



METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION
A PROGRAM OF LAND OF SKY

French Broad River Metropolitan Planning Organization
Minutes from the TCC meeting on September 8, 2016

ATTENDANCE:

Meeting Date:

09/08/2016

Representing	VotingTCC		Via Phone
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Apple Country Transit	Matt	Champion	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Asheville, City of	Ken	Putnam	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Asheville, City of- Transit	Elias	Mathes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Biltmore Forest, Town of	Jonathan	Kanipe	<input checked="" 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"/> Canton, Town of	Jason	Burrell	<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	Brian	Burch	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NCDOT, TPB	Pam	Cook	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Waynesville, Town of	Elizabeth	Teague	<input type="checkbox"/>

Non Voting At TCC			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AVL	Michael	Reisman	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Davenport	Lori	Boyer	<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	Mike	Dawson	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Friends of Connect Buncombe	Susan	Malloy	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> LOSRPO	Vicki	Eastland	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NCDOT, Division 13	Cole	Hood	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NCDOT, Division 13	Kristina	Solberg	<input type="checkbox"/>

WELCOME AND HOUSEKEEPING

Josh O'Conner opened the meeting and introductions followed.

CONSENT AGENDA

Josh O’Conner indicated that the Consent Agenda included August minutes. He requested that the Agenda be approved at this time as well.

Josh Harrold moved to approve the Consent Agenda and the Agenda as presented. Ken Putnam seconded and the motion carried without further discussion.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Josh O’Conner opened the public comment period. No public comments were heard. The public comment period was closed.

REGULAR UPDATES

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

BUSINESS

TIP Amendments

Tristan Winkler shared that there are a number of proposed amendments and modifications requesting MPO approval including the addition of a number of STBG and TAP-DA funded projects previously approved by the MPO Board in August 2016. He reviewed the Greenway Projects in Buncombe County which would be added to the TIP pending approval of the amendments and a couple of STBG and TAP-DA projects which were approved by the MPO Board in August 2016. He shared that the City of Asheville’s Complete Street Project was not approved by the Board and meetings will be held with stakeholders to further define the project. Tristan Winkler shared that for local governments which applied for STBG funds, once the projects are approved, further information will be provided regarding next steps.

Ken Putnam moved to approve the TIP Amendments as presented and to recommend those to the MPO Board for approval. Elizabeth Teague seconded and the motion carried.

Discussion occurred regarding the STBG funds and it was explained that this term has replaced the STP-DA terminology under the FAST Act. Tristan Winkler slightly more STBG funding will be going to larger MPO regions, including the FBRMPO region, after the FAST Act. TCC members also discussed the proposed call for projects expected to occur in the winter of 2017 for STBG and TAP-DA.

SPOT Prioritization 4.0 Regional Projects Results and Division Tier First Draft

Tristan Winkler provided an update on the STI/SPOT Prioritization process. He reviewed projects which have so far been funded in the Regional Impact Tier or are in the Developmental STIP/TIP as not committed: improvements to the intersection of New Leicester Highway and Patton Avenue- funded; US 19 BUS (Weaverville Highway) at-grade intersection with New Stock Road improvements- funded; Converting I-40 at Blue Ridge Road to an interchange (Statewide Mobility project approved by the Board to be cascaded)- funded; and NC 63 New Leicester Highway from Patton Avenue to Newfound Road for access management and spot intersection improvements- included in the outer years and not committed for funding. Division Needs Tier project points assignment is next, and the MPO has 1,800 local input points to allocate, up to 100 per project. Those 100 points from the MPO make up 25% of a project’s total score for Division Needs Tier projects. Tristan Winkler noted that the MPO has an option to cascade Regional projects to be funded in the Division Tier. Because the Division Needs Tier funding is dispersed to each NCDOT Division equally, for the MPO region that equates to considerably more funding for programming in Divisions 13 and 14 than at the Regional Impact Tier level. Tristan Winkler shared that MPO staff is using the prioritization methodology (http://fbrmpo.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/04/FBRMPO_SPOTMethodology_Updated.pdf) and that local input meetings are

being held. It is planned that the Prioritization Subcommittee and the MPO Board will receive the draft list of Division Needs Tier projects points assignment on September 22nd, prior to advertising the list for public input in October. The list will come back to the TCC for review and approval on October 13th.

