MINUTES

BURLINGTON-GRAHAM URBAN AREA TECHNICAL COORDINATING COMMITTEE TUESDAY MARCH 21, 2017 9AM

STAFF PRESENT

Mike Nunn, Director of Transportation

Wannetta Mallette, MPO Transportation Planner

MEMBERS PRESENT

Mike Mills, NCDOT Div 7

Nolan Kirkman, Burlington

Sean Tencer, Elon

Hemang Surti, NCDOT TPB

Amy Nelson, Burlington

Nathan Page, Graham

Aaron Holland, Graham

Abigaile Pittman, Orange Co.

Dan Danieley, Airport Authority

Montrena Hadley, Mebane

Brandon Parker, Gibsonville

Libby Hodges, Alamance County

Ralph Gilliam, ACTA

Cy Stober, Mebane

Joe Geigle, FHWA

Jeffrey <u>Earp</u>, Haw River <u>Lanny Rhew</u>, City of Burlington

Peter Murphy, Orange County Public Transit

GUESTS PRESENT

Theo Letman, Orange County

Geoff Green, GoTriangle
Amy Galey, Alamance Comm

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Call to Order

Chair Nolan Kirkman called the March 21, 2017 TCC meeting to order and introduced all members and guests. Chair Kirkman asked if there were any corrections or additions to the agenda. There were none. Chair Kirkman asked for any speakers from the floor to limit comments to 3 minutes per speaker. No public comments were made.

Staff Introduction

Mike Nunn introduced Wannetta Mallette. Wannetta is the BGMPO Transportation Planner and will be assuming Mr. Nunn's duties with the BGMPO. Mr. Nunn became the Director of Transportation for the City of Burlington in February 2016. Wannetta has over 20 years of experience in transportation planning having worked for SCDOT, the City of Orlando and most recently as Special Projects Manager for the City of North Charleston.

Approval of Minutes / Changes to Agenda

Chair Kirkman asked for any comments or corrections to the minutes from the January 17, 2017 TCC meeting. The TCC approved the minutes as written.

GoTriangle/Wake County Transit Plan Update

BGMPO endorsed the Wake County Transit Plan in August of 2016. The plan was adopted and passed voter referendum for the revenue and financing tools in November 2016. Geoffrey Green, GoTriangle Transit/GIS Planner, provided an overview of the GoTriangle/Wake County transit operations and capital improvements financing. GoTriangle is a regional transit provider that operates regional bus, paratransit services and commuter services throughout the Cary, Raleigh, and Research Triangle Park service area. GoTriangle works with Wake, Durham and Orange Counties to develop long range transit plans by interlocal agreements with the Durham-Chapel Hill-Carrboro Metropolitan Planning Organization (DCHC-MPO) and the Capital Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (CAMPO). GoTriangle is tasked with updating the transit plans every four years.

Wake Transit provides transit service within Wake County and from Garner to Durham. Future plans include dedicated lanes and stations for bus rapid transit and commuter rail. The Wake County Transit Planning Advisory Committee (TPAC) is tasked with implementation and administration of the transit plan. Wake Transit budget recommendations are developed by the TPAC Administrator and submitted to CAMPO for approval. Existing operations are financed by three dedicated sources of revenue: an \$8 Regional Transit Authority Registration tax; a \$7 Wake County Vehicle Registration Tax; and, a one-half percent local sales and use tax.

Orange County Public Transit (OPT) Update

Peter Murphy, OPT Transportation Administrator and Theo Letman, OPT Director, provided an update on current and future operations. The OPT is part of the Wake Transit Plan.

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Commented [MN1]: Is this correct – I thought this also, Peter mentioned it to me as if they were not – they are part of the Orange Durham Bus and Rail Investment Study/Plan ?Light Rail Study? see what you can find out – or just take the ref out – fine either way

OPT operates two fixed routes and paratransit service throughout Hillsborough with connecting service to Chapel Hill. The Hillsborough Circulator operates hourly service Monday - Friday, 8:00am - 5:00pm. The Orange-Chapel Hill Midday Connector provides service to destinations in Hillsborough, Chapel Hill, and Cedar Grove Monday - Friday, 9:45 am - 3:50 pm. The Chapel Hill route provides transit peak service to the UNC Chapel Hill park and ride lot. Paratransit service is provided within ¾-mile of OPT's fixed routes. OPT also provides service for its senior population. Senior Center Transportation is provided Monday through Friday from Orange County Senior Centers. The Senior Centers are being used as a transfer center for fixed route service.

OPT has experienced a 12% increase in ridership over the previous year. Plans include expanding services to senior centers and three new routes: the Efland-Hillsborough Commuter peak service route, the Orange-Alamance Connector providing mid-day service from Hillsbourgh to Durham, and the US 70 midday service route. A new zonal rural route will begin summer 2017 and provide connectivity and consistent transit service the fixed route system.

OPT is in the Orange and Triangle County Tax Districts and its operations are funded by various sources that include the Bus/Rail Investment Plan ½ sales tax; Section 5211 FTA funding, a Community Development Block Grant with the Department of Aging for senior transit services, a CMAC grant for mid-day transit service; a \$10 vehicle registration fee, and a car rental fee. The BGMPO has set-side over in 5307 FTA funding for OPT operations within its jurisdiction. OPT limits the use of transit funds to the service areas in which they derive their funds. Under the Bus and Rail Investment Plan, OPT will expand services and ridership amenities to include sidewalks, greenways, a new transfer center and park and ride lots.

Division Engineer Report

Mike Mills provided a report with a handout on projects within the BGMPO area and reviewed them with TCC members. TCC reviewed and discussed status of on-going projects in the BGMPO area. The NC 119 Design/Build contract will be let in May and provide contractor incentives to complete the work within 10 months. A NC 62 Public Workshop is scheduled on May 15, 2017 at the Grove Park Baptist Church. Sean Tencer asked Mr. Mills about available safety funds for University Drive north of the Town/Elon Campus. Mr. Tencer stated there have been fatalities and numerous other ped/bike and vehicle incidents. Mr. Mills discussed the University Drive safety concerns and roadway operations and committed to getting NCDOT involved to review the accidents and roadway conditions in the area.

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Other Items

Scott Rhine, PART Executive Director, provided the update on the Alamance County funding for public transportation & Route 4 report. The Alamance Commissioners voted in favor of a five percent rental car tax to generate operational funds for PART.

Adjournment

Chair Kirkman adjourned the TCC meeting at approximately 10:10 a.m.