



METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION
A PROGRAM OF LAND OF SKY

French Broad River Metropolitan Planning Organization
Minutes from the TCC meeting on October 8, 2015

Meeting Date:

10/08/2015

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	Mariate	Echeverry	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Black Mountain	Josh	Harrold	<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"/> Haywood County	Kris	Bovd	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Henderson County	Autumn	Radcliff	<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	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"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Weaverville. Town of	Selena	Coffev	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Non Voting At TCC			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Davenport	Lori	Boyer	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FBRMPO/LOSRC	Vicki	Eastland	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FBRMPO/LOSRC	Zia	Rifkin	<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"/> Johnson City MTPO	Glenn	Berry	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> LOSRC	Erica	Anderson	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NCDOT, Division 14	Joel	Setzer	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Waynesville, Town of	Elizabeth	Teague	<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 September minutes and the STP-DA Flex to FTA 5307 Funding for US 70 Bus Stops Project. He requested that the Agenda be approved at this time as well. Lyuba Zuyeva requested that Agenda Item 6-B regarding the development of proposed By-Laws for Subcommittees and Workgroups be changed from a discussion to an update.

Jason Burrell moved to approve the Consent Agenda and the Agenda with the requested modification to Agenda Item 6-B. Joel Setzer provided a second and the motion carried.

REGULAR UPDATES

Regular updates were presented. Rick Tipton provided NCDOT Division 13 updates. Joel Setzer provided NCDOT Division 14 updates. Brendan Merithew indicated as part of TPB updates that 2014 traffic count data are now available, the that the FBRMPO Travel Demand Model has been updated to include MTP 2040 adopted project list. No FHWA/FTA updates were presented. Tristan Winkler and Lyuba Zuyeva provided MPO subcommittee and staff updates.

Lyuba Zuyeva shared legislative updates. The State Budget passed September 18th- this was the longest delay since 2002. Under the new budget, city and town governments will be allowed to charge a \$30-per-year local vehicle tax, replacing an existing \$5-per-year tax. Of the \$30, \$5 can be used for any purpose, and \$5 can be used to back public transportation. Any additional tax levied, up to \$20, must be used for street improvements. Some cities, such as Raleigh, already have the ability to charge fees higher than \$5. The budget also increases DMV and license fees. Legislators have agreed to privatize North Carolina’s \$15 billion Medicaid program. The annual \$216 million transfer from the Highway Fund to the General Fund is ended. The budget introduces additional sales taxes on repair, maintenance and installation services that aren’t currently taxed. A major portion of the new tax revenue would be distributed among 79 suburban and rural counties. House Bill 44 was passed with road diet provisions removed from the bill; much of this bill impacts local government regulations. Federal updates included a 10-week continuing resolution (CR) passed by the House and the Senate, the bill is now sent to the President for his signature. Congress has until December 11, 2015 to agree on spending for the remainder of fiscal year 2016. Federal Transportation Bill continuing resolution is set to expire at the end of October, likely another continuing resolution will be passed. There is growing anticipation that a long term transportation bill will be passed prior to the end of the current calendar year. If that does not occur, the prospect for a long term bill could be pushed back at least two years due to elections and a change in administration.

Lyuba Zuyeva provided an update on the 5307 Sub-Allocation Formula Study which has not started yet—waiting on NCDOT Inspector General office review. The study will take at least six months to complete once it begins.

BUSINESS

Update on Subcommittee and Workgroup By-Laws

Lyuba Zuyeva indicated that the MPO Leadership Team has met and started discussing creating a set of By-Laws for various subcommittees to clarify their purpose and work scope. No action was required on this item and more information will be forthcoming as staff work to develop the By-Laws to bring to the TCC and MPO Board for review.

TIP Amendments

Lyuba Zuyeva shared that many of the TIP Amendments now presented had been previously advertised for comment but had to be pulled back due to the STIP review period, and are now being presented again. She commented on the Brevard Road Interchange as showing a large increase in cost, and shared also that a few of the amendments are for Transit projects which relate mostly to JARC project funding previously approved. The TIP Amendments can be found at this link: <http://fbrmpo.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/10/TIP-Amendments.pdf>. Tristan Winkler added that the TIP Amendments pertaining to Transit projects also include the TIGER funding.

Joel Setzer made a motion to approve the TIP Amendments for consideration by the FBRMPO Board. Denise Braine seconded and the motion carried without further discussion.

I-26 Connector Update as Provided to the MPO Board on 9/24/2015

Rick Tipton and Brendan Merithew provided an update on the I-26 Connector Project (STIP Project No. I-2513). The I-26 Connector presentation can be found at the following link: http://fbrmpo.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/09/150923_I-2513-150924-FBRMPO_Presentation.pdf

Discussion occurred regarding the cost participation with the City of Asheville on this project.

5310 Transportation for Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities

Tristan Winkler shared that the Section 5310 program funding has a goal of improving mobility for seniors and individuals with disabilities by expanding the transportation options available and removing barriers to transportation for those groups. Tristan has indicated that the call for projects for the 5310 funds is now open (till November 25), and provided a brief overview of eligible types of projects. Tristan Winkler added that these are Federal funds provided by FTA for Asheville Urbanized Area, with the City of Asheville being the direct recipient of those federal funds. More information on 5310 funding can be found on the FBRMPO website (<https://www.fbrmpo.org/jarc>).

Lyuba Zuyeva shared that a meeting is planned for October 27th to provide more information to parties interested in applying for the 5310 funding.

ANNOUNCEMENTS, NEWS, SPECIAL UPDATES

Lyuba Zuyeva announced that the Land of Sky Regional Council Annual Banquet with the Friends of the River Awards Ceremony is scheduled for October 14th. Joe McKinney (former LOSRC Executive Director) will be a keynote speaker for the event. Lauren Blackburn will be in town prior to the Statewide Bike Summit and will speak at a lunch-and-learn event on October 15th.

November 20th is the deadline for Bicycle/Pedestrian Planning Grant applications. Any municipality with a project application pending should contact MPO staff as soon as possible so that the FBRMPO Board can supply a Resolution of support.

Erica Anderson, Director of Economic and Community Development at LOSRC announced that the CEDS (Economic Development Plan for the region) is available on the LOS website (<http://www.landofsky.org/ceds.html>).

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comments were presented.

ADJOURNMENT

Josh O'Conner adjourned the meeting as there was no further business.