



METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION  
A PROGRAM OF LAND OF SKY

# French Broad River Metropolitan Planning Organization

Minutes from the Governing Board meeting on June 23, 2016

**Meeting Date:**

**06/23/2016**

Representing	VotingTAC		Via Phone
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Asheville, City of	Julie	Mavfield	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Asheville, City of	Gwen	Wisler	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Black Mountain, Town of	Larry	Harris	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Buncombe County	Brownie	Newman	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Canton, Town of	Ralph	Hamlett	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Haywood County	Michael	Sorrells	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Henderson County	William	Lapsley	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Laurel Park, Town of	George	Banta	<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"/>
<b>11 Voting Members Present</b>			

Alternates/Agencies and Other Non Voting At TAC			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AECOM	John	Burris	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Clearbox Forecast Group	Craig	Gresham	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FBRMPO/LOSRC	Lyuba	Zuyeva	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FBRMPO/LOSRC	Tristan	Winkler	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FBRMPO/LOSRC	Vicki	Eastland	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FHWA	Joe	Geigle	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Johnson City MTPO	Glenn	Berry	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Land of Sky	Ritchie	Rozzelle	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Montford Neighborhood Association	Lael	Gray	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Montford Neighborhood Association	Suzanne	Devane	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Montreat College	Alex	Miller	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NCDOT TPB	Brian	Wert	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NCDOT TPB	Pam	Cook	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NCDOT, Division 13	Kristina	Solberg	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NCDOT, Division 13	Rick	Tipton	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NCDOT, Division 14	Ed	Green	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>16 Non-Voters Present</b>			

## WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS, APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

***Brownie Newman moved to approve the Agenda as presented. LeRoy Roberson seconded and the motion carried without further discussion.***

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Chairman Dearth called for any public comment. No public comment was made.

## **PUBLIC HEARING**

### **Allocation of MPO Local Input Points for Prioritization of Regional Tier Projects**

Chairman Dearth opened the hearing for the allocation of MPO Local Input Points for Prioritization of Regional Tier projects. Hearing no public comment, he closed the hearing.

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

- May Minutes

***Jerry VeHaun moved to approve the Consent Agenda. Larry Harris seconded and as all were in favor, the Consent Agenda was approved.***

## **REGULAR UPDATES**

- Rick Tipton provided Division 13 updates and Ed Green provided Division 14 updates.
- Pam Cook shared the NCDOT Planning Branch updates.
- Joe Geigle provided FHWA updates.
- FBRMPO Committee & Workgroup Updates
  - Prioritization Subcommittee met on June 23<sup>rd</sup>.
  - 5307 Sub Allocation Study is ongoing and the Steering Committee will be meeting in the future.
  - Transit Operators Workgroup met on June 7, 2016 and the next scheduled meeting is planned for August 2, 2016.
  - Citizens Advisory Committee met in March, next meeting planned for July.
  - Lyuba Zuyeva shared that the LOSRC/FBRMPO Planning Agreement with NCDOT is being renewed; going forward there will likely be a 2.25% fee assessed by NCDOT against the UPWP spending amount to assist with the provision of staff support from the TPB.
- Lyuba Zuyeva provided Legislative Updates. No final transportation appropriations bill for FY 2017 at the federal level yet. A draft federal rule for Assessing Performance of the National Highway System, Freight Movement on the Interstate System, and Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program has been published and comments are due by August 20<sup>th</sup>. At the state level, H959 recommended changes regarding local consultation on small transportation projects, turnpike authority, broadband in right of way, bicycle traffic safety and bicycle and pedestrian records. The NC Supreme Court has recently ruled in favor of landowners and against the Map Act of 1987- the law that allows the state Department of Transportation to reserve land for roads it plans to build in the future. The state budget is still being negotiated between the House and the Senate versions. Both versions agree on removing the cap on light rail projects.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Allocation of MPO Local Input Points for Regional Impact Projects**

