

**MINUTES
WINSTON-SALEM URBAN AREA
TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE (TAC)
JULY 19, 2012
4:15 P.M.
FIFTH FLOOR, PUBLIC MEETING ROOM,
BRYCE A. STUART MUNICIPAL BUILDING**

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Margaret Bessette, City-County Planning Board, TAC Secretary
Dan Besse, Council Member, City of Winston-Salem, Vice Chairman
Allen Joines, Mayor, City of Winston-Salem
Denise Adams, Council Member, City of Winston-Salem
Bill Whiteheart, Commissioner, Forsyth County
Nick Nelson, Council Member, Village of Clemmons, Alternate
Tracey Shifflette, Alderman, Town of Kernersville, Alternate
Billy McHone, Mayor, Village of Tobaccoville
Dan Pugh, Mayor, Town of Lewisville
Randy Mendenhall, Council Member, Town of Walkertown
Leon Inman, Commissioner, Stokes County
Ralph Womble, Member, NCDOT Board of Transportation

PRESIDING: Mayor Larry Williams, Town of Rural Hall, Chairman

STAFF PRESENT:

Russell Radford, Town of Kernersville
Pat Ivey, NCDOT
Andy Bailey, NCDOT
Toneq' McCullough, WSDOT
Pat Reagan, FCOEAP
Greg Errett, WSDOT
Ryan Newcomb, WSDOT
Myra Stafford, WSDOT
Wendy Miller, WSDOT
Fred Haith, WSDOT
Kevin Edwards, WSDOT
Matthew Burczyk, WSDOT
Phillip Vereen, WSDOT

RECORDING SECRETARY: Laura Whitaker, WSDOT

OTHERS: Russell DuBois, Creative Corridors Coalition
Doug Lewis

Mayor Williams introduced Nick Nelson as the alternate for Clemmons.

1. Citizen Comments

Russ DuBois, 3510 Blysworth Court, Winston-Salem, NC stated that he is the new director of Creative Corridors Coalition.

Action Items

2. Consideration of the June 21, 2012 TAC Meeting Minutes

Presented by Chairman Larry Williams.

MOTION: Bill Whiteheart moved approval of the minutes.

SECOND: Denise Adams

VOTE:

FOR: Unanimous

AGAINST: None

3. Public Hearing on the MPO's Public Participation Policy

Chairman Larry Williams opened the public hearing.

Kevin Edwards stated that a public comment was received from Nancy Gould, 195 Executive Park Boulevard, Winston-Salem, NC which he read for the record: I have a concern and a suggestion. The plan outlines many public agencies that are contacted during the review process, but I don't see any private organizations. If you are lumping them under "the public," I don't think that is good enough. For example, our commercial Realtors have a lot of great knowledge they could share when DOT is developing long term roadway plans. As well, roadway planning is very important to the Chamber of Commerce and other economic development entities. Somehow, I think they (we) need to be included in notification of public reviews of roadway planning. Margaret Bessette does that now, but I don't think it is required. An easy way to do that is to possibly include "economic development and real estate groups and associations."

Chairman Larry Williams closed the public hearing.

a. Consideration of the MPO's Public Participation Policy

Presented by Kevin Edwards.

- The Winston-Salem Urban Area MPO has a strong commitment to public participation for all transportation plans and air quality conformity analysis reports.

- The MPO adopted the current Public Participation Policy on September 20, 2007. The Public Participation Policy is designed to be consistent with the requirements of the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act – A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU), the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), the Clean Air Act Amendments (CAAA) of 1990 and Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.
- The goals and objectives of the Public Participation Policy are to bring a broad cross-section of the public into the public policy and transportation planning decision-making process; to make special efforts to increase the opportunities for involvement for those who do not generally participate; to provide members of the community with opportunities to develop plans and programs for their neighborhoods; to make information on government activities widely available to the public; to maximize the use of communications technology to facilitate the exchange of information between elected officials and the public; and, to ensure that technical information is available in understandable form and that all segments of the population are afforded access to this information.
- The public review process for the update of the Public Participation Policy began on May 17, 2012 and continued for the required 45 days until July 2, 2012.
- The draft Public Participation Policy document was included in the May 17, 2012 TAC agenda book.
- A public hearing is being held at the beginning of the July 19, 2012 Transportation Advisory Committee meeting.

Dan Besse recommended inclusion of Nancy Gould’s recommendation.

