

**MINUTES
WINSTON-SALEM URBAN AREA
TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE (TAC)
MAY 19, 2005
4:15 P.M.**

FIFTH FLOOR, PUBLIC MEETING ROOM, CITY HALL SOUTH

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Dan Besse, Council Member, City of Winston-Salem
Allen Joines, Mayor, City of Winston-Salem
Robert Griffin, Council Member, Town of Bermuda Run
Ed Brewer, Mayor, Village of Clemmons
Fred Sink, Commissioner, Davidson County
Mike Horn, Mayor, Town of Lewisville
Larry Williams, Mayor, Town of Rural Hall
Richard Linville, Commissioner, Forsyth County
Margaret Besette, City-County Planning Board, TAC Secretary
Curtis Swisher, Mayor, Town of Kernersville
Bobby Knight, Commissioner, Davie County
Ken Davis, Mayor, Town of Walkertown
Walter Marshall, Commissioner, Forsyth County
Nancy Dunn, Member of NC Board of Transportation

PRESIDING: Larry Williams, Chairman

STAFF PRESENT:

Stan Polanis, WSDOT
Greg Turner, WSDOT
James Upchurch, NCDOT Transportation Planning Branch
Cary Gentry, FCEAD
Pat Ivey, NCDOT
Scott Barrow, City of King
Greg Errett, WSDOT
Greg Venable, WSDOT
Lakesha Dunbar, WSDOT
Scott Rhine, PART

RECORDING SECRETARY: Laura Whitaker, WSDOT

OTHERS:

Marc deBree, Greenways, Inc.

Chair Larry Williams welcomed Bobby Knight, Commissioner for Davie County.

Action Items

1. Consideration of the March 31, 2005 Meeting Minutes.

Dan Besse requested that on item 11, his response regarding the Early Action Compact, be changed to state the “Early Action Compact Reporting Form.”

Mike Horn requested that Pat Ivey’s comments regarding “now being the appropriate time for municipalities to send requests for reconsideration of the construction phase of the western leg of the Northern Beltway,” be added to the minutes.

MOTION: Dan Besse moved approval of the minutes including the above-mentioned additions.

SECOND: Mike Horn

VOTE:

FOR: Unanimous

AGAINST: None

2. Consideration of a Resolution Confirming Participation in the Project Development Process for Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Projects.

Presented by Greg Errett.

- The NCDOT is responsible for the planning, engineering and implementation of thousands of projects in the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) each year.
- A significant number of these projects are street and highway projects that require some level of environmental analysis to determine the impacts of the project on the environment.
- Various State and Federal agencies work together to complete the required environmental documents for each TIP project.
- Merger Teams are formed to coordinate these environmental planning efforts, but in years past, local involvement during the project development process has historically been minimal.
- NCDOT is developing the Merger 01 Process to improve the current method of advancing street and highway projects through the environmental and regulatory processes.
- Merger 01 establishes that MPO’s are full members of the Merger Team with the responsibility to fully share information and sign concurrence forms at critical points in the project development process.
- The Local Planning Organization (LPO) Partnership Procedure is the governing document for this process.
- To participate in the 01 Merger Process, TAC will need to assign a staff person to be the Designee and another staff person to be the alternate.
- The TCC approved this resolution recommend that Greg Errett be assigned to represent our MPO with Margaret Besette serving as his alternate.

MOTION: Ken Davis moved approval.

SECOND: Allen Joines

VOTE:

FOR: Unanimous

AGAINST: None

Information Items

3. State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) Planning.
 - a. Review of the Draft Fiscal Year 2006-2012 Metropolitan TIP (MTIP) and Air Quality Conformity Determination Planning Process/Schedule
 - b. Review of the Fiscal Year 2007-2013 STIP/MTIP and Air Quality Conformity Determination Planning Process/Schedule

Presented by Greg Errett.

- Because of significant changes proposed in the draft TIP, staff will be required to combine the process for TIP review, Air Quality Conformity Analysis and Determination Finding, as well as, Transportation Plan Amendments.
- NCDOT will be accepting comments and suggestions on the draft TIP up until June 3rd.
- WSDOT will have a comment period on the TIP from June 16 thru July 18.
- Transportation Board will adopt the TIP first week in July.
- September 15th will begin the process for the next TIP submission to NCDOT.
- October 3rd is the deadline to submit candidate projects for the 2007-2013 TIP to NCDOT. NCDOT will then consider the projects and release a draft TIP.
- February/March 2006, NCDOT will have another public hearing, then a public review of the 2007 - 2013 TIP.
- March/April 2006, there will be MPO "One on One" discussions with MPO approval thereafter.
- The Northern Beltway has been changed, the Eastern leg has been advanced and the Western section postponed.
- Salem Creek Connector has been advanced by several years.

MOTION: Mayor Joines made a motion that staff prepare a letter to the NCDOT Board regarding TAC's disappointment with the delay of the Western section of the Beltway.

SECOND: Ed Brewer

VOTE:

FOR: Unanimous
AGAINST: None

4. 2030 Transportation Plan and Air Quality Conformity Determination/Amendments Progress Report.
 - a. Plan Amendment(s) Required Due to Changes in the Northern Beltway Schedule, etc.

Presented by Greg Errett.

