

**MINUTES
WINSTON-SALEM URBAN AREA
TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE (TAC)
SEPTEMBER 21, 2006**

4:15 P.M.

FIFTH FLOOR, PUBLIC MEETING ROOM, CITY HALL SOUTH

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Dan Besse, Council Member, City of Winston-Salem
Willa Lash, Mayor Pro Tempore, Town of Bethania
Larry Williams, Mayor, Town of Rural Hall
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
Brenda Mabe, Alternate, Town of Walkertown
Don Truell, Commissioner, Davidson County
Allen Joines, Mayor, City of Winston-Salem
Dawn Morgan, Alternate, Town of Kernersville
Walter Marshall, Commissioner, Forsyth County
Richard Linville, Commissioner, Forsyth County
Chris Jones, Alternate, Mayor Pro Tempore, Village of Clemmons
Leon Inman, Commissioner, Stokes County
Bobby Knight, Commissioner, Davie County

PRESIDING: Larry Williams, Chairman

STAFF PRESENT:

Stan Polanis, WSDOT
Cary Gentry, FCEAD
Greg Errett, WSDOT
Wendy Miller, WSDOT
Pat Ivey, NCDOT
Russell Byrd, WS Engineering
James Upchurch, NCDOT
Lakesha Dunbar, WSDOT
Brent McKinney, PART
Greg Turner, Winston-Salem Assistant City Manger
Lee Garrity, Winston-Salem City Manager

RECORDING SECRETARY: Laura Whitaker, WSDOT

Action Items

1. Consideration of the July 20, 2006 Meeting Minutes

MOTION: Brenda Mabe moved for approval of the minutes.

SECOND: Jack Warren

VOTE:

FOR: Unanimous

AGAINST: None

Information Items

2. Discussion of Possible Additional Modifications to Memorandum of Understanding for the MPO
 - a. Discussion of Task Force Regarding the TAC Voting Structure
 - b. Discussion of Options to Require Municipalities/Counties to Contribute to the Local Match for Transportation Planning (PL and Section 5303 Funds), and Supplemental Planning Projects (STP-DA Funds)

Presented by Margaret Bessette.

- Requesting/accepting additional thoughts on voting structure and setting up local matches for transportation planning funds.
- Midway has incorporated and elected a Town Council and will probably want to join MPO.
- Need to consider reconvening voting taskforce.

Chairman Williams suggested the voting taskforce resume with some of the same members as before, Allen Joines, Richard Linville and Mike Horn.

A discussion ensued regarding local matches for transportation planning.

Allen Joines requested staff bring the committee two – three alternatives for consideration.

3. Review of the Draft 2007-2013 State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP), and the Process for Developing the Metropolitan TIP (MTIP) and Air Quality Conformity Determination

Presented by Wendy Miller.

- TIP was issued in early September.
- New pavement rehab project for I-40 from Westgate to Jonestown.
- New feasibility study for the I-73/74 connector.
- New feasibility study for Peters Creek Parkway/First Street/Second Street and Brookstown Avenue area.
- The Business 40 design build project is listed as funded in 2013.
- The feasibility study for the widening of I-40 from US 311 over into Guilford County.
- A number of the projects have been delayed more by months than years.
- Some projects have been moved into the unfunded status, working on getting a few of the projects back to funded status.
- Working on dates for public hearing meetings, possibly October or November.

Allen Joines thank Pat Ivey for working with members in meeting with NCDOT to increase funding for local MPO; funds were increased from \$55 million to \$400 million.

4. Update on the Draft Amendments to the Thoroughfare Plan Map and Technical Report

Presented by Greg Errett.

- Davie County is working with NCDOT regarding changes to the Thoroughfare Plan.
- The only major change is adding an interchange on I-40 on Redland Road.
- High Point MPO is in the process of changing their Thoroughfare Plan.
- High Point has reviewed their primary needs, and would like to add a North/South connector.
- High Point will be holding public meetings, possibly in October.
- High Point is also working on the Piedmont Parkway extension project.
- Kernersville would like to add an interchange on I-40 at Teague Lane to their Thoroughfare Plan.

