

**MINUTES
WINSTON-SALEM URBAN AREA
TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE (TAC)
MARCH 15, 2018
4:15 P.M.
FIFTH FLOOR, PUBLIC MEETING ROOM,
BRYCE A. STUART MUNICIPAL BUILDING**

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Dan Besse, Council Member, City of Winston-Salem, Vice Chairman
Allen Joines, Mayor, City of Winston-Salem
Denise Adams, Council Member, City of Winston-Salem
Brent Rockett, Commissioner, Town of Bethania
John Byrum, Mayor, Town of Midway
Regina “Nora” Streed, Board Member, WSTA
Mark Baker, Mayor, Village of Tobaccoville
Jenny Fulton, Alderman, Town of Kernersville
Fleming El-Amin, Commissioner, Forsyth County
John Wait, Mayor, Village of Clemmons
Ed Smith, Council Member, Town of Lewisville, Alternate
Mike Wells, Member, NC Board of Transportation

PRESIDING: Mayor Larry Williams, Town of Rural Hall, Chairman

STAFF PRESENT:

Jeff Hatling, Town of Kernersville
Joe Geigle, FHWA
Pat Ivey, NCDOT
Scott Rhine, PART
Margaret Bessette, CCPB
Toneq’ McCullough, WSDOT
Fred Haith, WSDOT
Brenda King, WSDOT
Byron Brown, WSDOT
Matthew Burczyk, WSDOT
Morgan Simmons, WSDOT
Kelly Garvin, WSDOT
Evan Koff, WSDOT
Zina Johnson, City of Winston-Salem

RECORDING SECRETARY: Laura Whitaker, WSDOT

OTHERS:

Phillip Summers

Mayor Williams read the Ethics Awareness and Conflict of Interest Statement.

1. Citizen Comments

Phillip Summers, 2422 Peachtree Street, Winston-Salem, NC expressed his support for public transportation. He stated he would like to see the bus routes on Google Maps for transit planning and ridership.

A discussion ensued regarding various mapping applications for buses, in the City of Winston-Salem and other cities.

Action Items

2. Consideration of the February 15, 2018 TAC Meeting Minutes

Presented by Chairman Larry Williams.

MOTION: Denise Adams moved approval of the minutes.

SECOND: Regina Streed.

VOTE:

FOR: Unanimous

AGAINST: None

3. Consideration of the Fiscal Year 2019 Federal Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) Call for Projects

Presented by Kelly Garvin.

- Kelly distributed updated Winston-Salem Urban Area Metropolitan Planning Organization Congestion Mitigation Air Quality (CMAQ) Program project tables.
- Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality is a federal program that funds transportation projects and programs in air quality nonattainment and maintenance areas to help achieve and maintain national standards for air quality pollutants.
- In North Carolina, the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) serves as the administrator for this program.
- Funding is apportioned to North Carolina based on the population in non-attainment and maintenance areas of the state and the severity of air quality problem.
- The NCDOT announced the release of federal CMAQ funds for the Winston-Salem Urban Area MPO for Fiscal Years 2019.
- The funds are eligible to be programmed for projects in Fiscal Year 2019, which runs from October 1, 2018 through September 30, 2019.

- The NCDOT allocated \$1,980,058 to the Winston-Salem Metropolitan Planning Organization (WSMPO) for Fiscal Year 2019.
- Four candidate projects were submitted for funding consideration:
 - Davidson County requested \$118,037 for two new Bi-Fuel Propane Busses.
 - The Town of Lewisville requested \$987,529 for the construction of a Multi-Use-Path along Lewisville Vienna Road from Riverwood Drive to Robinhood Road.
 - The City of Winston-Salem requested \$810,030 for Winston-Salem Transit Authority (WSTA) Night, Saturday and Sunday Service. As well as \$64,462 for a Transit Accessibility Improvement Analysis.
- The Forsyth County Office of Environmental Assistance & Protection (FCOEAP) evaluated each project to determine the annual pollutant reduction in kilograms.
- The FCOEAP series of computer models that estimate the average emissions for different types of highway vehicles.
- The vehicle emission factors, projected number of vehicles a project will remove from the network, and dynamics are used to determine the annual emissions reduction.
- The projects are projected to yield an annual reduction in pollution ranging from 1,839.98 to 10,725.5 kilograms.
- The WSTA removed their application for their Transit Analysis freeing up \$64,462.
- Therefore, MPO staff recommends completing the funding of WSTA's Night, Saturday and Sunday services at \$58,000 and PART's Winston-Salem Express Saturday at \$6,462 service requested during FY 2018 CMAQ Call.
- This amount would completely fund the WSTA project and provide PART with a portion of the amount originally deducted to allow the complete funding of sidewalk projects.

