

MINUTES

**BURLINGTON-GRAHAM URBAN AREA
TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2019
5PM**

MEMBERS PRESENT

Leonard Williams, Gibsonville (Chair)
Bob Ward, Burlington (Vice Chair)
Lee Kimrey, Graham
Jamezetta Bedford, Orange County
Eddie Boswell, Alamance County
Ken Jacobs, Whitsett
Lee Lovette, Haw River
Carissa Graves, Green Level
Don Tichy, Village of Alamance

BGMPO STAFF PRESENT

Wannetta Mallette
Carley Maynard

NCDOT STAFF PRESENT

Mike Mills, NCDOT Division 7
Tamara Njegovan, NCDOT Division 7

OTHERS PRESENT

Lyuba Zuyeva, VHB
Scott Rhine, PART
Nathan Page, Graham

FHWA STAFF PRESENT

Joe Geigle

Call to Order

Chairman Williams called the October 15, 2019 TAC meeting to order at 5:16 p.m. and introduced all members and guests. Chairman Williams then presented the agenda for adoption. The TAC took action to move item #5 to item #3 due to Ms. Graham having another obligation to attend. The TAC unanimously approved the changes to the agenda. Vice Chairman Ward asked speakers from the floor to limit comments to three minutes per speaker. No public comments were made.

Ms. Mallette read aloud the NC Ethics Statement for TAC members. There were no known conflicts of interest identified by TAC members.

Approval of Minutes from August 20, 2019 TAC Meeting

Chairman Williams requested a motion to approve the August 20, 2019 TAC meeting minutes. Ms. Jamezetta Bedford made a motion to approve the August 20, 2019 TAC meeting minutes. Mr. Eddie Boswell seconded the motion and all of TAC voted in approval.

Haggard Avenue Corridor Study Phase 1

Ms. Graham presented a brief presentation on the portion of the corridor that Elon has identified as Phase 1. Ms. Graham explained to the TAC that the entire phase has been broken down into 3 phases. Ms. Graham mentioned the old Elon Elementary school was located within the Phase 1 corridor. Ms. Graham said Elon University now owns that property and has plans to create more student housing and classroom facilities. Ms. Graham stated staff of Elon feel there is great opportunity for that area, and think there will be development along there plus there is a lot of undeveloped University owned property along the corridor. Ms. Graham said they would like to be ahead of some of that development and see how Elon can get improvements to the corridor and guide some of the development for perviousness' as Elon sees further development for the next phases.

Ms. Graham said Phase 2 consisted of the side closest to Gibsonville where University Drive and Haggard Ave meet. Phase 3 corridor was made up of York Road east of University Drive / Webb Ave / NC-87. Ms. Graham said that Elon staff had a retreat with their Alderman earlier this year. Ms. Graham explained that at the retreat staff had narrowed it down to seven fairly significant capital improvement projects and during this time the board rated this study and implementation of the recommendations as # 1 out of seven projects. Ms. Graham said following through with the board's guidance staff is asking to frame Phase 1 as a \$50,000 project, ask for \$40,000 with the town's match of \$10,000 and then Elon would look to do these other phases subsequent to that.

Mr. Kimrey questioned if Elon's governing board has approved the matching funds required. Ms. Mallette said the funds were appropriated in the adoptive unified work program for the MPO; the TAC board approved those funds back at its August meeting. Ms. Carissa Graves made a motion to recommend the TAC approve the Town of Elon requesting \$40,000 in MPO PL planning funds (Special Studies) to conduct the Haggard Avenue Corridor Study - Phase 1. The funds are budgeted in the BGMPO 2019 - 2020 Unified Planning Work Program as stated above by Ms. Mallette. Mr. Donald Tichy seconded the motion and all of the TAC approved the recommendation.

Triangle Region Air Quality Conformity

Ms. Mallette explained that the Triangle Region is required to demonstrate air quality conformity for the Triangle's Metropolitan Transportation Plans and TIPs. The BGMPO is one of four organizations that will need to adopt the Air Quality Conformity Determination Report (AQ CDR). During its August 20, 2019 meeting, the TAC approved release of the AQ CDR for public review. The public comment period ended

September 21, 2019. No public comments were made. Ms. Mallette informed TAC that the TCC recommends TAC adopt and approve the Air Quality Conformity Determination Report by resolution.

