

DRAFT MINUTES

**BURLINGTON-GRAHAM METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION
TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

TUESDAY, JUNE 16, 2020

VIA CONFERENCE CALL

5PM

MEMBERS PRESENT

Bob Ward, Burlington (Vice Chair)
Melody Wiggins, Graham
Jamezetta Bedford, Orange County
Monti Allison, Elon
Mike Fox, BOT
Ken Jacobs, Whitsett
Eddie Boswell, Alamance County
Jim Butler, Burlington
Mike Mills, NCDOT Division 7

BGMPO STAFF PRESENT

Wannetta Mallette

FHWA PRESENT

Joe Geigle
Suzette Morales

OTHERS PRESENT

Mike Nunn, Burlington
Nathan Page TCC Chair, Graham
Lyuba Zuyeva, VHB

Call to Order

Vice Chairman Mr. Bob Ward called the June 16, 2020 TAC meeting to order at 5:07 p.m. and welcomed all members and guests. Ms. Wannetta Mallette conducted the membership roll call and read aloud the NC Ethics Statement for TAC members. No known conflicts of interest were identified by TAC members. Vice Chair Ward recognized those wanting to make public comments. No comments were made.

Approval of Minutes from May 19, 2020 TAC Meeting

Vice Chair Ward requested a motion to approve the May 19, 2020 TAC meeting minutes. Ms. Jamezetta Bedford made the motion to approve the meeting minutes and Ms. Melody Wiggins seconded the motion. Vice Chair Ward then called for a voice vote:

Bob Ward - Aye	Jim Butler - Aye
Jamezetta Bedford - Aye	Monti Allison - Aye
Melody Wiggins - Aye	Ken Jacobs - Aye

Eddie Boswell - Aye	Mike Mills - Aye
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The motion carried.

Approval of Draft BGMPO SPOT 6.0 Project List for Submission

Wannetta Mallette presented the 2029 - 2032 State Transportation Improvement Program development schedule and Draft SPOT 6.0 project list for July 31, 2020 submission to NCDOT. Ms. Mallette stated that at their May 19, 2020 meeting, the TAC approved releasing the MPO Draft P6.0 Project List for a 30-day public review and comment period. The TAC also directed MPO staff to work with the TCC to reevaluate BGMPO P6.0 project selection criteria and to develop new methodologies for P7.0 submittals within a reasonable timeframe.

Ms. Mallette added that the draft list was advertised in the Burlington Times News on June 2, 2020 and no public comments were received. The TCC approved the draft project list and recommended TAC approval pending no additional comments.

There being no further discussion, Vice Chair Ward call for the motion to approve the BGMPO SPOT 6.0 project list for NCDOT submission. Mr. Monti Allison made the motion to approve, Mr. Eddie Boswell seconded the motion. Vice Chair Ward then called for the voice vote:

- | | |
|-------------------------|---------------------|
| Bob Ward - Aye | Jim Butler - Aye |
| Jamezetta Bedford - Aye | Monti Allison - Aye |
| Melody Wiggins - Aye | Ken Jacobs - Aye |
| Eddie Boswell - Aye | Mike Mills - Aye |

The motion to submit the SPOT 6.0 project list was approved by voice vote.

2045 Metropolitan Transportation Plan Adoption

Ms. Lyuba Zuyeva presented the 2045 MTP status report and responses to comments received by the public review deadline. The final draft was posted to the project website during the May 12 - June 11, 2020 thirty-day public comment period. The public was able to submit public comments via an online survey, by telephone or email. Two on-line surveys and one phone call comment was received by the end of the comment period. The on-line comments were general in nature and the phone call comment was regarding the need for pedestrian safety improvements along Tucker Street. Comments received from project stakeholders were generally related to textual edits and project funding category recommendations (funded vs unfunded). The entire listing of comments and consultant responses will be included as an appendix to the final document. The DCHC

MPO and City of Mebane requested a commuter rail connection be included as a funded transit project. An express bus connection between the BGMPO region and downtown Durham was added as an unfunded transit project.

A contingency fund of approximately \$6 million was included for unexpected small project needs as a result of ancillary operational improvements, high impact/low cost and/or identified from the SPOT process. A full list of unfunded bicycle and pedestrian improvements will be included in the project's geodatabase and Comprehensive Transportation Plan (CTP).

Mr. Nathan Page, TCC Chair voiced his disappointment with the number of public comments received. He stressed the importance of key stakeholders using their resources to educate the public in order to obtain a better response for the CTP and 2050 MTP updates. Ms. Bedford commented that she found the ongoing updates from MPO staff and VHB very helpful.

Vice Chair Ward requested a motion for approval and adoption. Mr. Jim Butler made the motion to approve and adopt the 2045 MTP as presented, Mr. Eddie Boswell seconded the motion. Vice Chair Ward then called for the voice vote.

Bob Ward - Aye	Jim Butler - Aye
Jamezetta Bedford - Aye	Monti Allison - Aye
Melody Wiggins - Aye	Ken Jacobs - Aye
Eddie Boswell - Aye	Mr. Michael Fox - Abstain

(Mr. Fox joined the call in the middle of the voice vote.)

Mike Mills - Aye

The motion carried by voice vote.

NCDOT BOT Update

Mr. Fox updated the TAC on the ongoing state legislative discussions regarding NCDOT funding. Recent hurricanes and tropical storms, the MAP Act litigation and Covid-19 have had a detrimental impact on NCDOT revenues. NCDOT is required by state law to maintain a 7% cash floor. Once the NCDOT falls below the cash floor, they can no longer enter into new contracts or agreements. NCDOT is looking for new sources of revenue, changes in federal requirements regarding the use of stimulus funding, or changes in its bonding capacity. Mr. Fox acknowledged that budget shortfalls have impacted Division level project construction schedules. Mr. Fox said at the beginning of the Covid-19

shutdown, traffic was reduced by 50% but traffic is now trending upwards and is approaching pre-Covid levels.

Mr. Boswell inquired about right-of-way mowing. Mr. Fox responded that as a result of budget reductions, mowing was halted to save money and NCDOT is proceeding with existing contracts. He recommended Mr. Boswell contact the Division Office to mow areas that are restricting sight distance.

FHWA

Mr. Joe Geigle introduced Suzette Morales as the new FHWA Liaison for Division 7 and 9.

NCDOT Division Engineer Report

Mr. Mills reported one project status change since the last TAC update. Due to NCDOT budget shortfalls, the I-5711 Mebane Oaks Interchange project is delayed. The Good Faith Committee met in June and determined that the contractor did make a good faith effort to hire disadvantaged and minority contractors and the project will be relet later this year. Mr. Mills asked Mr. Boswell to contact him with the intersection information that required mowing.

Adjournment

Vice Chair Ward requested a motion to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Bedford made the motion seconded by Ms. Wiggins. Vice Chair Ward then called for the voice vote.

Bob Ward - Aye	Jim Butler - Aye
Jamezetta Bedford - Aye	Monti Allison - Aye
Melody Wiggins - Aye	Ken Jacobs - Aye
Eddie Boswell - Aye	Mr. Michael Fox - Aye
Mike Mills - Aye	

The motion carried to adjourn and the meeting adjourned at 5:39 p.m. The next TAC meeting is scheduled on August 18, 2020.