



December 2nd, 2014

10:00 AM

Eastern Carolina Council

233 Middle Street, 3rd Floor Conference Room, O. Marks Building, New Bern, NC

Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC) Agenda

1. **Call to Order** – *Trace Cooper, Chair TAC*
2. **Public Comment Period**
3. **ACTION: August 21, 2014 Minutes**
Minutes of the August 21st meeting are attached and presented for approval.

ACTION: Approval of TAC meeting minutes

4. **Meeting Schedule**
 - a. 2015 Meeting Schedule 10:00–11:30 a.m.
 - i. January 29, 2015
 - ii. March 26, 2015
 - iii. May 28, 2015
 - iv. July 30, 2015
 - v. September 24, 2015
 - vi. November 26, 2015

DERPO Staff Report

5. **Standing Committee, Commission, and Association Reports**
Reviews of area committees and commissions that affect our area such as the Highway 17 Association and the Highway 70 Commission.

NCDOT Staff Reports

Division 2: Jeff Cabaniss
Division 3: Patrick Riddle
Transportation Planning Branch: Nazia Sarder

ACTION Items

6. **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.

ACTION: Approve rank order of CTP studies requested

7. 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.

ACTION: Approve the resolution to support Newport's planning grant application

8. 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.

ACTION: Approve the resolution to support Oriental's planning grant application

9. 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. We will review their draft plan and comment if necessary

10. NCDOT Comprehensive State Rail Plan Update

NCDOT Rail Division has been tasked with developing a plan for the statewide rail system. We will review their draft plan and comment if necessary.

11. Driveway Permitting Discussion

David Sawyer, the Assistant District Engineer, will talk with us about the driveway permitting process and what NCDOT reviews when considering a driveway permit.

12. Project Litigation Discussion

We will discuss the history of NCDOT and the environmental permitting process and how outside agencies can influence that process and project delivery times.

13. Other Business

14. Adjournment



August 21, 2014

10:00 AM

2nd Floor Conference Room, O'Marks Building
233 Middle Street, New Bern, NC 28560

Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC) Agenda

TCC Members in Attendance:

Trace Cooper	Johnnie Sampson	Robin Comer
Chad Braxton (phone)	Josh Potter	Christine Mele
Beshad Norowzi	Maurizia Chapman	

Staff in Attendance:

Patrick Flanagan	Nan Holton
------------------	------------

Guests in Attendance:

Chad Strawn (for Don Baumgardner)

15. Call to Order

Trace Cooper, Chairman TAC, called the meeting to order and then read the Ethics Awareness & Conflict of Interest Reminder. It was determined there were no conflicts among attendees. Patrick Flanagan explained the Ethics applications that the members had filled out and how they are reviewed; and indicated that TAC members could anticipate a letter as a result.

16. Public Comment Period

There were no public comments.

17. ACTION: July 10, 2014 Minutes

Minutes of the July 10th, 2014 meetings were presented for approval.

Motion was made by Johnnie Sampson to approve the minutes as submitted for the July 10, 2014 DERPO TAC meeting; seconded by Christine Mele; and unanimously approved.

18. Staff Report-Patrick Flanagan

2014 Meeting Schedule 10:00–11:30 a.m.

- September 25, 2014
- November 20, 2014

Patrick indicated they may not need to meet on both dates, but to reserve them at this time. Two items that could be scheduled include a presentation on the request for driveway permitting, and a PWP amendment due to the Carteret County feasibility study.

19. Standing Committee, Commission, and Association Reports

➤ **Croatan Regional Bike Plan**

Patrick indicated that upon the completion of this project and receiving an award for it, that there would be no need for future updates.

➤ **Highway 17 Association Update**

Patrick reported that Marc Finlayson did not have an update, but the economic study had been completed.

➤ **Highway 70 Commission Update**

Patrick commented that their economic study had also been completed and reminded the group that Robin Comer serves as the Chairman of this Commission, so they can refer their questions and comments directly to him.

➤ **Eastern NC MPO/RPO Coalition Update**

Patrick informed the group that they are currently just waiting for the STI to be over and then the MPO/RPO Coalition will be sitting down together to discuss everyone's methodology and what worked and what didn't.

