



November 18, 2014

10:00 AM

Onslow County Government Multi-Purpose Building
4024 Richlands Highway, Jacksonville, NC 28540

Technical Coordinating Committee (TCC) Agenda

TCC Members in Attendance:

Don Baumgardner	Jessica Fiester	Gene Foxworth (by phone)
Shirley Powell	Scott Sherrill	Jim Jennings
Peggy Holland	Tim Richards	Stephanie Ayers
Jeff Cabaniss	Patrick Riddle	Nazia Sarder

Staff in Attendance:

Patrick Flanagan
Nan Holton

Guests in Attendance:

Angela Christian

14. Call to Order

Don Baumgardner, Chairman TCC, called the meeting to order.

15. Public Comment Period

There were no public comments.

16. ACTION: August 19, 2014 Minutes

Minutes of the August 19, 2014 meetings were presented for approval.

Motion was made by Jessica Fiester to approve the minutes as submitted for August 19, 2014 DERPO TCC meeting; seconded by Tim Richards; and unanimously approved.

At this time, because Gene Foxworth was on the phone, it was decided to skip forward to the other Action items on the agenda

17. ACTION: DERPO CTP Study Needs List

This is our annual priority list of CTP studies we want done in our area. We need to decide what order we would like our plans to be completed in and submit that list to NCDOT TPB for consideration.

Patrick Flanagan referred everyone to the spreadsheet included in their packet, and explained the logic behind the ordering of the CTP's as presented. Since Jones County CTP has already started, it was removed from the list, and the others were moved up.

Motion was made by Tim Richards, to accept the CTP Study priorities as presented; seconded by Scott Sherrill; and unanimously approved.

18. ACTION: Town of Newport Bicycle and Pedestrian Planning Grant Application Resolution

The Town of Newport is applying for a grant from NCDOT Bike/Ped. to do a bicycle and pedestrian plan for their area. They are requesting a resolution of support from the Down East RPO to include in their application.

Patrick presented this action item to the TCC and indicated they had received both city and county approval and were seeking a resolution from this board.

Motion was made by Jessica Fiester, for the DERPO to provide them with a resolution of support; seconded by Scott Sherrill; and unanimously approved.

19. ACTION: Town of Oriental Bicycle and Pedestrian Planning Grant Application Resolution

The Town of Oriental is applying for a grant from NCDOT Bike/Ped. to do a bicycle and pedestrian plan for their area. They are requesting a resolution of support from the Down East RPO to include in their application.

Patrick informed the TCC that Oriental was also in this process; and indicated they had received both city and county approval and were seeking a resolution from this board for the same reasons as the Town of Newport.

Motion was made by Stephanie Ayers, for the DERPO to provide them with a resolution of support; seconded by Jessica Fiester; and unanimously approved.

Gene Foxworth left the meeting via phone at this time.

20. Staff Report

Patrick thanked Tim Richards for providing them with the opportunity to meet in the Onslow County Government Building in 2014. He stated that the DERPO TCC would be meeting at the Human Services Building in Alliance in 2015. He referred them to the dates printed in their agenda and encouraged them to mark their calendars.

- b. 2015 Meeting Schedule: Human Services 800 Main St. Alliance, NC 28509 10:00–11:30 a.m.
 - i. January 27, 2015
 - ii. March 24, 2015
 - iii. May 26, 2015
 - iv. July 28, 2015
 - v. September 22, 2015
 - vi. November 24, 2015

21. Standing Committee, Commission, and Association Reports

a. Highway 17 Association Update

Marc Finlayson was not present, but a handout was provided.

b. **Highway 70 Commission Update**

Don Baumgardner reported that the most notable topic was the completion of the bypass around Goldsboro in 2015. He also indicated that a new consultant to deal with the congestion in the James City area has been hired. The Highway 70 Commission is slated to meet again on December 4th in Smithfield. There were some remarks made regarding the funding and how the draft documents being released in December will dictate future discussions; and the fact that the environmental issues have a shelf life. It was also pointed out that they need a new Chairperson.

Shirley Powell inquired about the Havelock bypass. Don indicated that they did talk about the interchange going into military facility, but that had slipped somewhat, due to the military. It would still remain as a project to be funded, even though it did not meet the cutoff date. There are also some concerns about environmental lawsuits.

c. **Eastern NC MPO/RPO Coalition Update** *Patrick Flanagan*

Patrick reported that the Eastern NC MPO/RPO Coalition is slated to meet on December 9th at 10:00 am in the Jacksonville City Hall and it is open to those who want to attend. They are waiting for the draft STP to be released. He indicated that the TAC was not providing a lot of widespread support, and it remains to be determined if they may disband.

Jim Jennings inquired as to why the TAC was not being supportive. Patrick indicated that they were disenfranchised with the STI laws and how they, as a group, could fit in and make an impact. There was extended discussion regarding the benefits of presenting a united regional front and thinking collectively. Also conversation was stimulated regarding the submission of small projects without a long range plan. Peggy Holland provided an overview regarding the process that MPO's have to go through and remarked that the Coalition is about the big picture and projects in one area can have a big impact in other areas as well. Without this group, there is a lack of continuity.

d. **Logistics Update** *Stephanie Ayers*

Stephanie reported that currently there is movement of girders through the Port of Morehead to support the Tappan Zee Bridge leaving from the area. The structures are being manufactured in Greensboro. The first shipment left last week on a barge and there will a lot more.

