

**Brandi Robertson**  
TAC Chair

**Beth Bucksot**  
TCC Chair



**Chadwick Howard**  
TAC Vice-Chair

**Chad Strawn**  
TCC Vice-Chair

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## DERPO TAC Meeting, September 26<sup>th</sup>, 2023; 10:00am

### Attendance:

<b>Commissioner Brandi Robertson, Chair – Town of Arapahoe</b>	Becca Eversole – Eastern Carolina Council Senior Transportation Planner
<b>Commissioner Chadwick Howard – Vice-Chair, Craven County</b>	Len White – NCDOT Division 2 Planning Engineer
<b>Councilman Bill Taylor – Town of Morehead City</b>	Amanda Killian – NCDOT Transportation Planning Division
<b>Commissioner Candy Bohmert – Pamlico County</b>	Rohan Lahiji – NCDOT Division 2 Corridor Development Engineer
<b>Commissioner James Harper – Jones County</b>	Carlton Gideon – Eastern Carolina Council Senior Community Planner
<b>Merrie Jo Alcoke – NC Board of Transportation</b>	

### Minutes for TAC

**Call to Order** – Brandi Robertson, *Chair TAC opened the meeting at 10:03am.*

- 1. Ethics Awareness & Conflict of Interest Statement** – *no conflicts.*
- 2. Public Comment Period** – *no public comments.*
- 3. ACTION: Approval of Agenda**  
The agenda for today’s meeting was presented for approval.  
*A motion to approve the agenda was made by Bill Taylor, seconded by James Harper, and approved unanimously.*
- 4. ACTION: Approval of Minutes**  
Minutes of the July 25, 2023 meeting was presented for approval.  
*A motion to approve minutes from previous meeting was made by Candy Bohmert, seconded by Bill Taylor, and approved unanimously.*

5. **DERPO Staff Report – Becca Eversole**
  - a. Regional Transportation Summit – Ms. Eversole announced the ECC’s upcoming Regional Transportation Summit to be held at the Riverfront Convention Center in New Bern on October 19 from 9am-3pm. The theme of the event is “Investments in Transportation – A Driving Force in Economic Development.” There would be corridor and multimodal updates, a panel discussion on economic impacts from transportation investments, and a presentation on Wilson’s Microtransit program. The keynote speaker is the new N.C. Secretary of Transportation, Joey Hopkins. A link to register for this free event was shared as well.
  - b. Other DERPO Updates – DERPO would be hosting the NCARPO Quarterly Meeting in Atlantic Beach on October 28-29. Ms. Eversole also shared tentative TAC meeting dates for 2023 and 2024.
  
6. **NCDOT Reports**
  - a. Division 2 – Len White of NCDOT Division 2 gave updates on current projects underway in the DERPO region. The Havelock Bypass is 69% complete with an anticipated completion date of mid-2024. There is new drone footage of the bypass construction progress on the project website. The James City upgrades to US 70/Future I-42 is 37% complete with an anticipated completion date of mid-2025. The US 70 upgrade project to connect these two projects, U-5777C, is slated to begin construction in 2025 and take about 1.5 years to complete. The NC 43 Connector project in New Bern is also slated for construction in 2025. In Morehead City, an alternative should be selected for the Bridges St. Extension project by early 2024. A fall litter sweep will take place, and NCDOT spends approximately \$22m picking up trash. After Ms. Killian’s update below, Mr. Taylor asked Mr. White when the Emerald Isle and Atlantic Beach bridge projects would be completed, and Mr. White replied that they had been completed.
  - b. Transportation Planning Division – Amanda Killian of NCDOT TPD spoke of Craven County CTP’s adoption earlier that year, and that though there had been delays in the Carteret County CTP, a steering committee meeting would be scheduled soon.
  
7. **ACTION: Approve DERPO SPOT 7.0 Submittals - Becca Eversole**

Submittals for SPOT 7.0 were due at the end of October, and Ms. Eversole presented her draft list of submittals. She went into detail with the highway projects, showing preliminary cost estimates and a map/description of each project. There was a total of 19 highway submittals. She also shared the list of other mode submittals: 19 bike and pedestrian projects, seven aviation projects for Michael J. Smith Airport, three rail projects (plus two being submitted for the NCRR corridor by the Goldsboro MPO), and a total 16 ferry projects (though some shared projects would be submitted by the Albemarle RPO). A motion was made to adopt the submittal list by Candy Bohmert, seconded by James Harper, and approved unanimously.
  
6. **Other Business/Discussion – No further business or discussion.**
  
7. **Adjournment – Bill Taylor made a motion to adjourn, which was seconded by Candy Bohmert and approved unanimously. Chair Brandi Robertson then adjourned the meeting at 10:50am.**