



Minutes of August 26, 2022
 JUMPO Host
 Virtual WebEx Meeting

AFTERNOON SESSION – QUARTERLY MEETING (1:00 PM)

Attendees:

Name	Organization	Name	Organization
Abby Lorenzo	WMPO	Jen Weiss	NCDOT
Agustin Rodriguez	CRTPO	Jerrel Leonard	CRTPO
Alena Cook	NCDOT	Jordan Reedy	Rocky Mount MPO
Alex Rickard	CAMPO	Julie White	NCDOT
Andrew Edmonds	SHPO	Julio Paredes	GCLMPO
Arthur Cashwell	GCLMPO	Karyl Fuller	Triangle Area RPO
Austin Chamberlain	NCDOT	Kim Maxey	New Bern MPO
Averi Ritchie	GHMPO	Laura Wisecup	JUMPO
Beau Mills	Metro Mayors	Loretta Barren	FHWA
Bill Marley	FHWA	Mark Hoeweler	GSATS
Brian Elgort	CRTPO	Mike Kozlosky	WMPO
Brian Wert	NCDOT	Nastasha Earle-Young	NCDOT TPD
Chris Lukasina	CAMPO	Neil Burke	CRTPO
Curtis Bridges	CRTPO	Phil Conrad	CRMPO
Dale McKeel	DCHC MPO	Phillip Craver	NCDOT-Div. 9
Daryl Vreeland	NCDOT-TPD	Randi Gates	GCLMPO
David Wasserman	NCDOT-STIP	Ryan Brumfield	NCDOT-IMD
Deanna Trebil	JUMPO	Sam Singleton	Middle-East RPO
Doug Plachcinski	DCHC MPO	Sarah Lee	NCDOT-SPOT
Eliud De Jesus	Greenville MPO	Scott Adams	Land of Sky RPO
Felicia McRee	New Bern MPO	Shelby Powell	CAMPO
George Hoops	FHWA	Suzette Morales	FHWA
Gretchen Vetter	NCDOT	Teresa Robinson	NCDOT-STIP
Hank Graham	FAMPO	Theo Thomson	CRTPO
Heather Hildebrandt	NCDOT TPD	Travis Marshall	NCDOT TPD
Jamal Alavi	NCDOT TPD	Tristan Winkler	FBRMPO
Jason Schronce	NCDOT	Tyler Meyer	GUAMPO
Jennifer Collins	NCDOT-Division 4	Wannetta Mallette	BGMPO
Jennifer Stafford	CRTPO	Yolanda Bennett	FAMPO

1. **Welcome/Introductions** – Chris Lukasina called the meeting to order and opened the meeting by welcoming all present, both in-person and virtually.
2. **NCDOT Multimodal Update** – Ryan Brumfield provided the following updates:

- Planning Calendar FY 23
- Active Planning Grants – awarded 10 more earlier this month.
- Feasibility Studies Grant Program
 - Call for projects expected this fall (by October)
 - Feasibility Studies are for new facilities – initial steps for PE could be included.
 - Still scoping out program.
- Great Trails State Plan
 - Completed on July 18, 2022 and is on the website, including a statewide network map and the final report.
 - Brochures for each division of the state will be added.
- Transit Visioning Workshops
 - Workshops are ongoing with three (3) held so far.
 - Purpose of workshops – With new planning programs starting up next year, the department wants these to be grounded in understanding the vision for transit and why transit is important in each community.
 - Address barriers – transportation disadvantaged. How do transit agencies fit in the broader transportation network?
- Equity and Transportation Disadvantage Screening Tool
 - Tool for identifying areas with transportation disadvantage.
 - Training sessions next week and will be recorded and posted.
 - An updated version will be released next year.
 - Includes an EJ Index Score that is based on a comparison to the state average.
 - EJ Dashboard – more interactive platform that allows you to focus in on a specific county, MPO region, division office, or area around a STIP project.
 - The tool also includes a Transportation Disadvantage Dashboard.
- Ryan noted the IMD Regional Planner Contacts. The planners are getting more engaged in MPO activities by attending meetings, etc. Ryan also highlighted other key contacts in the division – noting new staff members.
- Mike Kozlosky asked if there was a list of all the multimodal plans just approved? Ryan noted that this information will be coming out soon.
- Wannetta Mallette asked how the Transportation Disadvantage Index compares to USDOT's Transportation Disadvantaged Tracts. Ryan responded that there is definitely some overlap, but probably not the same. Wannetta will provide some feedback. Ryan noted that they want to align with these as much as possible.
- Complete Streets Workgroup Updates
 - All workgroups have met at least once. The Product Delivery workgroup is further along.
 - Cost Estimation and Maintenance workgroups met on July 12.
 - Additional meetings for the Cost Estimation workgroup is needed to develop guidance as a toolkit for project managers.
 - There are a lot of challenges for the Maintenance workgroup. The group will meet again in the fall and will likely be a series of meetings needed to reach recommendations.
 - Goal for all three groups – recommendations for draft guidance to be presented to the core technical team for approval in Spring 2023. This will be issued as an update to the complete streets policy and guidance.
- Mike noted that it would be good if IMD had a bucket of resources to tap into for projects or to match other department led efforts. Ryan responded that the department has worked with communities to submit discretionary grant applications. Two (2) RAISE grants were just awarded on applications they had helped with.

