

MINUTES

**BURLINGTON-GRAHAM URBAN AREA
TECHNICAL COORDINATING COMMITTEE
TUESDAY, MAY 19, 2020
VIA WEBEX
9AM**

MEMBERS PRESENT

Ben York, Village of Alamance
Frankie Maness, Graham
Tonya Caddle, Alamance County
Nishith Trivedi, Orange County (Vice Chair)
Cy Stober, Mebane
Pam DeSoto, Elon
Nolan Kirkman, Burlington
Mike Nunn, Burlington
Nathan Page, Graham (Chair)
Ralph Gilliam, ACTA
Mark Kirstner, PART
Allyson Coltrane, OCPT
Jay Heikes, GoTriangle

BGMPO STAFF PRESENT

Wannetta Mallette

NCDOT STAFF PRESENT

Mike Mills, NCDOT Division 7
Tamara Njegovan, NCDOT Division 7
Stephen Robinson, NCDOT Division 7
Daryl Vreeland, TPD
Andy Bailey, TPD
Donnie Huffines, Division 7

FHWA STAFF PRESENT

Joe Geigle

OTHERS PRESENT

Lyuba Zuveya

Call to Order

Chair Nathan Page called the May 19, 2020 TCC meeting to order at 9:01 a.m. and introduced all members and guests. Chair Page then presented the meeting agenda for adoption. No changes were made to the agenda. Chair Page asked if there were any speakers from the floor. There were no speakers from the floor and no public comments were made.

Approval of April 21, 2020 Meeting Minutes

Chair Page requested a motion to approve the April 21, 2020 TCC meeting minutes. Mr. Cy Stober made the motion to approve the meeting minutes. Mr. Mike Mills seconded the motion and all TCC voted in approval.

BGMPO Draft Public Involvement Plan

Ms. Wannetta Mallette provided a brief overview of the draft Public Involvement Plan revisions and approval process. The draft Public Involvement Plan was presented to the

TCC and TAC at their respective March 17, 2020 meetings. The TAC released the plan for a 45-day public comment period and no public comments were made or received by the end of the comment period.

Chair Page called for a motion to approve the draft Public Involvement Plan and recommend TAC adoption. Vice Chair Nishith Trivedi made the motion to approve and to recommended TAC adoption. Mr. Mark Kirstner seconded the motion and all of TCC voted in approval.

Section 5307 Suballocation MOU

Ms. Mallette provided an overview of the FTA Section 5307 Urbanized Area Formula Program and explained that the BGMPO is tasked with distributing the funds in an equitable manner to eligible regional public transportation providers that request funds. The FTA requires that MPO's specify the procedures for programming its transit funding, develop a clear method of suballocating the funding among its urbanized transit operators, and include the programming of projects in its planning documents including the UPWP and TIP.

Ms. Mallette explained that the BGMPO suballocation methodology and corresponding Memorandum of Understanding is performance based and the National Transit Database statistics and transit providers' short range and long range plan recommendations were used to evaluate system needs. The transit agencies collectively approved designating 80% for operating assistance and 20% reserved for capital needs of the regional Section 5307 allocation.

Chair Page asked about the existing process used for suballocation. Ms. Mallette explained that Section 5307 funding requests have exceeded available funding and the new process will limit the number of STIP amendments.

There being no further discussion, Chair Page entertained a motion for approval of the BGMPO Section 5307 Suballocation Memorandum of Understanding and recommendation for TAC approval by resolution. Mr. Kirstner made the motion to approve. Ms. Pam DeSoto seconded the motion and all TCC approved the Section 5307 Suballocation Memorandum of Understanding and recommended TAC approval by resolution.

BGMPO Transit Agencies STIP Amendments

Ms. Mallette presented the STIP Amendments corresponding to the recently suballocated FFY 21 Section 5307 funding in the amount of \$2,223,658 to Link Transit, Orange County Public Transportation, Piedmont Authority for Regional Transportation and the Alamance County Transportation Authority. As the TAC has approved the FY 21 UPWP and TIP at their March 2020 meeting STIP amendments are required. Mr. Stober inquired

about the Link Transit capital funding requests. Mr. Mike Nunn responded that the funds would be used for vehicle replacement and bus shelters.

Chair Page then called for the motion to approve the STIP amendments. Mr. Stober made the motion to approve. Mr. Mills seconded the motion and all TCC voted in approval.

