

Prioritization Subcommittee Meeting Minutes December 12, 2017 Land of Sky Regional Council Offices

ATTENDING

-Matt Champion, City of Hendersonville
-Julie Mayfield, City of Asheville
-Jerry Vehaun, Town of Woodfin

Non-Voting

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

I. Welcome and Housekeeping

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

Matt Champion, Subcommittee Member, presided. Voting members and returning non-voting members gave their introduction. The agenda was approved.

I-B // November Minutes

No approval due to lack of quorum.

II. Public Comment

No public comment at this time.

III. Business

III-A // STBGDA Existing Projects Update, Tristan Winkler

Tristan Winkler introduced the group to a list of all projects currently in for STBGDA funding. This list is available on www.FBRMPO.org. Tristan provided some updates to specific projects.

Julie Mayfield asked where the subcommittee netted out in a discussion of showing assignment for total project funding match from initiation. Tristan stated that the group agreed to leave this as status quo, meaning funding only needs to be allocated for each step of a project.

III-B // STBGDA Call For Projects, Tristan Winkler

Tristan Winkler reported that FY 2020 and 2021. P.E., Right of Way, and Construction funding is available.

Preliminary Schedule:

January – March, 2018: Call for Projects

March 30, 2018: Applications Due

April, 2018: Have Prioritization Subcommittee Review Applications

Autumn asked whether a project Commitment Letter can come later. Tristan replied that it is due with the applications.

III-C // Safety Performance Measures and Targets, Lyuba Zuyeva

Lyuba introduced the group to the parameters that the state has provided around which MPOs and NCDOT will be setting performance measures. She asked that upon becoming familiar with these parameters, the Subcommittee provide guidance on how the MPO adjust its performance measures.

Five Statewide Performance Measures:

Number of Fatalities – 1238 (4.5% Reduction)

Fatal Rate (per 100 million VMT) -1.16 (4.5% Reduction)

Number of Serious Injuries – 2174 (4.5% Reduction)

Serious Injury Rate (per 100 million VMT) – 2.04 (4.5% Reduction)

Number of Non-Motorized (Ped + Bike) Fatalities and Serious Injuries – 406 (4.75% Reduction)

Reductions will be calculated on a 5-year rolling average. MPOs are encouraged to base their targets on the statewide numbers. If performance metrics are not hit, additional focus and investment will be assigned to that area of performance. The comparison was made to Air Quality non-attainment.

Discussion continued about the Non-Motorized Fatalities and Serious Injuries. One question was how “Serious Injury” is defined. The answer provided was that this would be a disabling injury requiring treatment.

Lyuba pointed out that the only area of improvement that we are currently seeing is in the rate of serious injury.

The group looked at county-by-county crash statistics within our region.

Lyuba asked for group discussion around whether we adopt the statewide reductions on a regional level, or take a more nuanced target based off the 4 years of known data that would be included in the 5-year rolling average.



Steve Williams makes the point that strict safety goals help make the argument to keep facilities for bicycle and pedestrian travelers and wide shoulders in the face of public pressures to remove.

Julie Mayfield asks whether it is worth revisiting the projects in the STIP to revise the language around safety measures. And she further asked whether safety data can be used to help the Prioritization Subcommittee and MPO Board understand and respond to specific safety challenge hotspots (Pedestrian crashes in X county, Bicycle crashes in Y county, Alcohol related crashes in Z county.)

Autumn asked that the targets that we adopt be shown against the historic crash data that we have on hand.

Lyuba clarified that we will look at more data at the Subcommittee's next meeting and that the Subcommittee is leaning toward adopting the state's Performance Measures.

III-D // SPOT 5.0 Methodology Discussion – Tristan Winkler

Tristan reminded the group that the MPO's methodology has to be approved by NCDOT by April 1st and that the methodology does not apply to the Statewide Mobility funding, only Division needs and Regional Impact projects. Tristan reviewed the SPOT 4 Methodology and point allocations.

Potential Improvements to be considered include:

- Public Input - Make a more meaningful factor by assigning projects identified as publicly favorable a number of points.
- Fiscal Realism – An effort to better assign points to the projects (and cumulative projects for a municipality) based on available matching funds.
- Local Government Priorities – Rather than counties assigning points (in part or total to a project) the counties rank projects – or – keep the methodology of SPOT 4.0

Conversation on Public Input centered around whether increasing the value of public input could have unintended negative effects. Could more effort be made to reach out to groups and organizations in advance to provide a breadth of opinions. A comment was provided to make the effort to attempt to track public comments to prevent multiple votes from a single person. An additional comment was provided to use a graduated scale of point assignment based on the survey response as a function of population size.



Julie Mayfield warned against placing too much concern around individual citizen groups having an outsized effect on the public input project, pointing out that groups – like individual citizens – have an equal opportunity to engage.

Regarding Fiscal Realism, Julie Mayfield and Autumn Radcliff made comments that while there is a prudent nature to rationing points to projects that can be funded, this is punitive to projects that are otherwise popular or ambitiously scaled.

Regarding Local Government Input, it was questioned whether this change in methodology would have much overall effect.

IV. Announcement, News, Special Updates

Tristan and Lyuba will be in Hendersonville at Blackbear Café for a “Talk to a Planner” event on Wednesday, December 20, 1:30-3:30pm.

V. Topics for Next Meeting

Next Meeting: January 9 at 9am.

No topics identified.

VI. Public Comment 2

No public comment at this time.

VII. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned.

