lyuba	Zuyeva	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> LOSRC	Annie	Sarac	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> LOSRPO	Josh	King	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NCDOT Traffic Engineering	Scott	Collier	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NCDOT, Division 13	Kristina	Solberg	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NCDOT, Division 14	Reuben	Moore	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> WNC Alliance	Julie	Mayfield	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> WNC Regional Air Quality Agency	Vic	Fahrer	<input type="checkbox"/>
10 Non-Voters Present			

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Mark Biberdorf called the meeting to order and introductions followed.

Mariate Echeverry motioned to approve the agenda, Josh O'Conner seconded, and the motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment at this time.

CONSENT AGENDA

Consent agenda included the following items:

- March Minutes
- JARC Call for Projects Timeline and JARC Set-Aside Resolution: FBRMPO will be holding a call for JARC projects in April-May 2014. The JARC set-aside resolution would set aside 10% of 5307 funds in the Asheville Urbanized Area for JARC (approximately \$200k/year). If those funds are not requested during a call for JARC projects, they will be re-allocated for the general 5307 use in our region. 10% set-aside was determined reasonable based on communication with FTA staff and the Regional Transit Operators group.
- TIGER Application Endorsement for City of Asheville: The City of Asheville is applying for a TIGER grant to begin implementation of the RADTIP, including Phase I of the Wilma Dykeman Riverway, a Tier I LRTP Project.
- STP-DA and TA Timeline: The Prioritization Subcommittee reviewed the timeline for development and selection of new projects to be funded by Surface Transportation Program-Direct Allocation (STP-DA) and Transportation Alternatives (TA) programs and recommends it favorably to the TCC.
- TIP Amendments and Modifications requested by NCDOT were included in the agenda packet.

Josh O'Conner-motion to approve the Consent Agenda items, Ken Putnam seconded, and as there were none opposed, the motion carried.

REGULAR UPDATES

NCDOT Division 13 and 14 updates

- Joel Setzer provided an overview of ongoing projects for [Division 14 accessible here](#). Howard Gap Road phase near Fletcher expected to go to construction in October of 2014.
- Kristina Solberg provided updates on Division 13, [which are available here](#). Airport Road DDI project to be let this Tuesday. The I-26 Connector (project ID I-2513) public meeting was rescheduled for May 12 from 4 PM-7 PM at the Renaissance Hotel downtown.

NCDOT TPB Updates

- Pam Cook reported that the Travel Demand Model under development is on schedule, will be running future model scenarios starting in June. Strategic Corridor meetings are coming up across the state. A recommendation has been made for new FBRMPO and LOSRPO Coordinator position from TPB, cannot confirm the name until all the details are finalized.

Subcommittee/Workgroup Reports

MPO staff provided updates on subcommittees and workgroups.

- Complete Streets: Have not met since December 4th. Local review of CTP projects for complete streets cross-sections ongoing. April 2nd meeting was cancelled in lieu of a STP-DA and LAP training. Next meeting scheduled for June 4, 2014.
- Prioritization Subcommittee: Met on March 27 and heard the report back from SPOT on the conditional approval of our ranking methodology. The committee

started a discussion regarding the selection criteria to be used for STP-DA and TA funded projects that the MPO has the discretion to fund. They approved the timetable and directed staff to refine the methodology presented. Hoping to get all the SPOT scoring done in May and may need a call-in meeting to vote on final approval of MPO scores.

- Transit Operators' Workgroup: Next meeting is May 13 at 10am with a presentation by the PART Agency.

Legislative Updates

Paul Black provided some legislative updates.

- The oversight committee met last Friday on SPOT 3.0 preliminary results. Asheville received a commendation for putting in local funds towards the I-26 Connector. Discussion about whether any SPOT ranking is needed for emergency projects such as hurricane repairs.

RPO meeting adjourned.

BUSINESS

GroWNC Strategies

Paul Black provided an overview of GroWNC Strategies draft endorsement resolution. The MPO staff and a number of Board and Committee members participated the GroWNC initiative. There are a number of ideas that came from the effort that apply to transportation. The MPO staff worked with the GroWNC staff to refine implementation measures that could be used for achieving goals related to transportation. The table that follows is the matrix of those ideas that can be used by member governments during their own planning processes. The link to the strategies is available at:

ftp://landofskygis.org/MPO/BoardSupport/2014/GroWNC/5A_GroWNC_Strategies.pdf

Paul Black reviewed the relevant section of the report and highlighted the transportation portions of the report. Mariette Echeverry asked if is this complete and whether any additional refinement will be done to the strategies, expressing that some sounded more like general goals than specific strategies.

Paul Black interjected that if there were any case studies to be added, we can add more details to the GROWNC website but the wording of strategies would not change. He added that as we are crafting the goals of the MTP, we can look at these if any fit, for now the question is whether to endorse those strategies.

