

MINUTES
WINSTON-SALEM URBAN AREA
TECHNICAL COORDINATING COMMITTEE (TCC)
JANUARY 19, 2006
2:00 P.M.
FIFTH FLOOR PUBLIC MEETING ROOM,
CITY HALL SOUTH

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Dan Corder, Village of Tobaccoville
Greg Errett, WSDOT
Scott Rhine, PART
Margaret Bessette, CCPB
Cary Gentry, FCEAD
Bob Greback, Town of Lewisville
Frank James, Town of Rural Hall
James Upchurch, NCDOT
Scott Leonard, Davidson County
Scott Buffkin, City of King
Brent Abernathy, NCDOT
Brian Ulrich, Town of Kernersville
Nicole Hay, NWPCOG

PRESIDING: Stan Polanis, Chairman; WSDOT

STAFF PRESENT:

Wendy Miller, WSDOT
Greg Venable, WSDOT
Lakesha Dunbar, WSDOT
David Wasserman, NCDOT
Lynda Schwan, CCPB

RECORDING SECRETARY: Laura Whitaker, WSDOT

Action Items

1. Election of Officers

MOTION: Scott Buffkin moved that Stan Polanis be nominated for Chairman.

SECOND: Greg Errett

VOTE:

FOR: Unanimous

AGAINST: None

MOTION: Stan Polanis moved that Greg Errett be nominated for Vice Chairman.

SECOND: Scott Buffkin

VOTE:

FOR: Unanimous

AGAINST: None

2. Consideration of the November 30, 2005 Meeting Minutes

MOTION: Scott Rhine moved approval of the minutes.

SECOND: Scott Buffkin

VOTE:

FOR: Unanimous

AGAINST: None

3. Consideration of the Draft PM 2.5 Air Quality Conformity Analysis and Determination Report

Presented by James Upchurch.

- The TAC adopted the Winston-Salem Urban Area 2030 Plan and Air Quality Conformity Analysis and Determination Report on March 31, 2005.
- The USDOT approved the documents on May 28, 2005.
- On July 21, 2005, the TAC approved amendments to the 2030 Plan to match the 2006 – 2012 STIP.
- On September 30, 2005, the USDOT approved the 2030 Plan amendments.
- On April 5, 2005, the US EPA designated Davidson and Guilford counties as non-attainment areas for PM 2.5 in size.
- The provisions of the CAA, TEA-21 and SAFETEA-LU require that a new conformity analysis and determination be performed when an area is designated as non-conforming for a pollutant.
- NCDOT, in cooperation with PART, NCDENR, FCEAD and WSDOT, has completed a new air quality conformity analysis and determination for PM 2.5.
- The report demonstrates that the amended 2030 Plan and the 2006 – 2012 MTIP for the urban area eliminates or reduces violations of the NAAQS and accomplishes the intent of the SIP based on less than baseline emissions.
- The draft air quality report was available for public review and comment for thirty days.
- All comments on the draft air quality report and the staff's responses to the comments will be provided.
- A conformity finding must be made by the TAC by January in order to provide sufficient time for the final federal reviews of the documents.

MOTION: Greg Errett moved approval.

SECOND: Frank James

VOTE:

FOR: Unanimous

AGAINST: None

Information Items

4. Presentation on NCDOT's Strategic Highway Corridors Program in North Carolina

Presented by David Wasserman.

- The Strategic Highway Corridors initiative seeks to identify, protect and maximize the use of highway corridors that play a critical role in regional or statewide mobility in an ongoing effort to enhance transportation, economic development and environmental stewardship throughout North Carolina.
- Some of the goals of the initiative are to protect taxpayer investment in critical highway corridors, enhance major corridor mobility within and to destinations just outside North Carolina, enhance connectivity of travel within and just outside North Carolina, partner with stakeholders and all vested agencies to create a clear vision for each corridor, influence the project level decision-making process to achieve broader goals through funding, project planning, design, access and land-use decisions, and to support a statewide vision and identification of a desired facility type-freeway, expressway, boulevard or thoroughfare – for each corridor.
- The selection of the Strategic Highway Corridors focuses primarily on four objective criteria.
- First, mobility, the corridor has significant traffic volumes and is vital to the state's and/or region's interest.
- Second, connectivity, the corridor provides a connection between major activity and service centers.
- Third, interstate connectivity, the corridor provides a connection between existing and/or planned interstates.
- Fourth, interstate reliever, the corridor currently serves, or has the potential to serve, as a reliever route to an existing interstate facility.
- Ongoing efforts are being made to educate all stakeholders about the initiative.
- Education needs to occur on a continual basis to ensure that those involved are aware of the latest activities and policies.
- Local comprehensive transportation plans will incorporate the long-term visions of the Strategic Highway Corridors initiative.
- Additionally, a series of corridor studies may be undertaken to define needs, issues and unique challenges of each corridor. These studies give all stakeholders an opportunity to be involved at the beginning of the planning process.
- Projects along Strategic Highway Corridors will be developed in a manner to achieve the long-term vision and goals of the initiative.
- Consistent and compatible land use decisions are needed to support the goals of the Strategic Highway Corridors initiative.
- Mechanisms will be developed to assist local jurisdictions in helping to protect mobility along the corridors.
- Managing development along Strategic Highway Corridors is essential for achieving the long-term vision for each facility.
- Tools, techniques and strategies will be identified for protecting the corridors, such as the use of access management.
- All driveway permits and traffic signal requests along Strategic Highway Corridors with the long-term vision for the corridor.
- Driveway consolidation and sharing will be highly encouraged, and alternative solutions to traffic signals will be sought.
- The Strategic Highway Corridors initiative was developed with input from the public forums held in 2003 and 2004.