BGMPO Draft P6.0 Project List

Ms. Mallette presented the BGMPO Draft 6.0 draft project list that was tabled by the TCC pending additional information from NCDOT regarding the scoring of cascaded projects. NCDOT's response, emailed to the TCC on April 24, 2020, was that Regional Impact projects may have higher scores due to the amount of traffic on NC and US routes. Regional Impact projects may also score differently when cascaded down to Division Needs due to differing criteria weights. Ms. Mallette explained the draft P6.0 Project List was revised to include two rail projects previously deleted. She requested the TCC recommend the TAC release the draft list for a 30-day public comment period.

Vice Chair Trivedi asked if the draft project list would be approved pending public comments. Chair Page responded that a subsequent TCC meeting may be warranted to formally discuss any comments received.

Chair Page requested a motion to recommend the TAC release the draft list for a 30-day public comment and review period. Mr. Stober made the motion that was seconded by Ms. Tonya Caddle. The TCC voted in approval.

2045 MTP Update

Ms. Lyuba Zuveya summarized the 2045 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) May 12, 2020 virtual public input meeting. VHB will accept public comments until June 12th via email or posted to the project website. Public meeting materials including a copy of the presentation, online maps of recommended projects, and an online survey were also uploaded to the project website after the public meeting. The goals of the 2045 MTP are to help guide regional prioritization, future complete street studies, transit system expansions, and small area plan development. The fiscally constraint recommendations include 38 highway and 14 bicycle and pedestrian projects. The draft 2045 MTP is expected to be finalized and adopted by the June 16, 2020 TAC meeting.

Ms. Mallette thanked the VBH project team for their work and encouraged the TCC to review the draft plan and provide additional comments if any. Mr. Kirstner also acknowledged VHB's work and suggested a tally of website traffic and comments be maintained. Mr. Stober expressed similar sentiments regarding VHB's project work and comments regarding the development of small area plans and asked Ms. Zuyeva to explain the difference in the CTP and MTP project lists. Ms. Zuveya explained that the

projects on the CTP unfunded list pend funding approval. An option is to increase project funding through bonds or a dedicated revenue stream. Mr. Stober also made comments regarding the accuracy of the socioeconomic inputs to the Triad Travel Demand Model and the modeling results as compared to other regional models. He went on to say that better model data will assist the TCC to make more informed decisions during the prioritization process and to determine future transportation investments. He recommended investing in an improved model prior to the next MTP update that is more reflective of the stresses and needs throughout the region. Chair Page requested Ms. Mallette include a discussion of the regional travel demand model as an item on the TCC's October meeting agenda.

NCDOT Division Engineer Report

Mr. Mills presented the May 2020 Division 7 Engineer's Report. The interchange project in Mebane would be awarded as the contractor met his MBE goals. Due to COVID-19 and the resulting revenue shortfalls, the number of Division projects with Preliminary Engineering underway have been reduced from 30 to 10. Projects that will be moving forward in the construction process includes a bridge project on NC 87, Graham Hopedale and US 70, the University Drive and US 70 intersection project and projects funded by grants or GARVEE bonds. Decreased travel is expected to generate a revenue loss of over \$300 million in gas and new car taxes during the months of June and July. NCDOT cannot enter into any new contracts (with the exception of NC Bond projects), supplemental agreements or purchase new materials not already under contract. The revenue shortfall also has impacted road maintenance and debris and trash removal and NCDOT will furlough employees in May and June. Mr. Stober expressed public concern regarding the mowing and maintenance schedules. Mr. Mills responded that all active projects will still continue and NCDOT will issue a press release regarding NCDOT's present financial status. The mowing contract will begin June 1st for three cycles with the last cycle conducted during the winter season.

Mr. Kirkman asked for information about Powell Bill fund distribution. Mr. Mills was not aware of any impacts and that the next distribution will be in October.

NCDOT Transportation Planning Division

Mr. Vreeland acknowledged the MPO and VHB's work on developing the MTP. Chair Page and Vice Chair Trivedi requested a CTP schedule update. Mr. Vreeland explained that as the CTP will consist of unfunded projects from the MTP and there was no specific schedule regarding the CTP's completion.

FHWA

Mr. Joe Geigle did not have an update.

Adjournment

There being no further discussion, Mr. Mark Kirshner made a motion to adjourn and Mr. Stober seconded the motion. All TCC members voted in favor. The TCC meeting adjourned at 10:40 a.m. The next TCC meeting was scheduled on **June 16, 2020**.