Discussion occurred regarding Transit and Bike/Pedestrian projects as 300 points have been set aside for those as per the methodology. Rick Tipton shared that the funds for Transit and Bike/Pedestrian are separated by the Division and he wondered if that could be addressed through the methodology. Tristan Winkler noted that the results of the scoring process including Bike/Ped projects would be reviewed by the Prioritization Subcommittee. All of the local priority points are not assigned yet.

No action required at this time.

5310 Call for Projects

Lyuba Zuyeva shared that the MPO plans to hold a call for projects for FTA Section 5310 (Enhanced Mobility of Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities) funds made available to the Asheville Urbanized Area. The City of Asheville is the current designated recipient of these funds but the MPO is responsible for holding a call for projects and holding selection committee meetings to help program these funds. She reviewed the draft schedule for the call for projects: as currently planned, the call for projects will open on September 23rd and close on November 23, 2016. Lyuba Zuyeva also shared that the approval process for funds can take about a year before a contract would be in place. Stakeholders have received notice of the call for projects. Funding for additional public transportation for seniors and individuals with disabilities, including innovative strategies not yet utilized in our region is possible.

Discussion occurred regarding the timeline for receiving funds and Denise Braine shared that the process is very difficult to align with the current call for projects cycle. She communicated the need to have the call for projects and approval process moved to start in the spring to allow funds to be available at the beginning of the fiscal year in order to provide more ability to access/use the funds.

Ken Putnam moved to approve the timeline and the 5310 Call for Projects. Denise Braine seconded and the motion carried without further discussion.

Bent Creek Greenway Feasibility Study

Lyuba Zuyeva shared that Buncombe County staff will discuss the Bent Creek Greenway Feasibility Study and the current status of the project. The study is one of the planning studies which have recently received federal funding through the FBRMPO UPWP.

Josh O’Conner provided an overview of Buncombe County’s Greenways Master Plan which was adopted in 2012 by the Board of Commissioners He informed the TCC that staff are looking for a dedicated funding stream as the greenway system is important to tourism and transportation opportunities. Equity and access for transportation –how greenways are now looked at. Safety and security of greenways is a consideration when developing feasibility studies. He reviewed the key difficulties with developing greenways. The historical funds received by the county were reviewed and Josh O’Conner shared that the county does a good job of leveraging funds for the Greenway System.

Karla Furnari shared more detailed information about the NC 191/Bent Creek Corridor feasibility study; the draft study is due to be released in the near future.

Josh O’Conner commented that as planning progresses, changes in the preferred path for the greenway have occurred. The estimated expense for the Bent Creek Greenway is approximately \$10 million, which does not include any expense for property acquisition. Opportunities may also be created to join the Hominy Creek and Enka-Candler Greenway Systems. ADA compliance is built into the feasibility studies.

Information only- no action required.

ANNOUNCEMENTS, NEWS, SPECIAL UPDATES

Lyuba Zuyeva announced that there will be a local officials Information meeting on September 13th from 3:00-4:00pm and a public input meeting from 5:00-7:00pm for the proposed Old Airport Road Widening (U-5840) from US 25 to Cane Creek Road in Fletcher. The meetings will be held at the Fletcher Town Hall. Also, there will be a public hearing and local officials meeting for the proposed widening on I-26 from US 25 in Henderson County to the I-40/I-240 interchange in Buncombe County on Thursday, October 13th beginning with a LOIM at 2:00pm (formal Public Hearing at 7:00pm) at Biltmore Baptist Church, 35 Clayton Road in Arden. On September 28th, Julie White with Metro Mayors will present at a Women in Transportation (WTS) lunch event about the state transportation policy changes. New Board Member Orientation "Lite" is scheduled for September 22nd (after the MPO Board meeting) beginning at 2:30pm. Tristan Winkler announced that a chapter of APBP, bicycle/pedestrian professionals group has formed in North Carolina.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comments were presented.

ADJOURNMENT

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