Jim Jennings asked about the wood pallet project. Stephanie indicated it was going well, with wood pallet facilities being developed in both Wilmington and Morehead City. The one in Wilmington is expected to be in construction first.

e. **Transit Update** *Carol Long, Rosann Christian & Randy Cantor*

No one from Transit was available to make a report. Patrick provided their contact information to the group.

22. NCDOT Division Reports

d. **Division 2:** *Jeff Cabaniss*

Jeff provided the group with a handout outlining the ongoing projects in Craven, Carteret, Pamlico and Jones Counties.

- In Craven County, the resurfacing project in front of the hospital has run into a snag because there was not a permit to work near the railroad track and now the weather is slowing it down.
- In Carteret County, the work continues on Gallant's Channel. They did have some problems driving the piles, so they had to stop and are in the process of redrawing the template.

- In Pamlico County, there is a bridge replacement project right outside of Bayboro which requires some resurfacing, so there will be a detour while that is going on.
- In Jones County, the two Hwy. 17 projects will be Let in June, 2015. Don Baumgardner said he had heard there was a delay on these projects due to something with the railroad. Jeff stated he had not heard that, but would follow-up.

Shirley Powell inquired regarding the James City project and the fact that a consultant had been hired, as she recalled that the design work had already been done. Don explained that the local citizens and business owners were not in support of that design, and had turned out in large numbers when the first consultant made his presentation. Because of this, it is being started over. The new consultant plans on getting more community involvement, so will get more support along the way. It was reported that the funding is there to match the needs.

Shirley also inquired regarding the contract between Morehead City and the DOT to do the maintenance along Arendell. Jeff was not sure if that had gone through yet and said he would follow up. Stephanie Ayers requested to be copied on that email.

e. Planning Branch: *Nazia Sarder*

Craven County CTP Update

- The MPO Coordinator left a few weeks ago and that job has been posted and accepting applications. The model is being done by the CTP model we have now. The MPO will hire a private consultant once the basic calibrations are complete. They are hopeful the model will be completed by mid-2015.

Onslow County CTP Update

- As you know, the City of Jacksonville is developing a model which includes the whole county. The basic calibration has been completed for the Jacksonville model and Nazia is currently working on the future application. They are hopeful this model will be completed early 2015.

Jones County CTP Update

- They had their 3rd steering committee meeting on October 29th where they approved the CTP vision, survey, road network, and population/employment projection. This week the engineer will be meeting with the local officials for their endorsements.

Carteret County CTP Update:

- They are in the close out phase with minor changes to be made from public feedback. It is hopeful the final document will be sent out for reproduction once these changes are completed next week.

Patrick Flanagan requested that once the corrections are made on the Carteret County CTP that they will be sent out for review.

In regards to Carteret County, Stephanie Ayers inquired as to when the CTP would need to be done again. Nazia stated that it is typically every five years, but that she knows some CTP's never close out and amendments starts. Stephanie remarked that some of the material was written so long ago that it has become overcome by events. Patrick indicated that with the changes that have occurred, that an amendment could be written anytime, but would imagine they would wait for the other 2 to be completed.

f. Division 3: *Patrick Riddle*

- Patrick indicated that had no report at this time, but would send it electronically. He did say that all projects are moving along.

23. NCDOT Strategic Transportation Corridors Update

NCDOT is updating the Strategic Highway Corridors plan to include alternate modes of transportation and reevaluate the included corridors. This document will be used for planning purposes and is not related to STI or SPOT. Patrick Flanagan gave a brief slide presentation and provided 2 handouts on the Eastern and Coastal Regions. He emphasized that this is not identifying projects, but strictly a planning tool with no funding behind it; just reviewing the corridors as a result of the 2040 Plan. Public comments end on December 2nd. A comment was made regarding the trucking traffic map system ending before the ports. Patrick said he would follow up on that.

24. NCDOT Comprehensive State Rail Plan Update

NCDOT Rail Division has been tasked with developing a plan for the statewide rail system. Patrick did another power point presentation reviewing this plan. Government agencies, railroad entities, and industries came together to come up with the stakeholders and data needed in this process. He went over their recommendations, freight trends and plans, and the passenger trends and plans and their prioritizations of these.

Patrick said he had asked the 2 entities developing these plans, how they were incorporating these rail plans into the corridors plan. He stated they're waiting for the rail plan to finish, but they are talking to each other. They will revisit when both of these plans are completed.

Don inquired about railroads not being able to participate in the STI to get funding. Patrick related that the RR projects through the STI stop at the Port property. It is a problem for the STI legislation as the Port is not eligible for improvements.

Stephanie Ayers indicated that they had made comments already. It was agreed that the TCC would also submit a comment regarding coordinating these two plans for consistency's sake, and use Stephanie's language as a means to do so.

Jim Jennings remarked that on the slide showing Amtrak running from Morehead to Wilson, that Lejeune was out there all by itself and not reflected as being connected to this system. Patrick noted this and said he would seek information as to why it was not reflected on their map system.

25. Other Business

There was no other business.

26. Adjournment

Don Baumgardner adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,


Don Baumgardner, DERPO TCC Chair


Patrick Flanagan, DERPO Secretary