

**MINUTES**

**BURLINGTON-GRAHAM URBAN AREA  
TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
TUESDAY, JANUARY 25, 2021**

**VIA WebEx**

**5PM**

MEMBERS PRESENT

Leonard Williams, Gibsonville (Chair)  
Bob Ward, Burlington (Vice Chair)  
Melody Wiggins, Graham  
Ed Hooks, Mebane  
Monti Allison, Elon  
Mike Fox, BOT  
Ken Jacobs, Whitsett  
Steve Carter, Alamance County  
Jim Butler, Burlington  
Earl McKee, Orange County

BGMPO STAFF PRESENT

Wannetta Mallette  
Blake Cashmore

NCDOT STAFF PRESENT

Stephen Robinson, Division 7  
Brian Mayhew  
Brian Murphy  
Daryl Vreeland, TPD

FHWA PRESENT

Suzette Morales

OTHERS PRESENT

Mike Nunn, Burlington

**Call to Order**

Chair Leonard Williams called the January 25, 2021 TAC meeting to order at 5:03 p.m. and welcomed all members and guests. Ms. Wannetta Mallette conducted the membership roll call and determined a quorum. The NC Ethics Statement for TAC members was read and no known conflicts of interest were identified.

The TAC welcomed the new Alamance County representative, Commissioner Steve Carter. Chair Williams recognized those wanting to make public comments. No public comments were made. Chair Williams then requested a motion to approve the meeting agenda. Mr. Earl McKee made the motion and seconded by Ms. Melody Wiggins. The motion was approved unanimously by voice vote.

**Approval of Minutes from October 20, 2020 TAC Meeting**

Chair Williams requested a motion to approve the October 20, 2020 meeting minutes. Mr. Ed Hooks made the motion and Mr. Bob Ward seconded the motion. The motion to approve the October 20, 2020 meeting minutes passed by unanimous voice vote.

### **Election of 2021 TAC Officers**

Ms. Mallette stated per MPO bylaws, the TAC elects a Chair and Vice Chair the first meeting of the calendar year. Staff reported receiving two nominations, Mayor Leonard Williams for Chair and Mr. Bob Ward for Vice Chair. Ms. Mallette then opened the floor for nominations. There were no additional nominations for Chair or Vice Chair. As there were no objections to the Chair and Vice Chair being elected by acclamation, Mayor Williams and Mr. Ward were elected to serve as the 2021 Chair and Vice Chair respectively.

### **Approval of TAC 2021 Meeting Calendar**

Ms. Wannetta Mallette presented the TAC 2021 meeting calendar for approval. There being no discussion, Chair Williams called for a motion to approve. Mr. Hooks made the motion to approve the 2021 TAC meeting calendar. Mr. Mike Fox seconded the motion. Chair Williams called for the voice vote and the motion carried unanimously.

### **Draft FY22 Unified Planning Work Program**

Ms. Mallette presented an overview of the FY22 BGMPO Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP). The UPWP details work tasks undertaken by the BGMPO in the upcoming fiscal year. As part of the UPWP approval process, the MPO is also required to certify its transportation planning processes. The FY22 allocation of MPO's Metropolitan Planning (PL) funds is estimated at \$261,493 in addition to \$43,184 in Section 5303 and \$120,000 in Section 5307 for Transit Planning from the Federal Transit Administration (FTA). The federal funds require local and/or state matches. The FY22 UPWP budget includes two Special Studies: the US 70 West Multimodal Corridor Study and the BGMPO Highway Safety Plan. While it is the mission of the BGMPO to complete work planned within a program year, task elements may span fiscal years and therefore are carried forward into subsequent work programs until completion. After the presentation, Ms. Wiggins made a motion to recommend the TAC release the UPWP for a 30-day public review period. Mr. Jim Butler seconded the motion and the TAC approved the motion by unanimous voice vote.

### **2020 - 2025 TIP and 2045 MTP Amendments**

The TAC approved release of the amended 2020 - 2025 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and 2045 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) for a 10-day public comment period. Ms. Mallette stated the public notice was advertised December 28, 2020 in a local newspaper and on the BGMPO website. No public comments were received, or notification made of those wanting to speak at the public hearing. Chair Williams opened and closed the public hearing after receiving no public comments. Chair Williams then requested a motion to approve 2020-2025 TIP and 2045 MTP amendments.

