

Meeting Agenda

RPO Technical Advisory Committee

June 28th, 2018 – 11:30 French Broad Room (Large) Conference Room

Land of Sky Regional Council

1. WELCOME AND HOUSEKEEPING

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| A. Welcome and Introductions | Charlie Landreth |
| B. Ethics Statement & Agenda Approval/Modifications | Charlie Landreth |

2. APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS TCC MEETING MINUTES

- | | |
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| Minutes from the RPO TAC March 22nd, 2018 Meeting | Charlie Landreth |
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3. PUBLIC COMMENT

4. LAND OF SKY RPO TAC BUSINESS Items

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|---|----------------|
| A. LOSRPO Prioritization 5.0 Public Outreach/Survey Results | Vicki Eastland |
| B. LOSRPO SPOT5.0 Local Input Points Regional Impact Tier | Vicki Eastland |
| C. Resolution to Remove or Reduce Bike/Ped Local Match | Vicki Eastland |
| D. City of Brevard BUILD Letter of Support | Vicki Eastland |

5. PUBLIC COMMENT

6. REGULAR UPDATES

- | | |
|---|-----------------------|
| A. NCDOT Division 13 and 14 updates | Jay Swain/Brian Burch |
| B. Transportation Planning Branch Updates | Daniel Sellers |
| C. Staff Updates and Housekeeping | Vicki Eastland |

7. ADJOURN LOSRPO MEETING

Brownie Newman

Next Meeting: September 27, 2018, 11:30 AM- Land of Sky French Broad (Large)
Conference Room

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Item 1B: Ethics Statement

ETHICS AWARENESS & CONFLICT OF INTEREST REMINDER

(To be read by the Chair or his or her designee at the beginning of each meeting)

In accordance with the State Government Ethics Act, it is the duty of every Board member to avoid conflicts of interest. Does any Board member have any known conflict of interest with respect to any matters coming before the Board today? If so, please identify the conflict and refrain from any participation in the particular matter involved.

2. APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES:



Land of Sky Rural Planning Organization
Technical Advisory Committee
Minutes – March 22, 2018

Attendees:

Brownie Newman
 Vicki Eastland
 Brendan Merithew
 Matt Wechtel

Michael Sorrells
 Zia Rifkin
 Ritchie Rozzelle
 Steve Williams

Brian Burch
 Charlie Landreth
 Nick Kroncke
 Chris Lee

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Chairman Newman called the meeting to order, welcomed attendees and requested introductions be made. He read the Ethics Statement, asked if there were any conflicts, and members responded that there were none.

APPROVAL OF TAC MINUTES

Matt Wechtel moved to approve the minutes from the February 22, 2018 LOSRPO TAC meeting. Charlie Landreth seconded and the motion carried without further discussion.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

No public comments.

BUSINESS

Adopt LOSRPO SPOT5.0 Scoring Methodology: Vicki Eastland shared that the TAC reviewed the SPOT5.0 Methodology at the February meeting. She communicated that

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it has been out for public review and comment and no comments have been received.

Charlie Landreth moved to approve the SPOT5.0 Methodology as presented. Matt Wechtel seconded and the motion carried without further discussion.

Draft LOSRPO FY 2018-2019 Planning Work Program (PWP): Vicki Eastland shared that the PWP is the LOSRPO's Fiscal Year 2018-2019 budget, which denotes the work that RPO staff will undertake during the relevant fiscal year. She noted that there have been some formatting changes to the document, which now includes the direct cost for the RPO to do business. For the most part, it is a continuation of ongoing RPO work. The Comprehensive Transportation plan (CTP) for Transylvania County should begin the end of this fiscal year or the beginning of next. Funding is also included for the RPO staff to be included on the MPO's CTP updates. Ongoing work with projects that are in the STIP are also included in the PWP. The TCC approved the PWP at the March meeting.

Michael Sorrells moved to approve the LOSRPO FY 2018-2019 Planning Work Program (PWP). Matt Wechtel seconded and the motion carried without further discussion.

LOSRPO TAC Officer Elections – Vicki Eastland shared that TAC Officer Elections are held every two years and that currently serving officers could serve another term. She communicated that due to an oversight on her part, Brownie Newman has been serving as Chair for three years and Michael Sorrells as Vice Chair for three years. Elections should be held every other year. Today, nominations are needed for the Chair and Vice Chair to continue for another year or to nominate other TAC members to serve. She clarified that if the current officers continue to serve, they would serve for the remainder of this fiscal year. If other TAC members are elected, they would serve for two years.

Charlie Landreth shared that he has an interest in serving as Chairman of the LOSRPO TAC. Brownie Newman nominated Charlie Landreth for the Chair. The motion was seconded by Matt Wechtel.