5. Review of the “Call” for Proposed STP-DA Funded Intersection Improvement Projects for Fiscal Years 2006-2007 and 2007-2008 in the MTIP

Presented by Lakesha Dunbar.

- A letter was sent out requesting submittal of intersection improvement projects.
- Staff will complete an internal review on submitted projects.
- Will then form a committee for ranking purposes which will include TCC representatives, NCDOT staff and MPO staff.
- Safety and capacity will be a few of the issues used to rank the projects.
- Plan on bringing the ranking of the projects to the November committee meeting.

Lakesha Dunbar responded to Dan Besse’s question stating that there will be \$300,000 available per year, for an approximate total of \$1.9 million over six years for intersection improvement projects.

6. Bicycle Plan Implementation Report

Presented by Lakesha Dunbar.

- Consultants are working on striping plans for two projects, Liberty Street and Hawthorne Road.
- No date has been set yet for the Salem Avenue striping plans; construction of Piedmont Triad Research Park needs to be completed first.
- Second set of bike route signs have been installed and third set of signs will be ready soon.

Lakesha Dunbar responded to Dan Besse’s question stating that the timeframe for the completion of the Piedmont Triad Research Park is not known at this time.

7. Greenway, Sidewalk and Pedestrian Facilities Planning Report

- a. Update of the Sidewalk and Pedestrian Facilities Plan
- b. Safe Routes to Schools Program Workshop
- c. Status of CMAQ and STP-DA Sidewalk Projects

Presented by Margaret Bessette.

Brushy Fork:

- Railroad R-O-W description sent to the Railroad office in Virginia in July. They have not given the City of Winston-Salem a timeline for review of the survey.

Little Creek:

- Four property owner meetings need to take place. Recreation and Parks staff will arrange for those.

Muddy Creek:

- Phase I (Meadowlark): Shoulder work and seeding is taking place currently; should be completed by mid-October.
- Phase II (to Robinhood): Construction plans are complete for this phase. City Council approved the purchase of the Wheeler property on September 18th. Real Estate and the City Attorney will work out the actual purchase.
- Phase III (to Philips Bridge): On September 6, city staff met with NCDOT to evaluate NCDOT property along this phase. Plans are underway for acquiring the needed NCDOT property at Phillips Bridge Road. Real Estate is in contact with four other property owners to acquire easements.

Salem Creek-Southeast Gateway:

- City Council approved the purchase of the Catlett property (between old Waughtown Bridge and new Main Street Bridge on north side of Salem Creek) in August of 2006. Real Estate and the City Attorney will work out the actual purchase and deed transfer.

Waughtown Connector:

- Schedule is finally in place. Bid opening for construction will happen at the end of October. Award for construction will happen at the end of November.

Piedmont Regional Greenway:

- HDR Engineering has completed their initial visit to the site and submitted their proposal. Recreation and Parks is working out a contract agreement.

Shallowford Park-Warren Park Greenway Connector:

- We are arranging private meetings with each property owner to negotiate easements.

Sidewalk and Pedestrian Facilities:

- Pedestrian Facility Plan: The pedestrian plan for the MPO is currently being revised. More detailed information on facilities, accidents and proposed locations are to be included. With the amount of revisions necessary, the plan will go back out for public review sometime around the end of 2006 or beginning of 2007.
- Safe Routes to School: Safe Routes to School state-wide training is taking place here in Winston-Salem from September 19th -21st. five local schools are involved with the workshops: Latham, Speas, Kimberly Park, Whitaker, and Sherwood Forest. When the workshops are complete, each school will have a plan in place, which is necessary when applying for the Safe Routes to School grants.
- CMAQ/STP-DA funds: Rural Hall and Clemmons have some right-of-way issues they have to work out before construction of their sidewalk projects can begin. As you may recall, in July, we informed you that Kernersville's will be giving up their CMAQ funds. For Winston-Salem, the Carver School Road CMAQ project is ready; the Peace Haven Road project will require additional funds due to retaining walls that will need to be constructed; Silas Creek Parkway CMAQ project has right-of-way issues that have yet to be worked out.

