

**MINUTES
WINSTON-SALEM URBAN AREA
TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE (TAC)
MAY 18, 2006
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
Ed Brewer, Mayor, Village of Clemmons
Larry Williams, Mayor, Town of Rural Hall
Mike Horn, Council Member, Town of Lewisville
Margaret Bessette, City-County Planning Board, TAC Secretary
Jack Warren, Mayor, City of King
Howard Futrell, Council Member, Town of Bermuda Run
Allen Todd, Mayor, Town of Wallburg
Evelyn Terry, Council Member, City of Winston-Salem
Myron Marion, Mayor Pro Temp, Village of Tobaccoville
Fred Sink, Commissioner, Davidson County
Charlie Wolff, Commissioner, Town of Bethania, Alternate
Dawn Morgan, Alderman, Town of Kernersville, Alternate

PRESIDING: Larry Williams, Chairman

STAFF PRESENT:

Stan Polanis, WSDOT
Cary Gentry, FCEAD
Greg Errett, WSDOT
Greg Venable, WSDOT
Lakesha Dunbar, WSDOT
Wendy Miller, WSDOT
Brent McKinney, PART
Brett Abernathy, NCDOT
Scott Leonard, Davidson County

RECORDING SECRETARY: Laura Whitaker, WSDOT

Action Items

1. Consideration of the March 30, 2006 Meeting Minutes

MOTION: Mike Horn moved for approval of the minutes.

SECOND: Dan Besse

VOTE:

FOR: Unanimous

AGAINST: None

2. Consideration of Designating STP-DA Funded Projects for Fiscal Years 2007 and 2008 in the Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program (MTIP)

Presented by Lakesha Dunbar.

- a. Bicycle Projects
- b. Greenway Projects
- c. Sidewalk and Pedestrian Facilities Projects

- In July 2005, the NCDOT adopted the 2006-2012 STIP.
- When the Winston-Salem Urban Area MPO was re-designated as a TMA, by virtue of a 200,000 population within the urbanized area, the MPO was given authorization to Program STP-DA funds.
- The amendment includes a list of projects including bike lane striping, bike route signs, bike racks and construction of greenways and sidewalks.
- The Kernersville Sidewalk Project will not be a supplement to the CMAQ funding, it will just be funding for a sidewalk project.

Lakesha Dunbar responded to Dan Besse's question stating that the funds can be shifted within a category.

MOTION: Dan Besse moved approval.

SECOND: Evelyn Terry

VOTE:

FOR: Unanimous

AGAINST: None

Information Items

3. Technical Coordinating Committee's (TCC) Approval of Amendments to the to their By-Laws to Modify the Requirements for a Quorum

Presented by Margaret Bessette.

- The NCDOT Transportation Planning Branch sent a letter to MPOs related to their responsibilities under the State Open Meetings and Open Records laws.
- The Attorney General's Office has advised that MPO TAC and TCC boards are both considered public bodies under NC Statute 143-318.9 through 143-318.18 and therefore subject to the requirements of these laws.
- The provisions related to quorums require that all official business, including voting, should be conducted within a meeting with a 51%, or simple majority, quorum based on members as listed in the Memorandum of Understanding or Bylaws.
- Previously, Winston-Salem MPO TCC By-laws required a 25% majority for a quorum. Today, the TCC amended their By-laws to require a 51% quorum.

- In order to achieve the 51% quorum, members will be encouraged to attend or send designated alternates. Although the By-laws provide for alternates, most jurisdictions/agencies have not named an alternate for their TCC representative.
- Attorneys advising the NCDOT Transportation Planning Branch have reviewed the Winston-Salem MPO's revised MOU and asked for changes related to open meetings law, quorum requirements and various wording/timing changes.
- These changes must be made before the Secretary of Transportation will execute the revised MOU.
- Since we must make changes to our MOU (and then have each member government reauthorize execution of the revised MOU), we may want to proactively consider changes to voting strength if case another municipality is added to the MPO.

Stan Polanis responded to a question from Mayor Williams and stated that staff will review options and come back to the committee with the findings in July.

4. Presentation of Updated MPO Member Handbooks

Presented by Margaret Bessette.

- Handbooks have all been distributed.
- Changes will be sent in the mail, will just be able to insert new and discard old.

5. 2007-2013 Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program (MTIP)/Air Quality Conformity Determination Update

Presented by Wendy Miller.

- TIP is still in the process of being completed.
- May be late summer or early fall before completed.
- A couple of the issues holding up the MTIP are issues with the equity formula and the Garvee Bonds.
- TCC will be given leeway on its October 1st due date.

6. Bicycle and Greenway Facilities Planning Report

Presented by Lakesha Dunbar.