Mr. Eddie Boswell made a motion that the TAC adopt and approve the Air Quality Conformity Determination Report by resolution. Mr. Lee Kimrey seconded the motion and all of TAC approved the recommendation.

BGMPO 2020-2029 MTIP

Ms. Mallette shared that the 2020-2029 Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) is a subset of the State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) and identifies state and federally funded transportation projects within the BGMPO Planning Organization (MPO) urban area. The STIP was adopted by the NCDOT Board of Transportation (BOT) September 5, 2019. NCDOT requests MPOs adoption before the end of 2019 to allow for preliminary review by FHWA staff. The BGMPO released the draft TIP for a 30-day public comment period on September 13, 2019 and scheduled a public hearing during the October 15, 2019 TAC meeting.

Ms. Mallette said the TCC is recommending TAC approval of adoption of the 2020-2029 TIP pending public comments. Ms. Carissa Graves made a motion to recommend TAC adopt and approve the 2020-2019 TIP pending public comments by resolution. Mr. Eddie Boswell seconded the motion and all of TAC approved the recommendation.

PTRM Socioeconomic Data Validation

Mr. Rhine explained that the collection of socioeconomic data is a necessary step in the development of the Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) and other regional long-range transportation planning efforts. Socioeconomic data collection and verification is a collaborative effort between the NCDOT, PART, and area MPOs and RPOs. BGMPO validation is needed for the 2017 Socioeconomic and Forecasted Data used as input in the Piedmont Triad Regional Model (PTRM). The travel demand model converts this data into vehicle trips on a simulated transportation network.

Mr. Rhine briefly described what the Travel Demand Model was for the region. Mr. Rhine explained since the beginning of 2002 PART has served as a custodian to the regional travel demand model for the Triad. Mr. Rhine said PART had their first adoption of the regional travel demand model in 2004. Mr. Rhine said currently PART is going through an update with the travel demand model. Mr. Rhine said with the TAC, PART has a certain element within their program and agreements that is essentially adopted by the MPOs and NCDOT. Mr. Rhine said the socioeconomic data gets built and embedded by your professional staff; PART is essentially updating the base year, establishing new forecast years. Mr. Rhine said the TAC is the body that

adopts the updated Base Year Socioeconomic Data. Mr. Rhine said the travel demand model purpose is to represent and replicate travel behaviors on a daily basis and also an element that goes into the decision making process for when you have new roadway projects. Mr. Rhine said any of the TIP projects going through the SPOT process to be funded; the travel demand model is a part of that process, to view and justify there is funding that will be made because the travel demand model replicates where those conditions of improvements are needed.

Mr. Rhine said PART has updated Base Year Socioeconomic Data that has gone through their process at looking at state demographers, working with the local MPOs and jurisdictions of housing, employment, and schools and all of the data that needs to be updated on a county basis, so that it can be the new base year for the new version of the travel demand model. Mr. Rhine said it is projected for the new base year to be 2017 as the existing base year goes back passes the perimeters of what is considered acceptable data. Mr. Rhine explained PART is updating the socioeconomic data to 2017 data and moving away from relying on census release and census alone. Mr. Rhine said instead PART has incorporated Community Viz which is a lane use development model.

Ms. Carissa Graves recommended the TAC adopt and approve the resolution of the PTRM 2017 Socioeconomic Base Year and Forecasted Data. Mr. Donald Tichy seconded the motion and all of TAC approved by resolution.