Michael Sorrells moved to nominate Matt Wechtel for the Vice Chair. Charlie Landreth seconded that motion.

The TAC reached consensus that the slate of officers would begin service at the June 2018 TAC meeting.

LOSRPO Prioritization 5.0 Public Outreach/Survey – Vicki Eastland shared that RPO, MPO and Transportation Demand Management (TDM) staff developed an interactive project map as well as surveys for each county for the projects submitted for

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prioritization in this round of SPOT. The map and surveys can be found on the LOSRPO website at <http://www.landofsky.org/rpo.html#spot>. She requested that TAC members distribute the link widely with interested parties in order to gain public comment on the proposed projects under consideration. Vicki Eastland brought the survey and map up on the projection screen and provided a demonstration of how those work. The desire with the survey is to get public input before local input points are assigned to help guide discussions when local input points are applied to projects. Thirty-six projects are included in the RPO's survey. The survey will be open until the end of April. Results will be shared with TCC/TAC.

Ritchie Rozzelle commented that all of the counties of the RPO and MPO planning regions would be on one webpage on the MPO's website, which will be hosted on the RPO's website through a link.

No action requested- informational only.

REGULAR UPDATES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Brendan Merithew provided Division 13 updates

Steve Williams provided Division 14 updates.

Daniel Sellers provided TPB updates.

Vicki Eastland provided staff updates.

ADJOURNMENT

Brownie Newman adjourned the meeting, as there was no further business.

Staff recommended action:

Review and Approve Previous meeting minutes.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

4. Land of Sky RPO TAC BUSINESS Items

Item 4A. LOSRPO Prioritization 5.0 Public Outreach/Survey Results. Vicki Eastland

The Land of Sky RPO and French Broad River MPO opened a public survey on all highway, bike/ped, and transit projects in the RPO and MPO planning area being considered for funding in the North Carolina prioritization process (P5.0). The survey attempted to be simple and user-friendly while also generating information that could be useful for decision makers considering applying local input points as part of the P 5.0 process.

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The survey was developed through Survey Monkey and was accessed through the organizations' websites. The survey was developed for each county. Users were then asked if they wanted to evaluate roadway or non-highway projects.

As of the survey closing on April 30, 2018, the survey collected **2,492** responses. This presentation will provide a general overview of the results. The aim of the survey was to be indicative of the public's perceived need for the projects under consideration.

Staff recommended action:

No action required, informational only

Item 4B: LOSRPO SPOT5.0 Local Input Points Regional Impact Tier

LOSRPO staff has held staff level meetings in all counties with representatives from all LOSRPO member governments, NCDOT staff and FBRMPO staff. RPO staff completed scoring of all Regional Impact Projects and applied Local Input Points based on Local Priority Rank and the LOSRPO Adopted Scoring Methodology. RPO staff shared Draft Local Input Points assignment list with LOSRPO TAC/TCC members via email and advertised the LOSRPO DRAFT Regional Impact Assignment of Local Input Points for public comment and public hearing in the June 13th issue of the Mountain Express. The list was also placed on the LOSRPO web site.

http://www.landofsky.org/pdf/LGS/RPO/DRAFT_SPOT50_LOSRPO_02152018.pdf

Staff Recommendations:

Review and discuss as needed. Vote to adopt the LOSRPO Regional Impact Local Input Points assignment.

LAND OF SKY

RURAL PLANNING RURAL ORGANIZATION

To: French Broad River Metropolitan Planning Organization (FBRMPO) TCC/Board

From: Land of Sky Rural Planning Organization (LOSRPO) TCC/TAC

Date: June 14th, 2018

Subject: Request for FBRMPO to apply Regional Impact Points to SPOT ID# H171587

Project Description: US 25, US 70 From: Approximately 1760' North of SR 1584 (Tillery Branch Road) in Madison County To: SR 1727 (Monticello Road) Convert existing four-lane divided roadway to superstreet.

This project was submitted by NCDOT Division 13 as a safety project to address high crash rates along the corridor specifically at full access intersections.

The project span's both FBRMPO and LOSRPO planning areas. FBRMPO 64% LOSRPO 36%.

The Project score in Regional Impact tier is 30.79 out of 70 with a cost to NCDOT of \$35 million.

The project is not receiving Regional Impact points from FBRMPO based on the MPO P5.0 scoring methodology.

The project is receiving Regional Impact points from LOSRPO based on the RPO P5.0 scoring methodology. At the local officials meeting LOSRPO, FBRMPO, Div 13 and Madison County, H171587 was the Madison Counties #2 priority.

In NCDOT Division 13 preliminary Regional Impact Point assignment H171587 is receiving 100 points.

