



September 25, 2013

TCC Meeting

**Jones County Civic Center
832 Highway 58 South
Trenton, NC**

TCC Members in Attendance:

Jim Jennings	Shirley Powell	Pat Smith	Scott Sherrill
Linda Staab	Chris Seaberg	Jessica Fiester	Don Baumgardner
Terry Jordan	Franky Howard	Tim Richards	Tim Buck
Jeff Cabaniss	Patrick Riddle	Saeed Mohamed	Stephanie Ayers
Peggy Holland			

Staff in Attendance:

Patrick Flanagan Rob Will Lauren Tuttle Jodi Laird

1. Call to Order

Linda Staab, Technical Coordinating Committee (TCC) Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:08 a.m. It was determined there was a quorum.

2. Public Comment Period

There were no public comments.

3. Action: May 28, 2013 & June 25, 2013 Minutes

Scott Sherrill requested that his name be corrected in the June minutes.

Motion was made by Scott Sherrill to approve the minutes as submitted for the May 28, 2013 and the June 25, 2013 Down East Rural Planning Transportation Organization (DERPO) TCC meeting, seconded by Tim Richards, and unanimously approved.

4. Staff Report

The next DERPO Meeting will be Nov. 19 at the Jones County Civic Center. Tentatively the DERPO TCC meetings will be held in Onslow County for next calendar year.

5. Standing Committee, Commission, and Association Reports

a. Croatan Regional Bike Plan – Rob Will

Rob will be passing out the Bike Plan brochures to anyone interested. There will be a meeting next week to go over the draft plan for the Regional Trails Plan and the Regional Bicycle Plan, as well as, go over strategies for adoption. We distributed brochures at the MS Bike Ride and we have had positive feedback from this event as well as locally.

b. Highway 17 Association Update – *Marc Finlayson*

Marc Finlayson was unable to make this meeting but his status report was printed and available to the committee. Marc will be at the next meeting to report on the Economic Study for Hwy 17.

c. Highway 70 Commission Update – *Patrick Flanagan*

During their last meeting, they were in the process of trying to formalize and adopt a set of bylaws and finalize a funding structure. They are also in the process of conducting an economic study similar to Hwy 17.

d. Eastern NC MPO/RPO Coalition Update – *Patrick Flanagan*

We have not had a meeting recently. There will be a staff meeting the first week of October to schedule our next meeting. Our main focus will be on the Strategic Mobility Formula and projects in the eastern part of North Carolina. We will discuss how we plan to balance the different modes with the highway criteria, and how the other modes will factor in. If you have any suggestions for the coalition please let us know.

e. Logistics Update – *Stephanie Ayers*

Newport Development is moving forward with a wood pallet facility in Morehead City. Due to protocols, we are trying to move to a more carbon neutral energy sources and in doing so, we are looking at wood pallets to use for fuel. This fits well with the state's strategy to partner with agriculture North Carolina products by importing and exporting through our ports.

We are almost finished with the new gate project. This gate is for security and it has been moved further into the terminal, which will allow for more truck lines so traffic doesn't back up on to Arundel Street. It also moves our main maritime building outside of our secured gate- (we have strict Coast Guard Security requirements who can and cannot be on our terminal). We have a lot of private companies and agencies that have offices in our buildings and so now people will not have to be escorted on and off the terminal and we can also start hosting public meeting as well. Patrick and I took a tour with DOT who they were interested in what our infrastructure needs were.

f. Transit Update –*Terry Jordan*

We were expecting a decrease in funding for the assistance program, however that did not happen. In fact many systems saw increases such as Craven, Jones, and Pamlico. Now we can provide additional services versus last fiscal year.

Non-Emergency medical transportation concern that was a major issue for transit systems throughout the state is now sort of a dead issue. It was determined that it was not receiving the best use of state funds. It could be brought up in the future. Brokerage could not do any better with any less.

Systems now have to register with Medicaid directly to enroll as providers of Medicaid services. NCDOT released a group of applications for those who provide transportation to the elderly/disabled. Transit travel from rural areas to semi urban areas. Applications are due in November.

6. NCDOT Division Reports

a. Division 2: *Jeff Cabaniss*

Handouts were submitted for Carteret, Craven, Jones, and Pamlico.

Carteret County

- We are waiting in anticipation for Gallant's Chanel Project- waiting on Coast Guard to give permit. Stephanie Ayers requested that if anyone receives information about the permit getting approved/disapproved to please distribute to the committee.
 - Looking at a safety project on US 70. We are trying to work that out.
 - Campen Rd project should be starting soon.
 - Nine foot Rd is 20% completed and soon as it is finished we have another contract to widen and pave the road.
- Craven County
- Work continues on the Ramp and Gantry to NC 306 (Cherry Branch Ferry)
- Jones County
- Rumbling strips on US 17 is presenting an issue with the bike community and we are trying to work this out.
 - Two projects that the state forces are working on. Neuse Rd is getting ready to widen and pave. Short Rd. is another project that is under way.

b. Division 3: Patrick Riddle

Handouts were submitted for Division 3 projects.

