



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

Meeting Date:

11/19/2015

Representing	VotingTAC		Via Phone
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Asheville, City of	Jan	Davis	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Asheville, City of	Marc	Hunt	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Black Mountain, Town of	Ryan	Stone	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Buncombe County	Ellen	Frost	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Buncombe County	Brownie	Newman	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Clyde, Town of	James	Mashburn	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Flat Rock, Village of	Don	Farr	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fletcher, Town of	Eddie	Henderson	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Haywood County	Michael	Sorrells	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Henderson County	William	Lapslev	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hendersonville, City of	Steve	Caraker	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Laurel Park, Town of	George	Banta	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NCBOT, Division 13	David	Brown	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Waynesville, Town of	LeRoy	Roberson	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Weaverville, Town of	Douglas	Dearth	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Woodfin, Town of	Jerry	VeHaun	<input type="checkbox"/>

Alternates/Agencies and Other Non Voting At TAC			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Apple Country Transit	Matt	Champion	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Asheville Area Chamber of Commerce	Jeff	Joyce	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Asheville, City of	Dan	Baechtold	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Asheville, City of	Gwen	Wisler	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Asheville, City of - Transit	Mariate	Echeverry	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Biltmore Forest, Town of	Johnathan	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"/> Buncombe County Board of Commissioners	Joe	Belcher	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Canton, Town of	Jason	Burell	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FBRMPO/LOSRC	Lyuba	Zuveva	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FBRMPO/LOSRC	Tristan	Winkler	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FBRMPO/LOSRC	Zia	Rifkin	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FHWA	Mitch	Batuzich	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fletcher, Town of	Mark	Biberdorf	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Haywood County	Kris	Boyd	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> LOSRC	Erica	Anderson	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mountain Mobility	Matt	Cable	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mountain Mobility	Denise	Braine	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mountain True	Julie	Mayfield	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NCDOT, Division 13	Ricky	Tipton	<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"/> NCDOT, Division 14	Ed	Green	<input type="checkbox"/>

WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS, APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Doug Dearth called the meeting to order and requested that introductions be made. He read the Ethics statement and inquired if there were any conflicts of interest to note for today's meeting. None were heard. The agenda was presented for approval with no modifications requested.

Jerry Vehaun moved to approve the Agenda as presented. Eddie Henderson seconded and the motion carried without further discussion.

REGULAR UPDATES

- Ricky Tipton provided Division 13 updates and Joel Setzer provided Division 14 updates.
- Brendan Merithew shared the Planning Branch updates.
- FHWA updates were provided by Mitch Batuzich
- Lyuba Zuyeva provided subcommittee updates:
 - Complete Streets and Greenways Workgroup is planning to meet on January 6, 2016;
 - Modeling/Data Workgroup - no meetings are scheduled
 - Prioritization Subcommittee met November 19th to work on SPOT Methodology and Bylaws
 - Transit Operators Workgroup has a meeting scheduled for December 15th
 - Citizens Advisory Committee and MTP Executive Committee have no meetings scheduled.

- 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.

Tristan Winkler provided more detailed updates regarding Powell Bill funding from the NCAMPO meeting held last week and he mentioned that Powell Bill funding did go up slightly for road projects. Lyuba Zuyeva noted the handout which contained the language that was changed in the Powell Bill which allows for more state scrutiny on projects selected by local jurisdictions utilizing those funds, and emphasizes priority for street repairs.

- 5307 Sub-Allocation Formula Study Update: Lyuba Zuyeva shared that negotiations are continuing regarding the consultant's budget and that NCDOT has not yet provided the final contract budget approval.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Next MPO Board meeting is January 28, 2016.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment at this time.

CONSENT AGENDA

- October Minutes
- UPWP Modifications

Steve Caraker moved to approve the Consent Agenda. Ryan Stone seconded and as all were in favor, the Consent Agenda was approved.

NEW BUSINESS

Subcommittees and Working Groups Bylaws and Other Changes

Doug Dearth shared that MPO Leadership Team has been in discussion regarding the Bylaws and other changes to the Subcommittees that serve the MPO Board.

Lyuba Zuyeva communicated that the MPO is dealing with two separate issues: 1) high number of subcommittees relative to other MPOs in North Carolina, and the desire to lessen that number as well as associated staff time burden; and, 2) clarifying the roles/responsibilities of the Prioritization Subcommittee and the Citizen's Advisory Committee (CAC) going forward. She shared that the TCC has approved disbanding the Complete Streets Workgroup (final meeting planned for January 2016), the Modeling and Data Workgroup and the MTP Executive Committee. Regarding Complete Streets Workgroup, they have accomplished a lot including a Regional Complete Streets policy and cross-section recommendations; the MPO has reached the point of getting to project specifics which require decisions to be made by local jurisdictions represented by the MPO, since there is a local cost share element involved. She also requested to shift the responsibilities of the Complete Streets and Modeling and Data Workgroup to the Prioritization Subcommittee and also that the MTP Plan Update be a responsibility assigned to the Prioritization Subcommittee as well.