MOTION: Tracey Shifflette moved approval.

SECOND: Billy McHone

VOTE:

FOR: Unanimous

AGAINST: None

Greg Errett announced that Phillip Vereen has accepted a position with NCDOT as the Assistant Director for Public Transportation and added that his last day would be August 1, 2012.

Information Items

4. Update of the MPO’s Proposed Metropolitan Area Boundary (MAB) Maps/Funding Agreements with Municipalities, Counties and Adjoining MPOs

Presented by Kevin Edwards.

- The Town of Wallburg Council voted to remain divided between High Point and Winston-Salem MPOs.
- Staff has met with Lexington and provided information, but is not sure which way Lexington will go.
- Andy Bailey met with Davidson County Commissioners and presented pro’s and con’s.

- Both Davidson County and the City of Lexington will vote by the end of August.
- 5. Review of the MPO's 2035 Transportation Plan Update and Air Quality Conformity Determination Overall Process and Schedule**

Presented by Wendy Miller.

- The regional teams continue to meet on specific chapters and regional components of the LRTP.
- The next Interagency Consultation for the Air Quality Conformity and Determination Report AQCDR will be on Friday, July 20th and the LRTP Regional Coordination Team will meet on Tuesday, July 24th.
- The Street and Highway mapping is complete and comments on the LRTP Street and Highway and Exempt projects lists have been received and responses will be formalized after the Interagency Consultation.
- Modeling is underway for emissions factors.
- The Freight Section of the document will be complete at the end of July.
- The update of the Congestion Management Processes is underway and new mapping and data analysis has begun on the Environmental Justice section of the plan.
- The release of the draft conformity report and LRTP for public comment will be in November and adoption by the TAC in January. Conformity process must be completed by March 6, 2013.

6. Review of Proposed Amendments to the Fiscal Year 2012-2018 Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program (MTIP)

Presented by Matthew Burczyk.

- The Winston-Salem Urban Area MPO TAC approved the programming of \$640,000 in STP-DA funds in 2010 and 2011 for the Cedar Trail Greenway Connection, which will provide a direct connection to the Muddy Creek Greenway for residents on the east side of Muddy Creek.
- The total cost estimate for the project is \$800,000.
- At the same time, MPO staff submitted the Cedar Trail Greenway Connection for consideration in the SPOT 1.0 process.
- The project ranked high enough in the SPOT 1.0 evaluations to be funded and NCDOT has included \$500,000 in Surface Transportation Program – Enhancements (STP-EB) funds in the STIP for the project.
- STP-EB funds do not require a local match, so using that source will save the City \$100,000. Using the STP-EB funds also makes available \$400,000 in STP-DA funds to be used elsewhere. There are two related projects that need additional funding.
- The Lantern Ridge Greenway Connection is similar to the Cedar Trail Greenway Connection in that it provides a connection to the Muddy Creek Greenway for residents on the east side of Muddy Creek, though it serves a different neighborhood.

- The Lantern Ridge Connection received TAC approval in 2010 for STP-DA funds in the amount of \$120,000. Total project cost estimates have risen to \$350,000 since that allocation, however, because of trail width requirements and rising costs of greenway construction.
- MPO staff, therefore, requests a transfer of \$160,000 in STP-DA funds from the Cedar Trail Greenway Connection project to the Lantern Ridge Greenway Connection project.
- The total project cost is \$350,000, the total STP-DA amount will be \$280,000, and the total local match will be \$70,000.
- The additional amount of STP-DA funding being requested is \$160,000 and the additional amount of local match is \$40,000.
- The Muddy Creek Greenway Trailhead project will provide a parking area and gathering point for users of the Muddy Creek Greenway.
- It will be located at the southeast corner of the intersection of the Muddy Creek Greenway and Robinhood Road, and is estimated to cost \$300,000.
- The Muddy Creek Greenway is extremely popular, but the parking is inadequate, so there are often cars parked near the road, creating a hazardous situation for trail users and passing motorists.
- The property owner has agreed to donate the land to be used for the trailhead.
- MPO staff requests a transfer of \$240,000 in STP-DA funds from the Cedar Trail Greenway Connection project to the Muddy Creek Trailhead project.
- The total project cost is \$300,000, the total STP-DA amount will be \$240,000, and the total local match will be \$60,000.

Presented by Fred Haith.