BGMPO Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) Update

Ms. Zuyeva explained that the BGMPO is conducting an update to its Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP). Ms. Zuyeva said VHB, Inc. is developing the MTP 2045 plan update and is tasked with providing quarterly project updates. Ms. Zuyeva presented to the TAC a summary of the results from the MetroQuest public engagement process and the potential pool of MTP transportation projects. Ms. Zuyeva shared the importance of the travel demand model with the MTP development as it will be used for some of the scoring methodology as they develop their particular projects for the plan. Ms. Zuyeva asked that the TAC look over the project list and see if there are any duplicated projects or ones that need to be eliminated. Ms. Zuyeva explained that the list does not include the STIP projects which are already funded in the STIP but projects from other plans such as the CTP, and the older MTP. Ms. Zuyeva presented a few optional ways to go about the project selection methodology. Ms. Zuyeva said these are different ideas on how you can add different elements to the project selection but a word of caution that in the project selection methodology some of the perimeters we can quantify the auto travel demand model and others perimeters might be more quantitated basis comparisons. Ms. Zuyeva said she wanted to address some of the concerns from the last meeting regarding the federally required performance measures and how this region could deal with either supporting the statewide performance measures or possibly adopting a separate set. Ms. Zuyeva shared that AMPO held a

specific workgroup on developing performance measures back in 2011-2012 and here recent in 2018. Ms. Zuyeva said after reviewing the minutes it was clear that majority part of this group including larger agencies are saying that they supporting the statewide performance measures target and very rare did you hear in this group an agency adopting their own. Ms. Zuyeva said now what some agencies are choosing to do is support the federally required performance measures target that the state has identified so that they are still supporting those state targets and then they may add a few of their own targets that they are pursuing through their specific project selection methodology in addition to the statewide targets. Ms. Zuyeva said in reviewing those minutes from the AMPO workgroup in 2018 and also reviewing some of the local documents here in our state, CRTPO and DCHC did support NCDOT state targets. Ms. Zuyeva said that from the consultant side VHB would not recommend BGMPO consider developing their own targets for federally require performance measures; VHB does think it would require significant lift in terms of budgeting and staff time.

Ms. Zuyeva said the MetroQuest survey was open during the month of August (July 30th - August 29th) and VHB received 137 responses. Ms. Zuyeva gave a brief overview to the TCC on the results of the MetroQuest survey. Ms. Zuyeva also shared there will be a Public Input meeting January 14, 2020 to review draft projects. Ms. Mallette said the meeting will be held at the Gibsonville Recreation Community Center from 5 PM - 7 PM. Ms. Zuyeva said in Early February 2020 there will be a Draft Plan release and also the 3rd Public Input meeting.

NCDOT BOT Update

There was no NCDOT BOT update.

NCDOT Division Engineer Report

Mr. Mills stated not many changes since the last meeting due to NCDOT budgeting issues. Mr. Mills did say the All- Way stop at Durham Street and Elmira Street project was approved at the September Board meeting. Mr. Mills Mr. Mills said the intersection improvements at US 70 and University Drive is still on target with a let date of October 2020; ROW authorization has been completed and hopefully will start buying ROW later this year. Mr. Mills said a few project delays due to the budgeting issues that will push some projects out 2 - 3 years, including projects such as intersection improvements at S Church Street and Huffman Mill Road now has a let date of August 2023 and NC 62 project Ramada Road and South Church Street now with a let date of November 2023. Mr. Mills said the widening project at Tarleton Ave to Fifth Street has been delayed with a let date of June 2024.

Other Business

Ms. Mallette reminded TCC of the SPOT 6.0 Project submission window which began October 1, 2019 and Ms. Mallette said she plans to accept projects until December 20, 2019. Ms. Mallette said she will be hosting a SPOT 6.0 submission workshop which is scheduled to be held this Friday, October 18, 2019 at 9:00 AM located in the Burlington Municipal Conference Room.

Chairman Williams mentioned he would like to pay tribute to a former member of the Whitsett community, Mr. Andy Brown. Mr. Ken Jacobs shared a brief eulogy about Mr. Brown and how he was an active member in the community beginning in 1991 as he was part of the first council in Whitsett when the town was formed. Mr. Jacobs said Mr. Brown enjoyed tinkering and fixing things, he was involved in a tragic tractor accident while working on his farm. Mr. Jacobs said he is missed by many.

Adjournment

The TAC unanimously made a motion to adjourn the TAC meeting and the TAC meeting was adjourned at 6:22 p.m. The next TAC meeting is scheduled on January 21, 2019.