Greg Errett responded to Chair Williams' concerns regarding time constraints with the certification of right-of-way stating that funds can usually be carried from one fiscal year to the other.

A brief discussion ensued regarding Clemmons' right-of-way issues.

Dawn Morgan suggested municipalities consider implementing future sidewalk plans as they do when planning future roadway plans.

Dan Besse requested reviewing issues with the Silas Creek Parkway right-of-way.

Dan Besse requested another letter be sent to the railroad company requesting continued review of the Brushy Fork project.

Margaret Bessette responded to Walter Marshall's question stating that the Winston Lake area is being affected due to the delays with the Brushy Fork project and added that there are several projects that will be underway in that area.

8. NCDOT Division 9 Report

Presented by Pat Ivey.

- US 421/Business 40 from US 158 to Linville Road – project was completed on July 9, 2006.
- Hanes Mall Road Bridge Construction and Roadway Widening – construction started on this project November 2, 2005. The contractor has completed the culvert extension and the sewer line relocation. The project is 8.25% ahead of schedule with a completion date of November 1, 2007.
- Old Yadkinville Road Bridge Replacement – project is 99% complete. A final inspection is scheduled for September 18, 2006 with a completion date of September 20, 2006.
- Sedge Garden Road – project was completed on August 30, 2006.

- Harper Road Interchange at 1-40 – project began on June 26, 2006. Water line installation is ongoing and should be finished within a couple of weeks. Completion date is July 1, 2008.
- Future Projects – updates based on Draft TIP.

Chair Williams thanked Pat Ivey and Nancy Dunn in their efforts to obtain additional funding.

9. Forsyth County Environmental Affairs Department Air Quality Report

Presented by Cary Gentry.

- PM2.5 standard has been signed and released.
- 15 ug/m³ annual average, which is the same as the current standard
- 35 ug/m³ 24 hr, which drops from 65 ug/m³
- The Southeast Diesel Collaborative (SEDC) was organized by the US EPA and is a consortium of federal, state and local government agencies, non-profit and industry organizations with a goal to reduce diesel emissions in the southeast. For further information please contact www.southeastdiesel.org.
- The Climate Action Plan Advisory Group (CAPAG) is comprised of about 40 members representing a broad range of stakeholders including industry, environmental groups, government agencies, academic institutions, agriculture, forestry, coastal interests, real estate, tourism, banking, insurance and other businesses.
- The CAPAG is involved in several initiatives including transportation land use, viable climate change mitigation options, smart growth, VMT fee, biodiesel fuel expansion, anti-idling, diesel retrofit, gas tax and advance fuel efficiency. For further information please contact www.ncclimatechange.us.
- Draft TIP should be released shortly, interagency consultation will be needed to review and determine conformity impacts.
- NCDAQ is starting new grant cycle beginning October 1, 2006.
- Focus on school bus retrofits, biodiesel infrastructure/storage and alternative fueled vehicles.
- \$900,000 is available for the grant.
- FCEAD can help apply for this grant.
- Air Quality report remains the same as the July 20, 2006 meeting. Six code orange days for Ozone and two code orange days for PM2.5.
- Since July there have been 51 code orange days and 12 code green days.
- PART customer Appreciation Day is September 29, 2006 at the regional hub.

Chair Williams stated that the Southeastern trains do not fall under the PM2.5 standard and requested that pollution effects from idle trains be investigated.

10. Piedmont Authority for Regional Transportation (PART) Report

Presented by Brent McKinney.

- PART is working on implementing the Early Action Compact Plan.
- The Park and Ride lot development program is active and moving forward.
- Staff is working with HOT on Land use plans.
- Passenger Rail study is still underway.
- PART expanded its Express Bus service with overwhelming response and ridership.
- The service was expanded to include Surry and Stokes Counties and a Boone trip, plans are underway to expand service due to the response.

11. Review of Calendar of Activities

Presented by Greg Errett.

- Next TCC meeting will be held on November 30, 2006.

12. Other Business/Next Meeting

ADJOURNMENT 5:35 pm