- No major updates.
- Question about the Strategic Mobility Formula for U-5508 and R-2514. Projects that predates July 2015 will go through normal channels, however the ride-away is in process of being done but the Let date is after July 2015. Trying to work something out where these projects are not delayed too long.

c. Planning Branch: Saeed Mohamed

- Carteret County CTP Update: The CTP's are in the hands of the upper management, Mike Bruff, and the board to review.
- Onslow County CTP Update: There is a change up in staff. In the process of hiring someone to take on the Onslow CTP, but we have no one at this time.
- New Bern County CTP Update: No major updates. We are re-advertising for MPO Planner position- the person selected declined after negotiations.

7. Strategic Mobility Formula Update

Patrick Flanagan provided a PowerPoint for a refresher on the STMF.

- Change in the local input percentages. Local Input of Regional will now be 20% Division/10% RPO. Same applies for Local Input for Division will now be 20% division engineer and 30% for MPOs and RPOs.
- Other modes will factor in: Beaufort Airport will come out of divisional money. They plan to start attending meeting and they have three projects they would like us to consider.
- Bike/Pedestrian will be at the divisional level.
- Public transit: If you serve two or more counties your project can be regional and single counties will start out divisional level.
- Ferries: Everything excluding vessel replacement will be a regional project and all the vessels will come out of divisional money.
- Rail: CSX will be state wide and if it spans two or more counties it will start out as a regional project and anything smaller than that will be a divisional project.

- Submitting projects: We can submit 10 highway projects a year and you get 1 extra project for every 100,000 in population. We can take up to five old projects out and replace with new highway projects if we like. They are taking all the old bike/ped projects out and we can submit up to 20 projects. No limit on the number of aviation projects. We can submit up to 10 ferry projects and 5 rail projects. There is no limit for public transit. All of the existing projects will be taken out and we have to submit all new projects.
- Patrick Flanagan suggested that the committee set up a sub committee to review old projects and submit new projects. Stephanie Ayers agreed. Members to volunteer on this committee: Patrick Riddle, Jeff Cabaniss, Don Baumgardner, Jim Jennings, Terry Jordan, and Tim Richards.
- All projects will be submitted in January and we will know what projects have been funded in May. We have to have a local prioritization methodology finished by May 30th – will decide which projects to submit. Local inputs points assigned by July 31 and the public comment period for the TIP will be Dec. 2014- May 2015.

8. NCDOT Maps of Statewide/Regional/Division Facilities

Lauren Tuttle presented two maps for the board to review at the end of the meeting.

- DOT released maps of each division that show which facilities start out at the statewide, regional, and divisional tiers. Please review maps for any oversight or anything that may need to be reclassified- all suggestion and comments must be submitted within two weeks (ltuttle@eccog.org).

9. Ferry Tolling Legislation

Patrick Flanagan discussed the new Ferry tolling legislation.

- There is new ferry tolling legislation that was rolled into the budget. Senate bill 402. This legislation says that all MPO/RPO's (that the ferry operates in) will decide if they want to toll their individual routes. TAC would have to approve a resolution that we want to toll a ferry. Tolls collected from that route will be put in a savings account to be used for replacing vessels on that route.
- DOT will hold public hearing to discuss tolling, as well as, the minimum and maximum toll costs.
- We do not have to take action if we do not want to toll. There is no time limit to act.
- Pat Smith suggested that if we had to support the ferry's (vessel replacement) could we put smaller amounts of money each year aside so that ferry's that need to be replaced every 10 years will not hurt other projects.
- Don Baumgardner suggested the committee appoint a subcommittee to meet with ferry people for further discussion.

10. Local Input Points Policy

Patrick Flanagan discussed the local input points.

- a. DOT requested all MPO/RPO submit how each assigned their local input points in the round of SPOT. We have to submit our process to DOT for approval.
- b. Patrick reviewed the SPOT methodology process for the DERPO (attached in agenda). This was not finalized due to the Accessibility Connectivity Criteria. We need to make this a little more specific when assigning the local input points.

- c. It was suggested that the subcommittee review and define methodology process by our November meeting. There was no action needed.

11. Feasibility Study Traffic Forecast Presentation

Saeed presented a PowerPoint presentation for informational purposes.

- a. Traffic forecast is a scientific guess on what the future traffic will be like based on historical studies and other elements.
- b. Traffic demand model are used on bigger projects (larger cities).
- c. Create a base model to replicate existing traffic patterns.
- d. Forecast request compare historic and model growth rates.
- e. When forecast is complete it goes to the supervisor for approval and then to the planning supervisor for finalization.
- f. This model can be used for many years only making minor changes to factors that may need to be reclassified.

12. Other Business

There was no other business to address at this time.

13. Adjournment

It was established that there was no further business, Chris Seaberg adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Staab, DERPO TCC Chair

Patrick Flanagan, DERPO Secretary