At the TCC meeting it was determined PART would not be able to use the \$6,462 in funding, so the table will be revised and staff will re-evaluate other options for those funds.

MOTION: Dan Besse moved approval.

SECOND: Denise Adams.

VOTE:

FOR: Unanimous

AGAINST: None

4. Consideration of the WSMPO Prioritization 5.0 Local Point Assignment Methodology and Schedule

Presented by Kelly Garvin.

- Kelly distributed a revised resolution.
- The State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) identifies the construction funding for and scheduling of transportation projects at the state level over a 10-year period.
- The North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) proactively updates the STIP every two years to ensure it accurately reflects the state's current financial situation.

- The Strategic Transportation Investments law mandates ongoing evaluation and improvement to ensure the process continues to be responsive to North Carolina's diverse needs.
- This is accomplished through what is known as the strategic prioritization process. The strategic prioritization process 5.0 began in summer 2017 when NCDOT and local planning organizations asked for public feedback on and later submitted projects to be evaluated for the 2020-2029 STIP.
- P5.0 involves three evaluation processes:
 - 1) a data driven, quantitatively scored estimate of project need provided by the NCDOT Strategic Prioritization Division,
 - 2) the MPO priority score, and
 - 3) the NCDOT Division priority score.
- Further, the MPO priority score must meet the requirements of Session Law 2012-84 (Senate Bill 890) that states “The Department shall develop a process for standardizing or approving local methodology used in Metropolitan Planning Organization and Rural Transportation Planning Organization prioritization.”
- The Prioritization 5.0 Evaluation Criteria and Point Assignment Process for the Winston-Salem Urban Area MPO Process uses many of the quantitative criteria established in 1996 for the MPO’s Needs process along with qualitative criteria to provide flexibility for MPO local ranking based on community goals and public input.
- The MPO draft Prioritization 5.0 Evaluation Criteria and Point Assignment Process was submitted to the NCDOT Strategic Prioritization Division for review.
- The NCDOT will release the preliminary scores for projects it evaluated for the 2020-2029 STIP.
- Projects that are evaluated and will receive a preliminary score include:
 - Projects in the last five years of the 2018-2027.
 - Projects submitted as part of the development of the 2018-2027 STIP but were not funded.
 - New projects that local planning organizations and NCDOT division submitted in summer 2017.

A discussion ensued regarding the local point assignment.

MOTION: Denise Adams moved approval.

SECOND: Regina Streed.

VOTE:

FOR: Unanimous

AGAINST: None

5. Consideration of Amendments and Modifications to the Fiscal Year 2018-2027 Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program (MTIP)

Presented by Byron Brown.

- Bryon distributed a revised page 1 of the proposed Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program (MTIP) Amendments and Modifications to the committee.

- The Fiscal Year 2018-2027 MTIP is a comprehensive listing of all transportation projects programmed for the Winston-Salem Urban Area and must be a subset of the Winston-Salem Urban Area 2040 Metropolitan Transportation Plan Update (MTP) and match the 2018-2027 State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP).
- The FY 2018-2027 MTIP was adopted by the TAC on November 16, 2017.
- The North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) regularly updates the STIP to include new projects and modify existing projects.
- Any STIP amendment for new statewide projects or projects within the Winston-Salem Urban Area MPO triggers the amendment of the MTIP.
- Modifications to the STIP do not require adoption but are provided for information.
- As required by the MPO's Public Participation Policy, the amendments and modifications to the FY 2018-2027 MTIP were available for public review and comment for at least 30 days from January 1 through February 1, 2018.
- No comments were received during the public input period.

Byron noted that Hillsdale had been removed from the map per request from the committee.

MOTION: Fleming El-Amin moved approval.

SECOND: Denise Adams.

VOTE:

FOR: Unanimous

AGAINST: None

6. Consideration of the Self-Certification of the MPO's Transportation Planning Process for the Winston-Salem Urban Area MPO

Presented by Fredrick Haith.

