



METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION  
A PROGRAM OF LAND OF SKY

**French Broad River Metropolitan Planning Organization**  
Minutes from the TCC meeting on September 10, 2015

**Meeting Date:**

**09/10/2015**

Representing	Voting TCC		Via Phone
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Apple Country Transit	Matt	Champion	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Asheville, City of - Transit	Yuri	Koslen	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Black Mountain	Josh	Harrold	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Buncombe County	Denise	Braine	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Buncombe County	Josh	O'Conner	<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"/> NCDOT, Division 13	Rickv	Tipton	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NCDOT, Division 14	Ed	Green	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NCDOT, TPB	Brendan	Merithew	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Waynesville, Town of	David	Foster	<input type="checkbox"/>

Non Voting At TCC			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Asheville, City of	Sean	Spiller	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AVL	Michael	Reisman	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Buncombe County	Karla	Furnari	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Davenport	Lori	Boyer	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FBRMPO/LOSRC	Tristan	Winkler	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FBRMPO/LOSRC	Lyuba	Zuyeva	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> LOSRC	Erica	Anderson	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mountain True	Julie	Mayfield	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NCDOT, Division 13	Kristina	Solberg	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NCDOT, Division 14	Joel	Setzer	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Waynesville, Town of	Preston	Gregg	<input type="checkbox"/>

**WELCOME AND HOUSEKEEPING**

Josh O'Conner opened the meeting and introductions followed.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

No public comments were presented.

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

Josh O'Conner indicated that the Consent Agenda included August minutes and he requested that the Agenda be approved at this time as well. Lyuba Zuyeva requested that the Agenda be modified to move the MTP Adoption to the first item of business.

**Michael Reisman moved to approve the Consent Agenda and to modify the Agenda as requested. Yuri Koslen seconded and the motion carried.**

## **REGULAR UPDATES**

Regular updates included NCDOT Division 13 and 14 updates. No FHWA or NCDOT TPB Branch updates at this Time. MPO staff provided an update on MPO subcommittee and a general staff updates. Denise Braine shared that the NCDOT Transportation conference is planned for October 12 - 14 which may necessitate the adjustment of the meeting date for the Transit Operators' Workgroup scheduled for October 13<sup>th</sup>. No TPB or FHWA updates were presented.

Under legislative updates, Lyuba Zuyeva shared that at this point there is not a Federal Highway Bill- still operating on a Continuing Resolution through the end of October. Lyuba Zuyeva presented additional legislative updates including that the NC General Assembly has not passed a budget yet and the State continues to run on a Continuing Resolution until September 18<sup>th</sup>. Also, the sales tax redistribution bill is still a cause for concern to the urban areas in our region. The HB 44 which includes language about road diets is currently in committee and still moving forward. HB-74 proposes a review of MPO and RPO regulations and is not of particular concern as it is an effort by the State to learn more about the organizations. Zuyeva mentioned that FHWA has released some traffic polling reports for the first half of 2015- it looks like nationwide, the traffic numbers are back on track and have exceeded the 2007 traffic numbers due to commerce and business rebounding, even as individuals are driving less on average.

## **BUSINESS**

### MTP Adoption

Tristan Winkler explained that the Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) is 25-year regional transportation plan and acts as the guiding document for the MPO - it is a federally mandated/fiscally constrained plan that includes roadway, transit, bicycle and pedestrian projects. A draft of the FBRMPO 2040 MTP has been available on the MPO website since August 27<sup>th</sup> and several public outreach events have been held throughout the region. Tristan Winkler gave an overview presentation of the MTP. Additional details about the 2040 MTP may be found at <http://www.fbrmpo.org/metropolitan-transportation-plan-mtp/>.

General discussion occurred regarding the MTP. Tristan Winkler requested that the TCC move to approve passing the 2040 MTP on to the MPO Board for approval on September 24<sup>th</sup> and he discussed some of the public input received to date. Clarification was provided that there was a request made at the MTP Executive Committee and Citizens Advisory Committee that Wilma Dykeman Riverway projects

descriptions (including Amboy Road/Meadow Road project) be modified to more general language; in addition there has been a request that future cross-sections in the dossiers for I-26 Connector and Wilma Dykeman Riverway projects be removed by MPO staff to let the public know that those designs are not pre-determined.