➤ **Logistics Update**

There was no update.

➤ **Transit Update**

Patrick reported that Rosann Christian has been hired as the new CARTS Director. Since New Bern is an MPO and will be creating an urban transportation plan, she and Maurizia Chapman will be working closely together on this.

20. NCDOT Division Reports

➤ **Division 2:**

Patrick referred the group to the Division 2 Handout that Jeff Cabaniss made available. Christine Mele made a point to thank Patrick and Jeff for coming to Pamlico County and riding the stretch of Hwy. 304 in need of repairs. There were remarks made regarding the shutdown of 2 lanes of traffic for the Gallants Bridge in Beaufort project and the resurfacing of Neuse Blvd. in New Bern.

➤ **Division 3:**

Patrick referred the group to the Division 3 Handout that Patrick Riddle made available.

21. Transportation Planning Branch

Carteret County CTP Update

Behshad Norowzi stated that Travis Marshall had met with the Carteret Co. group on August 13th and from the feedback collected in their Public Hearing, draft reports are being edited at this time. There is a meeting planned on September 8th to review these revisions.

Jones County CTP Update

Behshad reported that the engineer and the planner are in the process of selecting a steering committee. They are having their first meeting on August 27th.

Onslow County CTP Update

Behshad stated they have a model being developed and that Nazia Sarder is taking the MPO role to keep this model moving forward. Behshad commented on the numerous turnovers and the complications that creates, to which some discussion was initiated.

Craven County CTP Update

He reported the CTP is expected to start at the beginning of 2015. Regarding the New Bern model, the base tier estimation has been completed and they have started work on the validation calibration.

22. SPOT 3.0 Local Input Point Public Hearing

Robin Comer made the motion to open a public comment period on the SPOT Local Point Assignments, which was seconded by Johnnie Sampson and unanimously approved.

Christine Mele inquired as to how long it would take to be able to evaluate the new methodology and how it would be evaluated? Patrick responded that while 1 year is not long enough, that there should be some evidence if it is moving in the right direction and the coalition as a work group would be reviewing the statistical data and formulas to provide some sense of its' success. IT was felt that at least 2-3 years would provide a more solid basis to determine its feasibility.

Christine indicated she had spoken with 2 Jones County Commissioners and 1 Onslow County Commissioner regarding their participation in this process with no positive results evident.

Robin Comer informed the group that he had conversed with Governor McCrory at a recent meeting regarding the way that rural areas are negatively impacted by the state point system and was told that changes were being evaluated.

As there were no further public comments, Johnnie Sampson made the motion to close the public comment period on the SPOT Local Point Assignments, which was seconded by Christine Mele, and unanimously approved.

23. DERPO Local Input Point for SPOT 3.0 Projects

Patrick stated that this is the results of NCDOT SPOT scoring, the Down East RPO Local Input Point Methodology and public comments. We will review all comments submitted and adjust scores accordingly. These will be the final scores submitted to NCDOT prior to the August 29th deadline in SPOT Online.

Patrick Flanagan reminded the group that this was their last meeting and opportunity to score these projects, with 1300 points at the regional level and 1300 points at the division level. Patrick presented the group with the public hearing comments from the Carteret County Transportation Planning Committee and the changes they proposed. He indicated that heir primary focus was to support points by the Division Engineer to maximize the impact of our local points to show support for projects in our area. Christine Mele asked for clarification on the ferry projects and Patrick provided explanation and reasoning for the transference of those points.

Patrick informed them that the top page is the Regional projects which include statewide projects that did get funded. He focused them on the Total Points column, which is how the chart is sorted. He then explained the significance of the other columns.

Patrick then began going through the individual projects that received sharing points from other RPO's and MPO's to explain how the points were distributed and why. He explained the outcome of the TCC discussions regarding the 5 sections of Hwy. 17 projects and the creation of tiers with the Pamlico projects forming the 2nd tier, and also detailed the other changes that the TCC had suggested, along with their train of thought. Trace Cooper expressed confidence in the message that their rankings would send to the DOT. Upon inquiry from Christine Mele regarding the sharing of points with the ECRPO for the H090128-C project, Patrick gave background information to clarify that decision. Robin Comer inquired as to why the H11249 project is even on the list. Patrick shared that it would have to be discussed with the Global Transport Park in order to remove it, but it should eventually come off of the list.