- The federal Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (MAP-21) requires the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) and all Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs) in the state to annually certify to the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) that their transportation planning processes are addressing the major issues of the urban area and are being conducted in accordance with all applicable provisions of federal law.
- To guide this self-certification process, NCDOT has provided a checklist.
- Staff has reviewed the checklist and provided a response to each of the items.
- Staff believes the Winston-Salem Urban Area MPO transportation planning process is adequately addressing the major issues of the urban area and is being conducted in accordance with all applicable provisions of federal law governing transportation planning.
- Also, in the fall of 2016, the FHWA and FTA conducted a formal review of the Winston-Salem Urban Area MPO's transportation planning process, and found that the process is being carried out in substantial compliance.

MOTION: Denise Adams moved approval.

SECOND: Regina Streed.

VOTE:

FOR: Unanimous

AGAINST: None

7. Consideration of the Draft Fiscal Year 2018-2019 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)

Presented by Fredrick Haith.

- Each year the Winston-Salem Urban Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) is required to develop and approve a Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) for transportation planning.
- The UPWP identifies what transportation planning projects and work tasks will be completed during the fiscal year and the estimated amount of Federal and State highway and transit planning funds that will be used to complete the work, plus the required local matches.
- The UPWP consists of three major parts:
 1. Table 1, a Funding Sources Table;
 2. Table 2, a Narrative Task Table; and
 3. Table 6 a Five Year Planning Calendar for the MPO.
- Tables 3, 4 and 5 contain supplemental funding information as required by the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) Public Transportation Division (PTD) for the use of Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Section 5303 transit planning funds.
- The draft UPWP was submitted to NCDOT.
- No comments have been received.

A discussion ensued regarding Transit System Data.

MOTION: Allen Joines moved approval.

SECOND: Denise Adams.

VOTE:

FOR: Unanimous

AGAINST: None

Information for Future Action Items

8. Review of the 2018 Surface Transportation Direct Attributable (STP-DA) Call for Projects

Presented by Kelly Garvin.

- Kelly distributed a handout for the pedestrian improvement projects recommended and not recommended for funding, a handout for the public transit, intersection improvements, small roadways and studies recommended and not recommended for funding and a recommendation by ranking map.

- The United States Census defines urbanized areas with a population over 200,000 as Transportation Management Areas (TMAs).
- The Winston-Salem Urban Area was designated as a TMA after the 2000 U.S. Census. As a TMA, the Winston-Salem Urban Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) has the authority to program available STP-DA and TAP-DA funds (Federal Funding) for transportation planning, bicycle, greenway, sidewalk, street and highway, transit and other projects in the urban area.
- On February 15, 2018, the Winston-Salem Urban Area MPO staff recommended \$4,000,000 in federal funds for bicycle & pedestrian projects, \$2,000,000 in federal funds for greenways, \$1,000,000 in federal funds for Intersection Improvements, \$1,000,000 in federal funds for Small Roadway projects, \$800,000 in federal funds for the Winston-Salem Transit Authority (WSTA), \$200,000 in federal funds for the Piedmont Authority for Regional Transportation (PART), \$700,000 in federal funds for planning studies and \$1,000,000 in federal funds for reserve.
- The total amount of federal funds available was \$10,800,000.
- In January 2018, MPO communities submitted 19 bicycle & pedestrian projects, 4 greenway projects, 3 transit projects, 2 intersection improvement and 1 small roadway project, as well as 6 studies to be considered for funding.
- The total amount of federal funds requested is \$28,675,418.
- The projects were reviewed and evaluated by committees that included representatives from MPO communities, NCDOT, and other community organizations.

Alderman Jenny Fulton, representative from Kernersville, asked that Kernersville Community Development Director Jeff Hatling be allowed to read a statement on the South Main Street/Old Winston Road Improvements Project. Mr. Hatling read the following statement:

Winston-Salem Urban Area MPO, NCDOT, and Town of Kernersville have been working on addressing the safety and congestion issues on South Main Street and Old Winston Road since 2007. South Main Street serves as the regional commercial center for eastern Forsyth County, serving residents of Winston-Salem, Walkertown, Kernersville, and the unincorporated areas of Forsyth County. It has over 32,000 trips per day of traffic and is one of the highest traffic accident areas in Forsyth County.

In 2012, the MPO approved \$2,000,000 of STP-DA funds to the Town for South Main Street and Old Winston Road improvements. After completion of a detailed traffic study in 2013, NCDOT requested that they undertake the project with an additional contribution of \$2,500,000 of NCDOT traffic safety funds. Based on NCDOT cost estimates, the MPO awarded \$3,832,943 of STP-DA funds in 2014, with a Town match of \$958,236.

