



METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION
A PROGRAM OF LAND OF SKY

French Broad River Metropolitan Planning Organization
Minutes from the TCC meeting on November 19, 2015

Meeting Date:

11/19/2015

Representing	Voting TCC		Via Phone
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Apple Country Transit	Matt	Champion	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Asheville, City of	Dan	Baechtold	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Asheville, City of - Transit	Mariate	Echeverry	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Biltmore Forest, Town of	Jonathan	Kanipe	<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"/> Hawwood Countv	Kris	Bovd	<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"/>

Non Voting At TCC			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Asheville Area Chamber of Commerce	Jeff	Joyce	<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"/> FHWA	Mitch	Batuzich	<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	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 October minutes and the UPWP Modifications, which reflected an updated carry-over amount for the Asheville in Motion Special Study, and an updated local match for TDM program. He requested that the Agenda be approved at this time as well.

Mariate Echeverry made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda items and the Agenda as presented.

Mark Biberdorf provided a second and the motion carried.

BUSINESS

Subcommittee and Working Groups Bylaws and Other Changes

Lyuba Zuyeva shared that discussion has occurred with the MPO Leadership Team regarding the adoption of Bylaws for the Prioritization Subcommittee and the Citizens Advisory Committee to clarify their roles and responsibilities. Discussion was also held to regarding the future role and potential dissolution of the Complete Streets Workgroup (final meeting planned for January 2016), the Modeling and Data Workgroup and the MTP Executive Committee.

Discussion occurred regarding non-quorum members of the Prioritization Subcommittee (TCC staff and members and NCDOT staff), etc.

Josh O’Conner reviewed the changes which were made to the draft Prioritization Subcommittee Bylaws before those were approved to be presented to the TCC for consideration.

Lyuba Zuyeva shared that going forward, the Citizens Advisory Committee would be permanently focused on improving outreach to members of the public and some language has been added to indicate that the MPO Board could appoint specific members to represent different groups that are participating. Also, it was recommended that the current Citizen’s Advisory Committee members serve until spring of 2016.

Josh O’Conner moved to approve that the TCC forward the staff recommendation to disband the MTP Executive Committee, Modeling and Data Workgroup and Complete Streets Workgroup, to thank those group members for their service, and to approve the new Bylaws for the Prioritization Subcommittee and the Citizens Advisory Committee. Rick Tipton made a second and the motion which carried without further discussion.

Adoption of 2016 Schedule

Lyuba Zuyeva shared that MPO staff would like to keep the meeting schedule as it currently is for 2016, with TCC meetings on the second Thursdays at 11 and the MPO Board meeting on the fourth Thursdays at 12:30; no meetings in July or December. She informed the TCC that the May meeting would be scheduled on the 19th in order to not conflict with the MPO State meeting. The November 2016 meeting will be a combined meeting with the MPO Board.

Jason Burrell moved to approve the adoption of the 2016 FBRMPO TCC meeting schedule. Jonathan Kanipe seconded and the motion carried without further discussion.

SPOT New Project List-Edits

Lyuba Zuyeva provided information on the SPOT New Project List-Edits and indicated that November 20, 2015 as the deadline for those changes to be submitted. The following changes were requested to be made to the SPOT New Project List: 1) Remove Tunnel Road Access Management project and substitute Amboy Road Modernization project, to match the MTP 2040 project description for Amboy Road (City of Asheville request); and, 2) Combine two Enka-Candler Greenway segments into one project (Buncombe County request).

Discussion occurred regarding the request made by the City of Asheville to include Complete Streets elements in the modernization project for the Amboy Road project. Rick Tipton shared NCDOT's position on the requested edit to the project. The project is currently in the Developmental TIP and could move into the committed TIP in the next round. NCDOT understands the concern about the widening; however, as the Meadow Road segment is at capacity, the widening is necessary for at least a portion of the project. The recommendation is to continue with the project as it is instead of creating another project- by working together with the community the best design solution possible may be determined. In response to further discussion, DOT staff shared that should the project be split into two projects, the way Modernization Projects work, scores would be lower. It might be better to update the existing project for better score potential. Josh O'Conner indicated his preference to split the business item into two separate votes. Discussion occurred regarding the need for the City of Asheville to look at other transportation options. The discussion item on the table was clarified as adding a modernization project to SPOT. Joel Setzer shared that there is a disadvantage to having overlapping projects as those will not be considered favorably by the SPOT Office.

Dan Baechtold moved to approve the edits to remove the Tunnel Road Access Management Project and substitute the Amboy Road Modernization Project and to forward for MPO Board consideration and for the MPO Staff to enter those changes by November 20th. Mariate Echeverry seconded. As the results of the vote were unclear, Josh O'Conner called for a hand vote: Yay- eleven votes; Nay- four votes. The motion carried.

Denise Braine moved to approve the edits to combine the Enka-Candler Greenway Projects and to forward those for MPO Board consideration and for the MPO Staff to enter those changes by November 20th. Josh Harrold provided a second and the motion carried without further discussion.

I-2513, I-26 Connector

Lyuba Zuyeva shared that the public comment period for the I-26 Connector Project is currently open and a public hearing was held on November 16th which opened the public comment period. MPO Staff recommends not submitting an official public comment until after the January 2016 MPO Board meeting. Josh O'Conner shared his concerns that while the project lies within the City of Asheville, there is a need to consider how the project interacts with traffic flow to and from the area. Lyuba Zuyeva concurred as there are a lot of people traveling into Asheville everyday who are either working in Asheville and Buncombe County or visiting the area and there are slightly different perspectives on the project throughout the region. Brownie Newman shared his belief that it is highly unlikely that the City of Asheville or Buncombe County would submit Resolutions in opposition to the project.

Mark Biberdorf moved to proceed with the MPO staff recommendation to wait for additional information and to make a recommendation at the January 2016 TCC and Board meeting. Jonathan Kanipe seconded and the motion carried.

REGULAR UPDATES

Regular updates included NCDOT Division 13 and 14 updates and TPB and MPO Subcommittee and Staff updates. No FHWA/FTA updates were presented.

Lyuba Zuyeva provided legislative updates including changes to the State's Powell Bill allocation formula for road projects. At the federal level, the current Transportation bill expires on November 20th but the House has passed a Resolution continuing it until December 4th and the Senate is expected to do the same. The hope is to ultimately have a five-year bill; however, funding has not been identified to cover all five years of the proposed legislation.

Lyuba Zuyeva provided an update on the 5307 Sub Allocation Formula Study which has not begun yet as compensation rates have not been finalized with the consultant –still waiting for NCDOT approval of the budget to begin the study.

ANNOUNCEMENTS, NEWS, SPECIAL UPDATES

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comments were presented.

ADJOURNMENT

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