Patrick moved over to the Division Projects spreadsheets. He stated that other than the Carteret County Planning Committees Public Hearing comments and changes regarding F13006 and F130013 they wanted that there were not many changes. He then went through the projects individually and highlighted that DERPO did not give any points to any bike or pedestrian project that did not provide local support. There was some discussion regarding the NC 58 big project (H140022) with it ultimately being agreed upon that it is better to resolve the problem in the long term rather than to just move the problem to another location on the island.

Trace and Robin expressed the importance of giving points to the Havelock Bypass rather than the Bridge Street extension. In placing 100 points on the Havelock Bypass project, there was discussion regarding where to cut back on those points. Maurizia reminded the group that they could only apply 85 points as it was only 85% in the area. After some discussion regarding their options, it was decided to remove 86 points from the Swansboro Loop project (H140067) to put 85 on the Havelock Bypass (H129124) and 1 point on the Miller Blvd. project (H090405).

Robin Comer made a motion to accept the DERPO SPOT Local Input Point for SPOT 3.0 Projects; Josh Potter seconded the motion; and it was unanimously approved.

24. Other Business

Patrick thanked everyone for going through this process and expressed appreciation for their interest, their feedback and their commitment. Trace remarked that so many projects have been on our lists for so many years that by focusing on what the area need provides us with projects that have a better chance to get funded. He also commented on how the Hwy. 17 and Hwy. 70 projects were a good example of the regional cooperation needed for rural areas.

Patrick referred everyone to the NC DOT handout regarding the Merger Process. He indicated he is serving on this committee and outlined the process by which the various agencies would walk through each project and sign off on each phase.

Discussion was stimulated over the Southern Environmental Law Center and how they hinder projects at great cost to the NC DOT program, but with no consequences. It was suggested that the NC COGS and RPO's unite to voice strength in making changes on this front.

25. Adjournment

Trace Cooper Adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,

Trace Cooper, DERPO TAC Chair

Patrick Flanagan, DERPO Secretary

CTP STUDY NEEDS SPREADSHEET - 2014

RPO	Down East
Contact	Patrick Flanagan

YEAR	2014
# OF REQUESTS	1

IMPORTANT!!! DO NOT REQUEST / LIST AREAS THAT WILL NOT, OR CAN NOT, MEET LAND DEVELOPMENT CRITERIA OR STUDIES THAT ARE UNDERWAY OR CANNOT MEET WITHIN 6 WEEKS

CTP REQUEST	COUNTY	RPO	TPB GROUP	CTP Committee Established	Land Devel. Plan Date	RPO POINTS								PROJECTS ON CURRENT STIP			LAST STUDY DATE		COUNTY POPULATION GROWTH			VMT GROWTH	TOTALS		
						RPO REQUEST PRIORITY	RPO PRIORITY POINTS	BIKE PLAN	PED PLAN	UNIFIED PLAN	# NEW LOCATION SECTIONS	# MILES ADDIT'L LANES	TOTAL	LAST STUDY DATE	2000-2010 GROWTH	2010-2020 GROWTH	2009-13 GROWTH								
Onslow County	ONSLow	Down East	Northeast	No	2009	1	5	No	0	No	0	Yes	5	0	0	0	pre-1995	20	Medium	6	High	10	6.09%	20	66
Craven County	CRAVEN	Down East	Northeast	No	2009	2	4	No	0	No	0	Yes	5	3	20	20	pre-1995	20	Medium	6	Medium	6	1.66%	10	71
City of Havelock	CRAVEN	Down East	Northeast	No	2009	3	3	Yes	5	Yes	5	No	0	1	8	12	pre-1995	20	Medium	6	Medium	6	1.66%	10	67
Carteret County	CARTERET	Down East	Northeast	No	2009	4	2	No	0	No	0	Yes	5	2	10	20	2013	1	Low	3	Medium	6	-0.37%	0	37
		-	-	Yes	2010	5	1	No	0	No	0	No	0	0	0	0	2014	0	-	0	-	0	-	0	1
		-	-	Yes	2010	6	0	No	0	No	0	No	0	0	0	0	2014	0	-	0	-	0	-	0	0
		-	-	Yes	2010	7	0	No	0	No	0	No	0	0	0	0	2014	0	-	0	-	0	-	0	0
		-	-	Yes	2010	8	0	No	0	No	0	No	0	0	0	0	2014	0	-	0	-	0	-	0	0
		-	-	Yes	2010	9	0	No	0	No	0	No	0	0	0	0	2014	0	-	0	-	0	-	0	0
		-	-	Yes	2010	10	0	No	0	No	0	No	0	0	0	0	2014	0	-	0	-	0	-	0	0
MAXIMUM POINTS						5	5	5	5	5	5	5	20	20	20	20	20	10	10	20	20	100			