Lyuba Zuyeva communicated the need to have the CAC continue to function under the proposed Bylaws which the TCC have approved for MPO Board consideration. Bylaws have also been reviewed and approved by the TCC for the Prioritization Subcommittee and recommended for Board consideration. It was requested that the current CAC members serve until May 2016, at which point new members may be appointed. The CAC would be tasked with developing strategies for outreach to underserved communities in the FBRMPO region.

Lyuba Zuyeva reviewed the changes to the Bylaws which were approved by the TCC and which included in the Members' section under Article III that the members of the Prioritization Subcommittee (including MPO Board and TCC representatives) would be appointed by the MPO Board and also a bulleted statement that NCDOT staff and other TCC members not officially appointed to Prioritization Subcommittee may attend but would not be voting members of the subcommittee. Changes also included that the MPO Board could on a bi-annual basis review the roster of the Prioritization Subcommittee as deemed necessary.

Doug Dearth suggested that the two Bylaw changes be dealt with separately.

Eddie Henderson moved to approve the TCC's recommended changes to the Bylaws for the Prioritization Subcommittee. Don Farr seconded and the motion carried upon a vote and without further discussion.

Lyuba Zuyeva communicated that the second motion would include the disbanding of the requested subcommittees/workgroups and the CAC Bylaws changes and would maintain the current CAC membership until May 1, 2016.

Brownie Newman commented that it's good to periodically look at how meetings are structured, which groups have achieved their goals and to develop better ways to encourage citizen participation and have more effective public involvement going forward.

Brownie Newman moved to dissolve the following Subcommittees/Workgroups: 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 Citizens Advisory Committee. Steve Caraker seconded and as all were in favor the motion carried.

Adoption of 2016 Meeting Schedule

Doug Dearth noted that the proposed meeting dates for 2016 maintain the meeting on the fourth Thursday at 12:30pm and that there was a typographical error for the September meeting date which will be corrected.

Mike Sorrells moved to approve the adoption of the FBRMPO Board meeting schedule for 2016. James Mashburn seconded and as all were in favor the motion carried.

SPOT New Project List-Edits

Lyuba Zuyeva shared that the SPOT New Project List includes two proposed changes. The first is to combine two Enka-Candler Greenway segments into one project. The second change requested is to submit a Modernization Project for Amboy Road/Meadow Road to match the MTP 2040 description; in order to submit this new project one City of Asheville project would be removed, with the recommendation to remove the Tunnel Road Access Management Project. Amboy Road project previously submitted as a widening is fairly close to having funded committed. But as discussed previously during the MTP Plan adoption, there is a desire to see Complete Streets elements added to the project rather than to have a widening along Amboy Road. From a staff perspective submitting a modernization project with complete streets elements while there is a previously-submitted widening project might raise some red flags with NCDOT SPOT Unit; however indications are that they would still score the new modernization project. Changing this project to a Modernization project might impact the likelihood of getting it funded in the STIP.

Discussion occurred regarding the potential for the project to score better if submitted as a Modernization project even if the eventual outcome is not going to be substantially different from a widening project. It was also discussed that the ability exists to modify the existing project language to convey that these are capacity and safety improvements for Amboy Road. During discussion it was also noted that NCDOT can change the description of the project rather than remove the project.

Lyuba Zuyeva commented on the Tunnel Road Access Management Project, which proposes a median treatment as unsafe situations are created by the current traffic patterns from the eastern edge of the tunnel to South Tunnel Road- this project might benefit from additional review time; there is support for the project which was added to SPOT list at the end of the last review period but it is one of the last projects added to the list. Further discussion occurred regarding removing the Tunnel Road Project from the SPOT list.

Brownie Newman moved to approve the updated SPOT 4.0 project list, including retaining Tunnel Road Access Management Project as described, retaining the current Amboy Road-Meadow Road Widening Project on the list with an update to the description to address capacity and safety improvements; and to combine the two Enka-Candler Greenway segments into one project. Ellen Frost seconded and the motion carried without further discussion.

I-26 Connector

Lyuba Zuyeva shared that the Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the I-26 Project is officially posted for public comment until December 16th. She communicated that the Board could comment now or wait until the January 28, 2016 Board meeting to submit a comment. Waiting until the January meeting would allow time for member jurisdictions to submit comments. Also by holding off until the January 2016 meeting, there could be some updated Travel Demand Model and Traffic Forecasting results.

Brownie Newman moved to approve the TCC recommendation to run a Traffic Demand Model for six lanes and to bring this discussion back to the January 2016 meeting. LeRoy Roberson seconded and the motion carried without further discussion.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comments were presented.

ADJOURNMENT

Doug Dearth thanked the outgoing members of the Board for their contributions. New members will be onboard by the January 2016 meeting. There being no further discussion or items, the meeting adjourned.