3. STIP Update – David Wasserman and Brian Wert provided the following updates:

- STIP Updates:
 - Reminders:

- Please approve all STIP Amendments once you receive them from the STIP Unit. If there is a delay in receiving approvals, this could cause some project delays. Once approved, please send to your STIP Manager so these can be queued up for FHWA approval.
 - All STIP transit-related changes must be submitted through IMD's Smartsheet following approval by the MPO.
 - Chris commented that additional coordination with MPOs may be needed prior to the Item N going out in an email. MPOs need to also coordinate earlier with NCDOT if amendments are known.
 - STIP Manager
 - STIP Manager is the new STIP Database that is in the works. This takes the place of "TOPS" that was once being developed.
 - This will replace the current set up and is a semi-custom application by PMG.
 - Anticipate Go-Live in late 2023.
 - MPO staff will have access to submit STIP amendments.
 - Notification system – MPOs will be notified when the STIP unit submits an amendment.
 - Users will be able to query and filter projects and generate reports.
 - August Redistribution
 - IIJA gives each state an apportionment – maximum amount each state can spend.
 - This is divided into 10 buckets and includes two (2) new programs: carbon reduction and PFP.
 - The Department can't spend any money until Congress passes an appropriations act, which puts limits on spending. If you don't have Obligation Authority (OA), you can't spend the money.
 - For the August Redistribution, the federal government poll states and look at larger programs to see if they are going to be able to obligate all the money that has been given to the program for the FY. Typically, this answer is no. FHWA can then redistribute the obligation authority to states that are ready to use it. States have to obligate this by September 30th.
 - The STIP Unit creates funding swaps to free up space for the new OA.
 - For 2022, the Department is expecting over \$200M – this is due to high unobligated FY 22 balances in new IIJA programs and numerous STBG-DA swaps performed with TMAs.
 - We also need to prepare for 2023 now – we want to obligate as much as possible in each funding category. The more that is obligated, the more can be requested with the redistribution.
 - Revised Draft 2024-2033 STIP
 - David reminded everyone of the Prioritization Workgroup Overall Goals and STIP Development Framework.
 - David shared a comparison of the 2024-2033 Draft STIP from the version that came out in April 2022 to the version with additional revenues in August 2022. Revised STIP included \$7B in additional revenue.
 - While the additional funding from the sales tax revenue and the latest revenue forecast are both good news, the combination is not anticipated to provide enough funding for all previously committed projects.
 - Projects that are funded for PE Only will still be reprioritized, along with projects listed as "Not Funded".
 - The revised STIP schedule includes NCDOT holding public drop-in sessions in Fall 2022, the swap deadline moving to March 17, 2023 (Metrolina MPO's swap deadline is October 28, 2022 due to air quality conformity analysis), and the final STIP going to the BOT for approval in May 2023.
 - Beau asked if there is there a way to tell the story about the additional funding and the projects that were pulled up? Can we show what was put back in the pipeline? This will be helpful to paint this picture for the elected officials and the General Assembly. David said they can work with their communications

team on this. He also noted the new tab in the spreadsheet that shows the comparisons.

- Chris asked for more information on the normalization before and after the revision. David responded that the STIP Unit is working on these numbers and will send this out soon.
- SPOT Updates
 - The SPOT Workgroup will kick off in October. Members and alternates should have received a welcome email with a survey that needs to be completed.
 - Brian has reached out to some internal and external members for additional information.
 - Orientation for the Workgroup is September 27th. New members should make an effort to be there in person.

4. 2023 Conference Update – Eliud de Jesus gave the following updates:

- The 2023 Conference will be held April 24-28, 2023 at the Greenville Convention Center.
- A draft Save the Date is being finalized and will include information on hotel blocks with a map to show where hotels are located.
- The Wednesday social event will be held at the ECU football stadium with transportation provided.
- He is working to update the NCAMPO website with the conference information as it is finalized.
- Eliud will be setting up a conference planning committee soon.
- Chris noted that we are ahead of schedule and hope to keep the momentum going.