DIRECTIONS ON HOW TO USE THIS WORKSHEET - DO NOT USE LAST YEAR'S SPREADSHEET

- 1) Fill in or choose appropriate answer to all boxes in **YELLOW**. The comments box below is optional.
 - 2) Save the excel file to your computer as an EXCEL spreadsheet. DO NOT SEND IT AS A PDF FILE.
 - 3) Attach the excel file in an e-mail to your TPB Coordinator AND Travis Marshall by December 31, 2014
 - 4) If you have NO requests to submit, please let your TPB Coordinator and Travis know by e-mail by December 31, 2014
- SUBMISSIONS E-MAILED AFTER DECEMBER 31, 2014 WILL NOT BE RANKED.**

Current (LIVE) STIP

<http://invurl.com/live-stip>



**RESOLUTION BY THE DOWN EAST RPO
IN SUPPORT OF NCDOT BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN PLANNING GRANT APPLICATION**

WHEREAS, The Down East Rural Planning Organization (DERPO) consists of Carteret, Craven, Jones, Onslow, and Pamlico counties and serves to provide a forum for public participation in the transportation planning process and provide transportation-related planning and information to its member governments; and

WHEREAS, the North Carolina Department of Transportation has established a Bicycle and Pedestrian Planning Grant Initiative which provides funding to projects that will result in a local bicycle or pedestrian transportation plan; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Newport has decided to apply for funding from the Department of Transportation for a Municipal Joint Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Newport has requested the endorsement of the Rural Planning Organization serving the Town of Newport; and

WHEREAS, the Transportation Advisory Committee of the Down East RPO feels it to be in the best interest of the region to endorse the application for these funds and the completion of a Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan for the town;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Transportation Advisory Committee of the Down East Rural Planning Organization that it hereby endorses the application by the Town of Newport.

ADOPTED this the 2nd day of December 2014

Trace Cooper TAC Chair, DERPO

Patrick Flanagan, DERPO Planner



**RESOLUTION BY THE DOWN EAST RPO
IN SUPPORT OF NCDOT BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN PLANNING GRANT APPLICATION**

WHEREAS, The Down East Rural Planning Organization (DERPO) consists of Carteret, Craven, Jones, Onslow, and Pamlico counties and serves to provide a forum for public participation in the transportation planning process and provide transportation-related planning and information to its member governments; and

WHEREAS, the North Carolina Department of Transportation has established a Bicycle and Pedestrian Planning Grant Initiative which provides funding to projects that will result in a local bicycle or pedestrian transportation plan; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Oriental has decided to apply for funding from the Department of Transportation for a Municipal Joint Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Oriental has requested the endorsement of the Rural Planning Organization serving the Town of Oriental; and

WHEREAS, the Transportation Advisory Committee of the Down East RPO feels it to be in the best interest of the region to endorse the application for these funds and the completion of a Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan for the town;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Transportation Advisory Committee of the Down East Rural Planning Organization that it hereby endorses the application by the Town of Oriental.

ADOPTED this the 2nd day of December 2014

Trace Cooper TAC Chair, DERPO

Patrick Flanagan, DERPO Planner