

# **Prioritization Subcommittee Meeting Minutes October 10, 2017 Land of Sky Regional Council Offices**

## **ATTENDING**

-Josh O'Conner, Buncombe County  
-Matt Champion, City of Hendersonville  
-Vaidila Satvika, City of Asheville  
-Elizabeth Teague, Town of Waynesville

## **Non-Voting**

-Tristan Winkler, FBRMPO  
-Lyuba Zuyeva, FBRMPO  
-Ritchie Rozzelle, LOSRC  
-LeRoy Roberson, City of Waynesville  
-Autumn Radcliff, Henderson County  
-Brendan Merithew, NCDOT Division 13  
-Steve Williams, NCDOT Division 14  
-Brian Burgess, Henderson County

## **I. Welcome and Housekeeping**

### **I-A // Welcome and Introductions, Approval of Agenda**

Josh O'Conner, Subcommittee Chair, presided. Voting members and returning non-voting members gave their introduction. The Agenda was approved.

### **I-B // August Minutes**

With the clarification that Autumn Radcliff was listed as a voting member and is a non-voting member, the minutes from August 8, 2017 were approved.

## **II. Public Comment**

No public comment at this time.

## **III. Business**

### **III-A // Planning/Feasibility Studies Fall Call for Projects, Lyuba Zuyeva**

Lyuba Zuyeva introduced the planning process amendment of moving the Planning and Feasibility Study to a Fall timeline (Oct 16 – Dec 31) which would better align with local government budget development and the MPO's Unified Planning Work Program development. This also makes a clear delineation from Engineering studies, which obligate a municipality to a timeline for completion.

Vaidila Satvika asked whether the funding would all be awarded to one applicant, or distributed. Lyuba replied that it depends on the scope and number of applications received. He also asked regarding the local funding match, which is 20%.

Josh O'Conner asked whether there could be a way to indicate that funding at amounts less than the full requested amount would make the project being requested unfeasible.

### **III-B // Priority Corridor Studies Set-Aside, Lyuba Zuyeva**

Lyuba Zuyeva presented on an initiative to fill a gap in the CTP/MTP/SPOT planning and prioritization processes with targeted Priority Corridor Studies. A funding set aside could be created through the contribution of MPO member municipalities.

See the referenced presentation “Corridor Study Set-Aside Proposal” for potential corridors of interest, commute patterns and systemic issues that create challenging corridors, a description of what corridor studies could include, and the potential outgrowths of these study types. The presentation is here: <http://fbrmpo.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/10/CorridorStudyScenarios.pdf>

LeRoy Roberson and Tristan Winkler made comments regarding the positive points of planning that increases localized public involvement.

Autumn Radcliff asks where a Corridor Study would fall in a planning timeline relative to land-use studies and engineering studies. Lyuba and Tristan replied that in an ideal scenario, these projects would be completed as a step after being included in the MTP and before being submitted to SPOT.

Elizabeth Teague noted that ideally there might be a minimal amount of time between a corridor study and prioritization, suggesting that at the outset of a study there is an implied agreement that it would result in a project for submission. Tristan responded that alternatively a study of this nature could result in pulling a project under consideration, which frees up funding pathways for other better projects, further he noted that the steerage of the MPO Board and Prioritization Sub-Committee would maximize the value of these study types.

Josh O’Conner asks whether projects resulting in a corridor study could be given a “bump” in points allocation within the prioritization process.

A conversation followed on how to best approach municipalities for the additional fees requested for creating this set-aside. Autumn suggested making a funding option that would allow municipalities to experiment with the idea of a corridor study, without requiring the full funding amount.

Elizabeth Teague made the motion to recommend a 10% scoring increase to projects resulting from a Corridor Study as it is prioritized within the SPOT and STBG-DA processes, unless the local municipality does not agree.



Matt Champion seconded the motion. The motion passed.

### **III-C // Land Use Forecast Update, Lyuba Zuyeva**

Lyuba Zuyeva, referencing the enclosed scheduling chart for data collection and validation, gave an update on a Land Use Model, completing the base-year model by the end of 2017.

### **III-D // CMP Update – Land Use Analysis**

Tristan Winkler presented on Regional Land Use and its implications for travel modes and demand, including elements of connectivity, destinations, low-income populations, and jobs-to-household ratio. This analysis has implications for higher pedestrian demands, short-distance trips, mode shifts, speed limit reductions, parking policy, and TDM / congestion mitigation efforts. The presentation will be posted to the MPO website.

Conversation followed regarding particular corridors such as Hwy 70, the demonstrated need for intercity regional transit, and the usefulness of this analysis in showing the need of the previously discussed Corridor Studies.

## **IV. Announcement, News, Special Updates**

### **V. Topics for Next Meeting**

Next Meeting: November 14 at 9am.

SPOT Prioritization methodology and updates.

### **VI. Public Comment 2**

No public comment at this time.

### **VII. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned.