**Joel Setzer moved to approve the MTP be moved forward with the inclusion of the amendments made by the Executive Committee/Citizens Advisory Committee to the MPO Board for approval. Yuri Koslen seconded and the motion carried without further discussion.**

#### SPOT 4.0

Lyuba Zuyeva provided the updates to the SPOT 4.0 including that existing project modifications were due September 1<sup>st</sup>, Project Deletions are due October 1<sup>st</sup> and the NCDOT has not set a final date of submissions for New Projects but that will occur in October as well. In addition there might be small changes to the Aviation project list—MPO staff are still in communication with the Asheville Regional Airport and there has been a request from the Airport for some changes.

**Joel Setzer moved to approve the list with one small change that the project H111104 (US-19) on the project list be moved under Haywood County, instead of being listed under Henderson County. In addition those projects that are on the Aviation list to be amended based on the Asheville Regional Airport requested changes. Mark Bieberdorf seconded. Motion carried.**

#### Extension of JARC Projects

Lyuba Zuyeva shared that the FBRMPO Board has adopted in the past a resolution to set aside ten percent of the 5307 urban transit funding for JARC call for projects. Going forward, there will be a 5307 Urban Transit Funding formula study taking place over the next six months; MPO staff have discussed holding a new JARC call for projects with the Regional Transit Operators Workgroup and there has been a recommendation from the group to extend the funding for those JARC-funded projects expiring in the next six months, and to hold off on a general call for projects till after the 5307 study is done. For this current JARC funding extension the projects that are requesting funding are the operations for ART Sunday Service and Black Mountain Route 170.

**Denise Braine moved to approve the extension of JARC Projects. Yuri Koslen seconded. Motion carried.**

#### 5310 Call for Projects

Lyuba Zuyeva shared that the French Broad River MPO is issuing a call for projects eligible for FTA Section 5310 funding in our region. The Section 5310 program has a goal of improving mobility for seniors and individuals with disabilities by expanding the transportation options available and removing barriers to those groups. Local government authorities, certified private nonprofits, and operators of public transportation services are all eligible to apply. The application materials will include information on eligible projects and will be posted on the the [MPO's website](#). Lyuba Zuyeva asked for TCC approval of the call for projects timeline and selection committee membership. If approved, under the recommended timeline, the 5310 applications will be due no later than 5:00 PM on Wednesday, November 25<sup>th</sup>. Discussion occurred regarding what types of projects are typically eligible for 5310 Funding.

**Yuri Koslen moved to approve the timeline and the call for 5310 Projects as presented. Joel Setzer seconded and the motion carried upon a vote.**

### Bike/Ped Planning Grants

Lyuba Zuyeva informed the TCC that the NCDOT Division of Bicycle and Pedestrian Transportation has issued a competitive call for bicycle and pedestrian planning grants. Grant applications are due by Friday, November 20<sup>th</sup>. Grant applicants are required to have a resolution of support from the MPO. To date, the communities of Flat Rock, Laurel Park and Weaverville have requested resolutions.

**Joel Setzer moved to recommend the Resolutions as presented for adoption by the MPO Board. Josh Harrold seconded and the motion carried.**

### 5307 Sub-Allocation Formula Study

Lyuba Zuyeva shared that the MPO previously approved an STP-DA set-aside for a study on the region's sub-allocation formula of FTA Section 5307 funds. This study will take a look at transit services provided by the City of Asheville, Buncombe County, Haywood County (Mountain Projects), and Henderson County (Apple Country Transit), and whether systems outside of Asheville Transit and Henderson County are eligible for 5307 funding. Madison and Transylvania Counties elected not to participate in the study. In order for the study to move forward a Steering Committee needs to be appointed by the MPO Board.

Discussion occurred regarding the pros and cons of having some elected officials or just staff members on the committee. The importance of the study was emphasized and a desire to expedite the process was noted as well as there are systems in the region where the funding situation is exacerbated by NCDOT reducing rural transit funding for counties which have become more urbanized. TCC members recommended moving forward with an all-staff Steering Committee make-up for the 5307 formula study.

**Denise Braine moved to accept the Steering Committee as modified. Autumn Radcliff seconded. The motion carried upon a vote.**

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS, NEWS, SPECIAL UPDATES**

Lyuba Zuyeva announced that the Land of Sky Annual Celebration and Friends of the River Awards Banquet will take place on October 14th. Invitations to the event will be sent to MPO Board and Committee members. Also as previously mentioned, bike/ped planning grant applications are due to NCDOT by November 20<sup>th</sup>.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

No public comments were presented.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Mark Bieberdorf moved to adjourn the meeting as there was no further business. The motion was seconded and the meeting stood adjourned.