At the time of NCDOT awarding the contract, NCDOT determined that their original cost estimates were low. In early 2017, staff from the MPO, NCDOT, and Town of Kernersville met to review the new cost estimates. MPO staff encouraged the Town to submit for additional STP-DA funds in the 2018 call for projects.

The Town of Kernersville submitted an STP-DA application requesting \$515,210 of additional funds. The submitted application for the South Main Street/ Old Winston Road improvements was the only STP-DA Small Roadways project submitted.

MPO staff informed Town of Kernersville staff this week that the MPO STP-DA committee is not recommending the project be awarded since the project has already started. The Town of Kernersville feels it would be a damaging public policy if the MPO, after 11 years of being a partner with NCDOT and Town of Kernersville decides to pull out of the partnership with NCDOT and Town of Kernersville.

The Town feels confident the other MPO jurisdictions would also object if the MPO took a policy stance of not continuing a partnership in road improvement projects when difficulties arise.

- *STP-DA funds are about funding transportation projects, and encouraging local governments to also financial contribute funds.*
- *Since 2000, Kernersville has undertaken over \$20,000,000 of NCDOT road improvements in eastern Forsyth County.*
- *If the MPO undertook the policy not to continue a partnership through the completion of a project, it would discourage local governments from future involvement with improving the NCDOT road network.*

A lengthy discussion ensued regarding the history of the Kernersville project. It was noted that the project was the only project submitted in the small roadways category. The project is also needed due to safety issues.

A lengthy discussion ensued regarding changing the MPO's policy that project cost overages are the jurisdiction's responsibility.

Denise Adams requested information on the criteria used to complete scoring of projects. A list of the members on the evaluation panel was also requested.

The committee requested staff bring the item back with options for funding the Kernersville project (including what projects would have to be unfunded).

9. Review of the 2040 Metropolitan Transportation Plan Federal Compliance Amendment

Presented by Evan Koff.

- The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and Federal Transit Administration (FTA) regulations for transportation and transit planning within an urbanized area were updated in 2015 by Public Law 114-94: "Fixing America's Surface Transportation" (FAST) Act.
- Those requirements are found in Title 23 of the Code of Federal Regulations from Section 450.306 through Section 450.326.
- In order for the WSMPO to stay federally compliant with the above FHWA/FTA final rule, an additional appendix must be inserted into the Winston-Salem Urban Area

Metropolitan Planning Organization's (WSMPO) Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) with amendments that correspond to 23 CFR 450.306-326.

- This appendix as per our Public Participation Policy will be on display and available for public review and comment for thirty days.
- All comments and feedback from the public review period will be presented at the May 17, 2018 Transportation Advisory Committee meeting.
- The appendix item reflects the applicable amendments for the WSMPO 2040 MTP.
- These amendments include transportation planning policy with regards to: managing transportation system resilience and reliability; enhancing access for travel and tourism; the adoption of current and future performance measures and targets for both streets/highway and transit; updates to the public participation policy; agency coordination regarding travel/tourism and natural disaster risk reduction; updates to the Congestion Management Plan; the consideration of intercity bus service; the process of reporting and evaluating performance measures and targets; the process of scenario planning; and the anticipated effect of the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) on achieving performance measures and targets.
- These amendments to the WSMPO 2040 MTP will be expanded upon and fully integrated into the next update of the MTP, which has an expected date of completion in 2019.

Information Items

Staff Reports (Presentation by Staff at Request of TAC Only)

10. MPO Staff Reports

a. NCDOT Division 9 Transportation Projects Update

No questions for staff.

b. NCDOT Transportation Planning Update

No questions for staff.

c. Forsyth County OEAP Air Quality Update

No questions for staff.

d. Bicycle and Pedestrian Facilities Projects Update

No questions for staff.

e. Winston-Salem Transit Authority (WSTA) Update

No questions for staff.

f. Piedmont Authority for Regional Transportation (PART) Update

No questions for staff.

g. Title VI Compliance Update

No questions for staff.

h. MPO Calendar of Activities

No questions for staff.

i. Legislative Update

No questions for staff.

j. Ethics Liaison

- April 16 is the submittal deadline for required State Ethics forms.

11. Next Meeting/Adjourn Meeting

- The next TAC meeting will be May 17, 2018.

ADJOURNMENT 5:41 pm.