- Fred distributed an amendment to STP-DA funded intersection improvement projects handout.
- On November 20, 2008, the TAC approved the allocation of STP-DA funds for the U-4742 JA intersection improvement project to install an eastbound right turn lane from Sprague Street to Kernersville Road.
- The original cost estimate for the project was calculated utilizing City forces for construction; subsequently, it has been determined that this project must follow federal standards which include contracting out all construction work.
- On February 18, 2010, the TAC approved \$125,520 for the Sprague Street/Kernersville Road project to accommodate preliminary engineering and sidewalks.
- However, the original estimate was not adjusted to account for the exponential increase due to outsourcing all of the construction work.
- On May 20, 2010, the TAC approved an additional \$184,800 (\$147,840 STP-DA and \$36,960 local match) for the project.
- The design for this project is now complete, and final plans and specifications have been submitted to NCDOT for review and approval.
- A revised cost estimate of \$250,000 has been prepared based on the final design plans and using unit price information from recently bid projects of similar size and scope, including a project that was bid using Federal funds.

- A total of \$200,000 in STP-DA funds is needed, an increase of \$52,160 over the current amount (\$147,840).
- Under the municipal agreements, the NCDOT will reimburse the City for 80% of the cost. The City of Winston-Salem is responsible for the 20% match.
- The 20% match for this project, based on the revised estimate, is \$50,000.

7. Review of the MPO's Prioritized Lists of Requested Transportation Projects Programming Surface Transportation Program – Direct Attributable (STP-DA) Funds

Presented by Matthew Burczyk.

- There were 17 pedestrian projects and 9 greenway projects submitted for consideration.
- The projects come from 6 different communities.
- The selection committee met in June.
- Included on the selection committee is the County Health Department, Social Services, WSSU, and DOT staff.
- All of the projects were put through a ranking process, similar to the sidewalk ranking process.
- The #1 ranked pedestrian project, Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive sidewalk, was over estimated at \$40,000, the revised estimated cost is \$35,000.
- The #1 ranked greenway project, Piedmont Triad Research Park rail with trail, was underestimated at \$3.25 million, the revised estimated cost is \$4 million.
- The top 10 ranked pedestrian projects are especially strong, and so are the top 6 greenway projects.
- All rankings can be adjusted if necessary.

Denise Adams requested more maps/visuals of projects for future reference.

A discussion ensued regarding the Waughtown Connector project.

A discussion ensued regarding the Piedmont Regional Rail with Trail project.

Denise Adams requested a time line for when projects were added to the STP-DA, include month and year.

Presented by Fred Haith.

- NCDOT Division 9 originally submitted 10 intersection projects but has since reduced that to 2 projects: Transou Road and the Country Club Road/Meadowlark Drive.
- Other than NCDOT Division 9 changes, the list remains the same.
- The selection committee has met once but has not yet ranked the projects.

8. Discussion on the Programming of STP-DA Funds for the MPO's Prioritized Lists of Requested Transportation Projects

Presented by Greg Errett.

- Greg distributed a handout for the proposed funding amounts for STP-DA programmed projects.
- There are \$25 million in funds available for programming to 6 different categories.
- \$6.6 million is being proposed for bicycle, greenway and sidewalk projects, which equals 26.4% of the available funds.
- \$2.4 million is being proposed for intersection improvements, which equals 9.6% of the available funds.
- \$4 million is being proposed for small roadway projects, which equals 16% of the available funds.
- \$1.375 million is being added to the Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive streetscape improvements, which equals 5% of the available funds.
- \$500,000 is being proposed for bus stop improvements which include more shelters, signage, ramps, sidewalks, etc.
- \$6.9 million is being proposed for WSTA bus purchases, which equals 27.6% of the available funds.

9. MPO Staff Reports

- a. NCDOT Division 9 Transportation Projects Update**
- b. Piedmont Authority for Regional Transportation Update**
- c. Forsyth County OEAP Air Quality Update**

Dan Besse asked staff to analyze the correlation between code ORANGE days and meteorology/wind direction.

- d. Bicycle and Pedestrian Facilities Projects Update**

10. Review of the 2012-2013 MPO Calendar of Activities

Presented by Greg Errett.

- NCDOT will hold a meeting on Business 40 bridges on July 31 from 5:30 – 8 pm at the Old Salem Visitors Center.
- Next TAC meeting will be September 20, 2012.

11. Other Business/Adjourn Meeting

A discussion ensued regarding the Federal Re-Authorization.

ADJOURNMENT 5:30 pm.