

**MINUTES
WINSTON-SALEM URBAN AREA
TECHNICAL COORDINATING COMMITTEE (TCC)
MAY 19, 2005
2:00 P.M.
CITY-COUNTY PLANNING BOARD CONFERENCE ROOM
SECOND FLOOR, CITY HALL SOUTH**

MEMBERS PRESENT:

James Upchurch, NCDOT
Dan Corder, Village of Tobaccoville
Greg Turner, ACM Public Works
Greg Errett, WSDOT
Scott Rhine, PART
Pat Ivey, Division 9 Engineer, NCDOT
Toby Linville, Town of Walkertown
Margaret Bessette, CCPB
Cary Gentry, FCEAD
Frank James, Town of Rural Hall
Beth Dirks, Davie County
Gary Looper, Village of Clemmons
Nicole Hay, NWPCOG

PRESIDING: Stan Polanis, Chairman; WSDOT

STAFF PRESENT:

Greg Venable, WSDOT
Lakesha Dunbar, WSDOT

OTHERS: Marc deBree, Greenways, Inc.

RECORDING SECRETARY: Laura Whitaker, WSDOT

Action Items

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

MOTION: Frank James moved approval of the minutes.

SECOND: Gary Looper

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.

Pat Ivey stated the importance of the MPO's involvement and support of this process.

Stan Polanis moved that the Greg Errett serve as staff designee and Margaret Bessette as alternate.

Greg Turner stressed the importance of staff attendance at the Merger Team meetings.

MOTION: Pat Ivey moved approval.

SECOND: Gary Looper

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.

Pat Ivey stated that there will not be a lot of project advancement without additional funding sources.

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.

James Upchurch stated that the traffic/air quality models have already been delivered and the process is moving very fast.

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.

A discussion ensued regarding the Northern Beltway sections.

Pat Ivey stated that a resolution requesting the limits of the B Project be extended to include, at least partially, the interchange at 158 would be appropriate.

Pat Ivey responded to Greg Venable's question regarding the bridge work on Yadkinville Road stating that staff investigated the problem and located a 4 foot gap between the bottom of the footing and the rock, which pretty much explains why it's separating. He further stated that the bridge is only 20 years old and there is a problem with how to repair the bridge and how to pay for the repairs.

A discussion ensued regarding the CMAQ projects.

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.

Lakesha Dunbar stated that she had received a request from Council Member Dan Besse to send a letter to Norfolk Southern to express the need to move forward with this project and request the signatures be expedited as soon as possible.

A discussion ensued regarding TAC, the City Council and/or the Mayor sending a letter to Norfolk Southern.

MOTION: Greg Turner made a motion that the TCC Chair recommend that the TAC Chair and the Mayor send a letter to Norfolk Southern requesting receipt of the signatures as soon as possible.

SECOND: Margaret Bessette

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.

A discussion ensued regarding safety issues.

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.

Scott Rhine stated that meetings with RPOs, MPOs and NCDOT are being arranged.

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.

Scott Rhine responded to Stan Polanis’ question stating that ridership is still on the upswing and added that the medical trips to Duke are increasing along with the number of people riding to work is increasing.

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.

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.

12. Other Business/Next Meeting

Toby Linville announced he was leaving the Town of Walkertown for a new job and this was his last TCC meeting. The TCC wished him good luck.

- Next meeting will be July 21, 2005.

ADJOURNMENT 3:30 p.m.