- Currently waiting on approval for a contract with Toole Design Group to complete striping plans for bike lanes on Liberty Street and Hawthorne Road.
- The Brushy Fork Creek Greenway right-of-way has been mapped for the railroad property, City staff is considering a trip to the Norfolk, Virginia office to deliver the plans and discuss the next steps required.
- The Muddy Creek Greenway is ready to be asphalted. The City is still in negotiations for two pieces of property.
- A request for a purchase order has been issued to hire a consultant to complete the design for the Waughtown Connector.
- May 12 – 18th is Bicycle Awareness Week.
- The website is up and running and can be visited at www.bikeforsyth.ws.
- Copies of the new bike route maps are available upon request.

Chairman Williams thanked all involved for the hard work.

Dan Besse stated that he would try to go with staff to the Norfolk, Virginia office, if staff thought it would be helpful.

7. Review of the Draft Amendments to the Thoroughfare Plan Map and Technical Report

Presented by Greg Venable.

- Continuing to work with the other municipalities on the north/south connector and the east/west alignment.
- Currently waiting to receive information from the Heart of the Triad study (HOT).

8. Sidewalk and Pedestrian Facilities Planning Report

Presented by Greg Venable.

a. Presentation of the Sidewalk and Pedestrian Facilities Plan

- The draft for the Winston-Salem Urban Area Sidewalk Pedestrian Facilities report is out for public review and comment through June 16.
- It has been distributed to the public libraries and TCC members for the town halls.
- The vision statement is, “The Winston-Salem Urban Area is a pedestrian friendly community where sidewalks are often an alternative mode of transportation that provides access for all, promotes healthy lifestyles and improves air quality.”
- A steering committee was formed to complete the planning process and data collection.
- The Committee consists of 16 members from DOT, Engineering, Housing & Neighborhood Services, Recreation & Parks, Forsyth County Schools and special interest groups.
- The data took 1½ years to collect.
- Reviewed safety and health issues along with MPO 2030 Plan and Legacy guidelines.
- The Corridor plan and location of sidewalks are a few of the major components of the plan.
- There are funding possibilities on Federal, State and local levels.

Greg Venable responded to Chair Williams question stating that the plan would be adopted by the TAC, the City of Winston-Salem and possibly the County.

9. NCDOT Division 9 Report

Presented by Brett Abernathy.

- US 421/Business 40 from US 158 to Linville Road – final asphalt paving is currently being performed and final bridge deck is scheduled to be poured this week. Estimated completion date is July 1, 2006.
- Hanes Mall Bridge Construction and Roadway Widening – construction started on this project November 2, 2005. The culvert extension and the sewer line relocation is completed. Project is 18% ahead of schedule.
- Yadkinville Road Bridge Replacement – traffic was shifted to the on-site detour November 17, 2005. The cored slab bridge is completed. The completion date is 495 days from the start of construction, which makes the completion date September 22, 2006. Project is 14% ahead of schedule.
- Sedge Garden Road – the road is closed to thru traffic and a off site detour is being utilized. The utility work is underway. The contractor has 180 days to complete the project, which makes the completion date September 1, 2006. Project is 7% behind schedule.
- I-85B, 1-40, US 421, US 311 – locations throughout Division 9, construction began this month installing shoulder milled rumble strips. Project was completed in early May.
- There are no significant changes in the future projects report since March.

10. Forsyth County Environmental Affairs Department Air Quality Report

Presented by Cary Gentry.

- Transportation Conformity for PM2.5, in Guilford and Davidson Counties, non-attainment areas completed.

- NCDAQ is investigation the benefits of CA LEV-II provisions
- Ozone forecasts began April 1st along with PM 2.5.
- National Air Quality Awareness Week is May 15 – 19th.
- For more information you can go online to www.epa.gov/airnow/airaware/airaware.html

11. Piedmont Authority for Regional Transportation (PART) Planning Report

Presented by Brent McKinney

a. Update on the Heart of the Triad (HOT) Study

- North Carolina is the 5th fastest growing state in the US.
- The Greensboro/High Point/Winston-Salem area is the 34th largest metropolitan area in the US.
- An area has been identified as the heart of the triad and it compasses 118,000 acres.
- A full week long planning charette was held the first week of April.
- Group meetings included elected officials, developers, citizens and property owners.
- The planning in this area is necessary due to the future growth expected.
- Property owners were concerned about other developments and the unknown.
- Groups were asked how they would like the area to develop which includes residential areas, greenway areas, and business areas and develop a map.
- Ten maps were developed and then condensed into 4 different plans.
- Now, staff will do a model on all the data that was collected and create a land use plan.
- Plan should be ready late summer and will be submitted for adoption.

12. Review of the Transportation Planning Calendar of Activities

Presented by Greg Errett.

- Next TCC meeting will be July 20, 2006.
- May 15 – 19th is National Transportation Week (Bike to Work Day is May 19th)

13. Other Business/Next Meeting

By Consensus, it was approved that a letter from Chair Williams be sent to all TCC members encouraging attendance at all TCC meetings.

ADJOURNMENT 5:27 p.m.