Autumn Radcliffe suggested using a word other than "endorse"; the word endorse is close to adopt and Henderson County did not sign on to GroWNC initiative. Denise Brain suggested using the word 'accept' the plan recommendations and not use word "endorse". Autumn Radcliff and Mark Biberdorf indicated that using the word "support" would be better.

Jason Burrell motioned to change the wording in the Resolution to "support" for the GroWNC Regional Plan strategies, Jaime Laughter seconded, and as all were then in favor, the motion carried.

New FBRMPO Logo

Paul Black-referred to the draft new FBRMPO Logo and Masthead. The Land of Sky Regional Council recently went through an extensive rebranding effort. As a program housed at Land of Sky, FBRMPO was provided logo redesign services at no direct cost to the program so that the

MPO logo would be more in tune with the image created for LOSRC. Examples of the different versions were projected onto a screen for viewing.

Mariette Echeverry motioned to approve the new logo, Denise Braine seconded, and the motion carried.

SPOT 3 Update

Paul Black provided a SPOT 3 Update. The NCDOT SPOT office released the draft scores for projects that were in SPOT 2 or in the Urban Loop program on March 31. Based on the data released by SPOT and budget estimates (and without taking constructability into account), here are some of likely projects to move forward:

- The top statewide project in our region is I-4700B, I-26 widening in Buncombe County between I-40 and NC 146 (Long Shoals Road). It ranks 25th in the state.
- The next 3 projects are all interchanges, including #27 ranked project which is I-4759, the new interchange at Liberty Road
- #29 is I-2513C, the reconfiguration of Malfunction Junction (I-40 & I-26)
- #34 is I-5504, the reconfiguration of the I-26/NC 191 (Brevard Rd) interchange
- I-2513B, I-26 Connector new location and bridge segment comes in at #37 statewide, likely to be funded

It appears that all of these projects can be funded. Given the \$300 million cap on a corridor, the \$91 million left after the first 4 projects can be applied to I-2513B in the 5-year STIP. During the 2-year cycle to develop the next STIP, funding in years 6 and 7 will move into the "5-year window", potentially allowing for full funding of the project, though this part of the new law may be open to interpretation.

Paul Black added that at #42, I-4700A (I-26 widening from NC 146 [Long Shoals Rd] to NC 280 [Airport Rd]) is on the cusp of being funded in the statewide tier. If another project is unable to move forward, it is poised to move forward. The NCDOT website estimates that the top 41 projects could be funded in the statewide tier. There is a sizable gap to our next project in the statewide list and these projects are not likely to be funded in the statewide tier:

- #84, I-4400C, I-26 Widening from NC 280 (Airport Rd) to US 25 Business.
- #88 [no TIP #], I-240/Merrimon Ave. interchange redesign
- #104, I-4400B, I-26 Widening from US 25 Bus. To US 64
- #123, I-4400A, I-26 Widening from US 64 to US 25 in Flat Rock
- #131, I-2513A, the widening of I-240 through West Asheville
- The A-10 projects finish out the list with AA #142, AB #192, AC at #216

Paul Black further discussed the spreadsheet which was projected onto the screen for group viewing. There is a cap on how much we can spend on a given corridor in a five year cycle, 10% of what's available, not a specific dollar amount. For now this is informational, TCC members can review projects for potential "cascades" for regional scoring.

Budget Update

Paul Black provided a budget update. By the end of the second quarter, the MPO paid out the Travel Survey contract funds and closed out last year's special studies in Waynesville and Asheville. The remaining budget went to MPO operations (mostly salary and related expenses), the contract with LandDesign for assistance with SE data forecasts

(total contract just under \$30,000), and advertising required by our Public Involvement Plan. The UPWP second quarter expenditure spreadsheet and quarterly report narrative were attached with the agenda. Paul Black showed a chart with the breakout of generalized expenditures from July 1 through February 28th, and a spreadsheet that details indirect costs.

Paul Black reviewed how the funds were apportioned and highlighted indirect costs as a concern and that he had discussed with LOS how to bring that cost down. MPO staffs to report on this topic at regular meetings.

ANNOUNCEMENTS, NEWS, SPECIAL UPDATES

Lyuba Zuyeva reported that the JARC call for projects will be open from April 25th through May 23.

TOPICS FOR NEXT MEETING?

Paul Black-SPOT 3.0 Prioritization will be back on the agenda during next meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Julie Mayfield made a comment that the Asheville Design Center did analysis of the I-26 Connector-other design version costs, and concluded that there was no significant difference between how well the four alternatives would score, so any of the alternatives would have put the I-26 Connector segment "B" in in the same place on statewide priority list.

Meeting adjourned.