- 2030 Plan conforms to Air Quality requirements, but staff had to use 2004 – 2010 TIP as basis for Air Quality conformity.
- Amendments will be necessary as the 2004 – 2010 TIP included the Northern Beltway and that project has now been significantly changed.
- Plan conforms to Federal guidelines.
- Plan update is due to NCDOT by October 1st.

5. NCDOT Division 9 Report.

a. Northern Beltway EIS

Presented by Pat Ivey.

- The US 421/Business 40 from MLK to US 158 project is going well. One lane is scheduled to be completed by Memorial Day and the project is on schedule to be completed by July 1, 2005.
- The paving is now being completed on the Old Salem Roundabout on Main Street project. The project is still on schedule to be completed in mid-June.
- The Hanes Mall Boulevard from Kester Mill Road to Westgate Center Drive Project is scheduled for letting in July 2005.
- Some of the future projects have been updated but most remain the same.
- The Northern Beltway merger and concurrence meetings are currently underway and going well. Record of Decision is expected in October 2005. Right-of-way acquisition on the Eastern Section is scheduled to begin in 2007.

6. Sidewalk and Pedestrian Facilities Planning Report.

Presented by Greg Venable.

- The data collection in the outside areas has been completed, continuing to collect data in Winston-Salem. Currently working in the downtown and Ardmore areas.
- Preliminary list of sidewalk projects from areas is being developed and staff will continue to develop master list.

7. Bicycle and Greenway Planning Report.

a. Presentation of the Draft Winston-Salem Urban Area Bicycle Master Plan

Presented by Lakesha Dunbar.

- After a meeting to discuss the problems with meeting ADA standards on the Muddy Creek slope, it was decided that the trail should be terminated at Jamison Park.
- In order to have access to cross the creek, it would require a 120 foot bridge.
- After talks with NCDOT, it was concluded that the money that would have been used to complete the trail, could be used to build a bridge.
- Right-of-Way certificates were sent on the 17th. Currently waiting on notice to proceed which should be received within two weeks.
- Still waiting on the 26 signatures from Norfolk Southern Railroad to proceed with surveying along the Brushy Fork Creek project.

Stan Polanis requested that TAC send a letter to Norfolk Southern Railroad expressing its support of the project and the need to expedite this project.

MOTION: Dan Besse made a motion that the TAC send a letter to Norfolk Southern Railroad expressing its support of the Brushy Fork Creek project.

SECOND: Allen Joines

VOTE:

FOR: Unanimous

AGAINST: None

Lakesha Dunbar introduced the draft Winston-Salem Urban Area Bicycle Master Plan and stated that the City/County Planning Board adopted the plan, the Public Works Committee is currently reviewing the plan and staff is waiting to be added to the agenda for the County Commissioners for its approval.

Marc deBree, with Greenways, Inc., presented a report on the Bicycle Master Plan.

8. Forsyth County Environmental Affairs Department Air Quality Report.
 - a. PM 2.5

Presented by Cary Gentry.

- Conformity Report is due April 5, 2006 on PM 2.5.
- MPO responsibilities include LRTP, pending conformity determination, Interagency Consultation meetings, compose Conformity Determination Report, public review and comment period/response to comments and TAC makes the conformity determination and adopts LRTP/TIP.
- Conformity Process Coordinators are Eddie Dancausse with FHWA and Scott Rhine with PART.
- The Air Quality Report has shown a few early code Orange ozone days: May 19th – 20th and May 9th.
- Past data shows little correlation between early events and total seasonal events.
- The Air Quality “Kickoff” event held at SciWorks on May 12th was well received.
- PM 2.5 2005 1st quarter data shows 12.4 ug/m³ which is just below the quarterly average from 1999 – 2004 and on average this is the lowest quarter of the year.

9. Piedmont Authority for Regional Transportation (PART) Report.

Presented by Scott Rhine.

- The Alternative Analysis Study on the East-West Corridor is moving along nicely.
- Planning charette in Kernersville went well. Staff, developers and realtors were all involved. Working toward having on a regular basis.
- Currently working on the regional model. Have completed several highway components and anticipate completion of the model in June or July.
- Two bids are out for construction of Park n’ Ride lots, three are currently under design and four have been opened for use.

A discussion ensued regarding the success of the charette in Charlotte.

10. Discussion of Adding the Town of Wallburg to the MPO.

Presented by Greg Errett.

- Wallburg has formally accepted and joined High Point’s MPO.
- Wallburg expressed interest in joining Winston-Salem’s MPO, which will call for an amendment to the by-laws.
- Wallburg will be extended an invitation to join Winston-Salem’s MPO. We will discuss when and how later in the summer or fall.

A discussion ensued regarding the importance of reviewing the voting by-laws as additional members join the committee.

11. Review of Calendar of Activities.

Presented by Greg Errett.

- June 9th, NCDOT combined public hearing on the US 52 bridge replacement project over Liberty Street and Norfolk Southern Railroad tracks meeting will be held at Hanes Middle School cafeteria from 4:30 – 7:30 pm.

Dan Besse requested that Council Members Burke and Johnson be updated on the status of the bridge replacement.

12. Other Business/Next Meeting

- Next meeting will be July 21, 2005.

ADJOURNMENT 5:25 p.m.