Ms. Wiggins made the motion to approve and Mr. Monti Allison seconded the motion. The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

### **NCDOT Traffic Safety Unit Presentation**

Mr. Brian Mayhew, State Traffic Engineer, informed the TAC that the 2019 Strategic Safety Highway Safety Plan identified the goal of reducing fatalities and serious injuries in half by 2035 moving towards zero by 2050. He presented state crash trends correlated with population growth trends and VMT trends. Mr. Mayhew said the number of crash fatalities have been increasing since 2002, leveled during the great recession, and are on the increase. The serious injuries crash definition changed in 2017 and resulted in a trend spike. All modes of crash rates have been trending upward since 2014. Mr. Brian Murphy, Safety Planning Engineer, presented an overview of regional crash trends. Mr. Murphy said the regional VMT data and total crashes are closely aligned with statewide VMT and crash data upward trends. He then discussed the BGMPO safety performance metrics and five-year rolling averages and reporting deadlines. State safety targets are established annually by August 31<sup>st</sup> and MPOs have 180 days or until the end of February to either endorse the state targets or adopt their own. The state targets follow the FHWA formula and are based on achieving the Strategic Safety Plan goals of zero crashes by 2050 and integrating a collaborative approach of the 4-E process with diverse stakeholders. The FHWA does not directly assess MPO progress. The state 2021 MPO targets were established to assist the state in meeting its performance goals. Mr. Murphy ended his presentation by providing links to the Strategic Highway Safety Plan and additional resources. The TAC accepted the information and thanked the Traffic Safety Unit staff for their presentation.

### **BGMPO Transportation Performance Measures and Targets**

There being no discussion or questions, Chair Williams requested a motion to endorse the BGMPO 2021 Safety Performance Targets for each of the five safety measures. Mr. Ward made the motion, seconded by Mr. Hooks. The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

### **BGMPO Highway Safety Program Presentation**

Mr. Blake Cashmore presented an overview of the BGMPO Highway Safety Program development status, outlined the Safety Plan project schedule and funding, and roles and responsibilities of a Safety Subcommittee. Mr. Cashmore reported the TCC approved establishing a Safety Subcommittee and requested TAC approval of the Safety Subcommittee and appointment of TAC representatives. Chair Williams requested a motion to approve the Safety Subcommittee. Mr. Ward made the motion, seconded by Mr. Butler. The motion was approved by voice vote. The TAC appointed Ms. Wiggins

and Mr. Carter to serve as TAC appointees and gave staff the discretion to select the third TAC appointee.

### **MPO Updates**

Mr. Fox announced the completion of the NC FIRST Commission future investments report. The Commission was established to develop sustainable long-range transportation funding strategies in response to declining Motor Fuels Tax revenues. The report is designed to give policy makers funding options as state residents and businesses move to other forms of transportation. Mr. Fox advised the TAC to review the final report and findings at <https://www.ncdot.gov/about-us/how-we-operate/finance-budget/nc-first/Pages/final-report.aspx> or view the presentation live during the NCDOT BOT work session on February 3<sup>rd</sup>.

(Due to technical difficulties, Vice Chair Ward conducted the remainder of the meeting.)

### **Agency Reports and Updates**

*FHWA*: Ms. Suzette Morales announced the recent confirmation of Pete Buttigieg as the Secretary of Transportation. The FHWA Division staff will inform the MPO of potential policy changes.

*NCDOT-TPD*: Mr. Daryl Vreeland announced the Governor's Highway Safety Program grant application deadline of January 31, 2021. Non-profits, state agencies, local governments, schools and law enforcement agencies are eligible to apply. Grants can be used for crash reduction measures.

*NCDOT-Division 7*: Mr. Stephan Robinson referenced the engineering report included in the agenda packets for a listing of BGMPO projects with delayed construction schedules.

*BGMPO*: Mr. Cashmore announced the postponement of SPOT 7.0 Subcommittee meetings until October 2021 as NCDOT is considering revising non-highway project scoring.

### **Adjournment**

There being no further business, Vice Chair Ward adjourned the meeting at 6:17 p.m.