Tristan Winkler shared an update on the STI/SPOT prioritization process. Currently the Regional Impact Tier projects are up for consideration—projects in Divisions 13 and 14 compete in this tier. FBRMPO has 1800 points to allocate for Regional Impact projects, up to 100 points per project; those 100 points from the MPO will make up 15% of a project’s total score. Using the prioritization methodology approved by the MPO Board at the March meeting, MPO staff have scored the projects. One exception was made to the methodology, at the request of the FBRMPO Board and the Prioritization Subcommittee; NC 146 (Long Shoals Road) Widening from NC 191 to Clayton Road (Buncombe County) would be replaced by US 19/23 Modernization from Chestnut Mountain Road to Wiggins Road (Buncombe/Haywood Counties). The Board also made a decision to cascade one statewide project into the Regional tier- the Blue Ridge Road Interchange Project. US 276 Jonathan Creek Road Project will receive 21 points donated by LOSRPO—this project is partially in the RPO region and partially in the MPO region.

Tristan Winkler highlighted elements of the MPO public engagement efforts for prioritization: an online survey was created which used easy-to-understand language regarding the projects being considered; postcards (in Spanish) and coasters were distributed across the region to encourage people to take the survey. Several presentations were made to local groups. Mostly positive feedback has been received for all projects considered. Discussion occurred regarding the distribution of coasters to sites across the region.

***Gwen Wisler moved to approve the allocation of local input points for projects in the Regional Impact Tier in the FBRMPO region. Larry Harris seconded and the motion carried without further discussion.***

### **Request for Functional Classification Changes**

Lyuba Zuyeva shared that previously, MPO staff solicited requests from local government staff for changes to roadway functional classification. The City of Asheville responded with a number of requests and MPO staff also made a number of additional recommendations. The functional classification of roadways helps to define the role of the roadway in the overall transportation network; informs expectations regarding roadway design, including speed, capacity, and relationship to surrounding land uses; and determines eligibility for funding under the Federal aid program. Maps of the proposed changes for Buncombe County and Haywood County can be found at the following links: [http://fbrmpo.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/06/Buncombe\\_FC\\_Changes\\_2016\\_Maps.pdf](http://fbrmpo.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/06/Buncombe_FC_Changes_2016_Maps.pdf) and [http://fbrmpo.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/08/Haywood\\_FC\\_Changes\\_2016\\_Maps.pdf](http://fbrmpo.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/08/Haywood_FC_Changes_2016_Maps.pdf). Once the MPO Board approves, the changes will be reviewed by NCDOT and the FHWA.

***Julie Mayfield moved to accept the recommended actions to adopt the functional classification changes as proposed. Larry Harris seconded and the motion carried without further discussion.***

### **STP-DA and TAP-DA Submissions**

Tristan Winkler shared that the FBRMPO held a call for projects from April 1<sup>st</sup>–June 1<sup>st</sup> for local governments to submit projects for Surface Transportation Program Directly Attributable (STP-DA and Transportation Alternative Program Directly Attributable (TAP-DA) funds for fiscal years 2018 and 2019. Roughly \$14million is available between the two funds. MPO staff presented the list of the proposals received and noted that two applications were rescinded by the submitting

jurisdictions. Discussion occurred about the process going forward. Tristan Winkler shared that the MPO staff will score the projects and those will be reviewed by the TCC and Board in August.

***No action required at this time.***

### **I-26 Connector Traffic Forecast Update**

NCDOT staff with support from AECOM staff, presented an update on the Traffic Forecast Development for the I-2513 (I-26 Connector Project). Additional information is available at the following link: <https://www.ncdot.gov/projects/i26connector/>.

***No action required at this time.***

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Lyuba Zuyeva announced the Division meetings for SPOT Prioritization public input scheduled for July. Also, no July meeting for the MPO Board.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Chairman Dearth called for any public comment.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Chairman Dearth adjourned the meeting with no further business before the body.