For these reasons, LOSRPO would like to request the FBRMPO apply 64 Regional Impact points to H171587 to bring the total up to 100 MPO/RPO points and give the project its best opportunity to be funded.

Thank you,



Vicki Eastland, Land of Sky RPO Coordinator

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Item 4C: Resolution to Remove or Reduce Bike/Ped Local Match Vicki Eastland

LOSRPO staff at the March TAC meeting proposed a resolution of support from LOSRPO TAC to be sent to Julie White, NCDOT Deputy Secretary for Multi-Modal Transportation in support of removal or reduction of local match for Bike/Pedestrian Projects. This has been a point of discussion at NCARPO association meetings.

Land-of-Sky Rural Planning Organization
Transportation Advisory Committee

**A Resolution in Support of Elimination
Or Reduction of The Bicycle and Pedestrian Match**

WHEREAS, the Land of Sky Rural Planning Organization (LOSRPO) provides transportation planning services for Buncombe, Haywood, Madison and Transylvania Counties, the City of Brevard, the Town of Rosman, the Town of Marshall and the Town of Hot Springs;

WHEREAS, the Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC) is the duly recognized Transportation planning policy board for the Land of Sky Rural Planning Organization (LOSRPO); and

WHEREAS, the Land of Sky RPO membership recognizes the benefits of bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure as an integral component of the overall transportation system. These benefits include:

- meeting the transportation needs of persons without access to personal automobiles;
- providing opportunities for increased physical activity and improved health;
- promoting safe access to work, school, and other destinations;
- enhancing the vibrancy of our communities to attract economic development and help to retain our youth; and
- improving the quality of life for all our citizens.

WHEREAS, the 2013 Strategic Transportation Investments Law (House Bill 817) stipulates that state funds shall not be spent to construct federally-funded independent bicycle and pedestrian projects, requiring local governments to supply matching funds; and

WHEREAS, the LOSRPO TAC has many communities that don't apply for bicycle and pedestrian projects because they are unable to make the required 20% match; and

WHEREAS, the North Carolina General Assembly passed Senate Bill 257 Session Law 2017-57, Page 371, which distinguishes between counties based on their Tier ranking and provides reduction on matching funds for planning grants; and

WHEREAS, the LOSRPO encourages members of our North Carolina General Assembly delegation to apply a similar economic ranking to construction funds for bicycle and pedestrian projects, reducing or eliminating the local match percentage for lower-tier counties, thereby making bicycle and pedestrian projects more attainable for economically distressed rural counties;

Land-of-Sky Rural Planning Organization
Transportation Advisory Committee

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the LOSRPO TAC hereby adopt the **ELIMINATION OR REDUCTION OF THE BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN MATCH**. A motion was made by _____ and seconded by _____ for the endorsement of the resolution, and upon being put to a vote was duly endorsed, on this, the 28th day of June 2018.

Charlie Landreth, TAC Chair
Land-of-Sky RPO

Vicki Eastland, Secretary
Land-of-Sky RPO

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Staff Recommendations

Review and discuss as needed, Recommend TAC vote to adopt the Resolution to remove or reduce Bike/Ped Local Match requirements.

Item 4D. City of Brevard BUILD Letter of Support

Vicki Eastland

The **B**etter **U**tilizing Investments to **L**everage **D**evelopment, or **BUILD** Transportation Discretionary Grant program, provides a unique opportunity for the US DOT to invest in road, rail, transit and port projects that promise to achieve national objectives. Previously known as Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery, or TIGER Discretionary Grants, Congress has dedicated nearly \$5.6 billion for nine rounds of National Infrastructure Investments to fund projects that have a significant local or regional impact.

The eligibility requirements of BUILD allow project sponsors at the State and local levels to obtain funding for multi-modal, multi-jurisdictional projects that are more difficult to support through traditional DOT programs. BUILD can provide capital funding directly to any public entity, including municipalities, counties, port authorities, tribal governments.

BUILD funds can be used to fund as much as 100% of project cost for rural areas. Minimum of \$1 million for construction funds maximum of \$25 million per project and \$150 million per state.

Applications due July 19th, 2018.

Staff Recommendations:

Review and discuss. Vote to provide a letter of support for the City of Brevard for their application for BUILD funding.

5. PUBLIC COMMENT

6. REGULAR UPDATES

- A. NCDOT Division 13 and 14 updates
- B. Transportation Planning Branch Updates
- C. Staff Updates

NCDOT Staff
Daniel Sellers
Vicki Eastland

8 ANNOUNCEMENTS, NEWS, SPECIAL UPDATES

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7. **ADJOURN LOSRPO MEETING**

Charlie Landreth

Next Meeting: September 27 2018, 11:30 AM
French Broad (Large Conference Room
Land of Sky Regional Council