- The initiative was adopted by the NCBOT and endorsed by the Department of Commerce and the Department of Environment and Natural Resources in 2004.

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

Presented by Greg Venable.

- Additional information was requested on the North/South Thoroughfare.
- There was an initial study completed on the North/South Thoroughfare, and at that time the thoroughfare was planned to connect with NC 66.
- The consultant was hired by the City of Greensboro and has been contacted to review the new alignments. That information will be submitted for review as soon as it is completed.
- The East/West Thoroughfare will also be reviewed.

6. Sidewalk and Pedestrian Facilities Planning Report

Presented Greg Venable.

- There are still a few outlying areas that data needs to be collected.
- March 23, 2006, is when the plan is scheduled to be presented to the City/County Planning Board.
- At that time, the 30 day public review period will begin.
- Scheduled to bring the draft plan to TAC/TCC in March.
- Will go before the City/County Planning Board for adoption in April.
- Then back to TAC/TCC for approval in May.

7. Bicycle and Greenway Planning Report

Presented by Lakesha Dunbar.

- The \$1,000 check has been sent to Norfolk Southern Railroad for permission to survey on their property. Once approval is received, staff will begin the surveying process for Brushy Fork Creek, which will be followed by a request for easement.
- The City is still in negotiations with a property owner for connectivity of the Muddy Creek Greenway. At this time all other construction is on hold due to the weather.
- A centerline divider has been marked for the Waughtown Connector. Some boring testing will need to take place in order to find out how much rock excavation will be necessary. This could add to the total cost.
- The Little Creek Greenway is underway by identifying City-owned easements and reviewing the best route so the rest of the easements can be acquired.
- Engineers have investigated the culvert for the Piedmont Regional Greenway beneath B-40, the culvert is filled with 2 feet of water which is going require further investigation.
- Projects have been identified for the Master Bicycle Plan to be implemented, along with funding options. Will bring the projects before the committee for recommendation and approval.

8. NCDOT Division 9 Report

Presented by Brett Abernathy.

- US 421/Business 40 from US 158 to Linville Road – now in the last phase of the project. For the remainder of the project, lane closures will be restricted mostly to nights and weekends. Estimated completion date for this project is July of 2006.
- Old Yadkinville Road Bridge Replacement – traffic was shifted to the onsite detour on Thursday, November 17. Demolition of the existing bridge has been completed. The completion date is scheduled for September 22, 2006.
- Hanes Mall Road Bridge Construction and Roadway Widening – constructed started on November 2, 2005. The clearing and grubbing around the exiting culvert has been completed. The utility contractor is ready to start the relocation of the existing 24” sanitary sewer line (weather permitting).

9. Forsyth County Environmental Affairs Department Air Quality Report

Presented by Cary Gentry.

- PM 2.5 Conformity for Guilford and Davidson Counties – public comment period has ended. Conformity Report is due April 5, 2006.
- New Proposed PM 2.5 Standards – Annual average suggested to remain the same. Daily standard suggested to drop from 65 ug/m³ to 35 ug/m³. Proposed time frame for monitoring data is 3 years.
- Guilford, Forsyth expected to attain the standard, Davidson is not (annual).
- Seeking public comment on proposed standards.
- USEPA to issue final standard on September 27, 2006.

10. Review of the Draft Fiscal Year 2006-2007 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)

Presented by Greg Errett.

- a. Review of Staff Liaison Assignments for our MPO Counties and Municipalities
 - b. Review of a Resolution Certifying the Winston-Salem Urban Area Transportation Planning Process
- The UPWP funding sources table for fiscal year 2006 – 2007 was distributed.
 - The information is incomplete at this time as all the funding information from NCDOT has not been received.
 - There will be approximately a \$400,000 budget for Section 104 (F) this year and \$120,000 in federal STP-DA funding which will also include a \$30,000 local match in funds for a grand total of \$550,000.
 - Possible uses for some of the funds are a 2007 Vehicle Occupancy Count study, collection of network data to update maps and tables for streets and highways, 2006 Transportation Needs Report which will be due this fall, updating the 2035 Employment and Housing projections for the next LRP update, developing a new Comprehensive Transportation Plan. Will continue to implement sidewalk and greenway projects. Anticipate an interchange feasibility study of the areas around the Eastern Beltway Also, anticipate a Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive extension feasibility study.

- Received requests from some of the smaller municipalities for planning and engineering studies.
- Would like to receive any comments as soon as possible, due to the FTA and NCDOT by March 1, 2006.
- A staff liaison assignment for MPO counties and municipalities for fiscal years 2006 and 2007 was included in the agenda packets.

12. Review of Calendar of Activities

- Next meeting is scheduled for February 16, 2006.

13. Other Business/Next Meeting

- Margaret Bessette requested all the changes in local government representatives be submitted as soon as possible and stated that the resolutions authorizing representatives to sign changes to the MOU be approved over the next two weeks.

ADJOURNMENT 3:06 pm.