5. Legislative Update – Beau Mills gave the following updates:

- Advocacy Team
 - NCLM Government Affairs Team – registered lobbyist
 - Metro Mayors Lobbying Team – registered separately from NCLM
 - Legislative Resources – weekly zoom meetings, NCLM website, NCLM Bulletin
- NC Political Landscape
 - NC Voter Registration Trends – unaffiliated voters became the state’s largest voting bloc in March 2022.
 - NC is continuing to be a fast growing state – between February 2021 and February 2022, NC is the third fastest growing state in the nation.
 - Beau highlighted some economic development that has occurred during the pandemic, noting that growth is not going to stop.
 - 2020 Census Estimates – population growth is urban in NC. 20% of NC lived in the five largest cities. Density will continue to be a big issue.
 - 2022 November Ballot – US Senate, US House (14 seats), NC Senate, NC House, various municipal, other government races.
- Short Session Overview
 - The short session lasted six (6) weeks and avoided protracted negotiations.
 - Scheduled potential sessions each month for the rest of 2022.
 - Passed Budget – appropriated \$27.9 billion
 - Budget Highlight – Infrastructure funding!
 - Several cities received “directed grants” for specific infrastructure projects.
 - Transportation Funding change: sales tax redirect – when fully implemented 6% of the sales tax will go toward transportation.
- Fed Action
 - CARES Act, Recovery Act, IIJA, Inflation Reduction Act (IRA)
 - Infrastructure Discretionary Funds – MPOs need to be talking to local jurisdictions.
- Resources
 - www.BUILD.gov
 - Local Infrastructure HUB – www.localinfrastructure.org

- Talk to your legislators – form relationships now!
- Dale McKeel asked if there has been any talk about repealing the state's ability to use state funds for bike/ped implementation projects? Beau responded that this will take a big partnership to change the legislation on this. He noted the need to continue to build the relationships with the business community and help them understand the importance of these bike/ped projects.

6. TPD Topics

- Heather Hildebrandt gave an update on the NC Statewide Multimodal Freight Plan:
 - The initial plan in was completed in 2017 and is currently being updated and will incorporate new requirements under BIL.
 - Modal Profiles include:
 - Highway
 - 605 M tons of cargo worth \$794 B on highways
 - Top commodities – bulk goods
 - Rail
 - 81 M tons worth \$1.5B
 - Maritime-Ports
 - 7M tons moved
 - Top commodities – chemicals, fertilizer, coal
 - Air Cargo
 - 17 freight airports
 - 205,000 tons worth \$24.7 B moved via air
 - Top commodities – machinery and electronics
 - Military
 - 7 military bases and 79 National Guard facilities
 - 55% of fuel moved by rail
 - NC growth in military over last decade
 - Hazardous Materials
 - 5,400+ miles of pipeline
 - Pipelines at or near capacity
 - White papers have been developed for Climate Change and Stormwater, Emissions, Equity, and Habitat Fragmentation.
 - Heather also reviewed the project prioritization approach, key takeaways and next steps.
- Jen Weiss gave the following updates:
 - NC Clean Transportation Plan - Jen's presentation included information on the Greenhouse Gas Emissions in NC, Executive Orders: EO 80 and EO 246, timeline, workgroups and training opportunities.
 - National Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Formula Program (NEVI) – Jen's presentation included an overview of the program, NEVI Station Criteria, a map of Alternative Fuel Corridors with existing and future NEVI stations, NEVI Funding Eligibility for Planning, Site Design & Operations, and Utility Upgrades, and next steps.
- Alena Cook provided the following updates:
 - TPD is working to convert to ArcPro with the hopes to be complete by the end of November. TPD is converting things related to NC GeoDatabase. They are looking at all CTPs underway and making sure these can be moved over to ArcPro.
 - GIS training is available to MPOs and RPOs with dates coming up in Sept/Oct. Contact Jacob Turner with the GIS Unit if interested.
 - Regional TDM – draft map of proposed boundaries. The map is on the CONNECT site – on the modeling page.

- Status Update – developing two (2) models – Region 1 (southwest Region) and Region 17 (Albemarle area).
- Training content is being developed around integration elements. The training developed has been delivered with two (2) pilot classes in the past few months. The May class focused on practitioners and the August class focused on project development staff / project managers. Since these were pilots, the consultant is helping to assess how the training went and is considering options for the delivery of these courses in the future.
- Jamal Alavi gave the following updates:
 - Call for projects will be issued in November 2022 with an email to be sent next week. This will be due March 30, 2023.
 - SPR call for projects will also be issued in November 2022. The deadline for these applications will be February 28, 2023.

7. FHWA Update - George Hoops gave the following update:

- Notice of Proposed Rulemaking – National Performance Measures – State DOTs and MPOs to establish carbon emissions reductions targets. There is an opportunity through Oct. 13 to provide comments.
- Grant NOFOs that are out - - upcoming deadlines announced.
- RAISE Grants have been awarded with six (6) in NC.
- Non-TMA MPO certification reviews were successful. Asking for volunteers for the next round.

8. NCARPO Update – Sam Singleton gave the following update:

- Met end of April 2022 and made committee appointments.
- Sam Singleton and Karyl Fuller are appointed reps for NCAMPO.
- Bike/Walk Conference – October 27-29, Greenville, NC
- Next RPO Quarterly Meeting – October 27-28, Oak Island NC

9. Other Business – there was no other business.

10. Adjournment – The meeting was adjourned at 3:58pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Randi Gates, GCLMPO
NCAMPO Secretary