



# Meeting Agenda

RPO Technical Advisory Committee

August 24th, 2017 –11:30 Blue Ridge Room (Large) Room/ Land of Sky Regional Council

## 1. WELCOME AND HOUSEKEEPING

- |   |                |
|---|----------------|
| A. Welcome and Introductions                        | Brownie Newman |
| B. Ethics Statement & Agenda Approval/Modifications | Brownie Newman |

## 2. APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS TCC MEETING MINUTES

- |  |                |
|--|----------------|
| A. Minutes from the RPO TAC May 24nd, 2017 Meeting | Brownie Newman |
|--|----------------|

## 3. PUBLIC COMMENT

## 4. Land of Sky RPO TAC BUSINESS Items

- |   |                                     |
|---|-------------------------------------|
| A. Review LOSRPO 2018-2027 STIP                           | Vicki Eastland                      |
| B. SPOT5.0 Presentation NCDOT Div 13/14 DPE's             | Brendan Merithew/<br>Steve Williams |
| C. DRAFT Project List Deletions and Modifications SPOT5.0 | Vicki Eastland                      |
| D. LOSRPO Division Needs Alternate Criteria Memo          | Vicki Eastland                      |

## 5. REGULAR UPDATES

- |   |                                    |
|---|------------------------------------|
| A. NCDOT Division 13 and 14 updates       | Jay Swain/<br>Brian Burch/Designee |
| B. Transportation Planning Branch Updates | Daniel Sellers                     |
| C. Legislative Updates                    | Vicki Eastland                     |

## 6. ADJOURN LOSRPO MEETING

Brownie Newman

Next Meeting: September 28<sup>th</sup>, 2017, 11:30 AM

# Meeting Agenda

## **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 – May 24, 2017

#### Attendees:

Brownie Newman  
 Vicki Eastland  
 Zia Rifkin  
 Cole Hood  
 Brownie Newman  
 Ed Green

Matt Wechtel  
 Brendan Merrithew  
 Steve Cannon  
 Daniel Sellers  
 Steve Williams  
 Jason Chappell

Mike Sorrells  
 Rick Tipton  
 Troy Wilson  
 Charlie Landreth

## **WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS**

Chairman Brownie Newman called the meeting to order and welcomed attendees. He read the Ethics Statement, asked if there were any conflicts, and members responded that there were none. He then reviewed the Agenda and no modifications were proposed.

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

*Jason Chappell moved to approve the minutes from the February 22, 2017 LOSRPO TAC meeting. Mike Sorrells seconded and the motion carried without further discussion.*

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## PUBLIC COMMENTS

Chairman Newman called for any public comments. No one made any and the public comment period closed.

## BUSINESS

Approval of LOSRPO FY 2017 PWP Amendment: Vicki Eastland shared that NCDOT TPB has reviewed the proposed amendment and she stated that the reason for the amendment is that the Comprehensive Transportation Plan (CTP) updates have been put on hold, including the CTP for Transylvania County. Vicki Eastland shared that there was a significant amount of funding in the CTP category so these funds have not been spent and this amendment is to re-distribute the funds to ongoing work projects including SPOT, data collection and assessment. General administration is getting a small percentage of the funds as well. She informed the TAC that NCDOT TPB is moving forward to get the CTP's going with the expected rollout of the new process occurring sometime in late summer or early fall.

***Mike Sorrells moved to approve the amendment to the LOSRPOFY 2017 PWP as presented. Jason Chappell seconded and the motion carried without further discussion.***

NC Secretary of Transportation James Trogon Comments Review – Vicki Eastland shared that Secretary Trogon spoke at the LOSRPO TCC meeting a couple of weeks ago. The Secretary's comments included NCDOT's initiative to accelerate project delivery to spend down \$1 billion over the next year. The goal is to spend down the funds and accelerate project delivery, then NCDOT will request the General Assembly to pass a bond to provide additional funding and project delivery long-term.

Charlie Landreth shared that there has been communication that NCDOT is having a difficult time securing contractors. If the legislature perceives that there is a difficult time securing contractors the GA may be reluctant to approve a bond.

Rick Tipton shared that having the bond would provide funds for multi-years. The logic is that the bonds would provide a level of funds that would assure contractors that there would be funds to complete work.

Vicki Eastland shared additional comments by Secretary Trogon including that NCDOT is looking at additional funding streams to augment transportation funding as the fuel tax is decreasing.

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Mike Sorrells shared that electric vehicles may have a surcharge eventually.

Vicki Eastland shared that the Secretary also made remarks about NCDOT researching how to alter driver behavior, as there has been an increase in the state in fatal crashes (5<sup>th</sup> in fatalities in the nation). Additional remarks made during the TCC meeting included that Secretary Trogdon also encouraged MPO/RPO's and Division to be looking at alternate criteria for projects in the regional and Division needs tiers. A meeting is set for this in early June and a report can be provided at the next TAC meeting. Secretary Trogdon hopes to consolidate some existing funding to make available to all divisions a pot of money to be used to deliver "High Impact Low Cost Projects" under \$2 million that would be completed outside of the Prioritization process. The Secretary also made remarks at the TCC meeting about drones and autonomous vehicles and how those may greatly change the transportation landscape in the state.

Steve Williams shared the talking points from the Secretary's visit, which are more comprehensive and Vicki Eastland communicated that she will send those to TAC members.

***Information only.***

Prioritization Update SPOT 5.0 -- Vicki Eastland informed the TAC that she has been out to all of the counties to meet with local partners to develop LOSRPO DRAFT PROJECT LIST. Other key dates and details were reviewed;

- LOSRPO will receive 1100 points for each tier, Regional and Division, like previous rounds.
- Modifications and deletions of Carryover projects must be submitted to SPOT by August 25.
- New project submissions are due Sep. 29<sup>th</sup>. LOSRPO has 15 submissions in each mode

***information only.***

Calendar Changes: Vicki Eastland shared that the LOSRC Council meetings for August and September will be held offsite. She proposed that both the August and

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September LOSRPO TAC meetings be held prior to the MPO Board meetings on the fourth Thursday of the month at 11:30am. The revised dates for the meetings are August 24 and September 28.

*TAC members reached consensus that the calendar changes were amenable.*

## **REGULAR UPDATES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Ricky Tipton provided Division 13 updates and Ed Green provided Division 14 updates.

Daniel Sellers shared TPB updates.

Vicki Eastland provided Legislative updates.

Vicki Eastland provided staff Updates and Housekeeping matters.

## **Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned as there was no further business.

## **Staff recommended action:**

Review and Approve Previous meeting minutes.

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## **3. PUBLIC COMMENT**

## **4. LAND OF SKY RPO TAC BUSINESS ITEMS**

### **4A. Review LOSRPO 2018-2027 STIP**

Vicki Eastland

NCDOT initially released Draft 2018 – 2027 State Transportation Improvement Plan STIP in January 2017. Public comment was gathered at regional input sessions and online from March 28<sup>th</sup> – May 9<sup>th</sup>.

During the public comment period, changes were implemented to accelerate projects in the STIP. NCDOT also updated the revenue forecast, which allowed an additional 144 projects to be funded.

The 2018-2027 STIP was initially scheduled to be approved at the June 2017 meeting of the N.C. Board of Transportation. Approval was delayed to allow time for the document to be updated and for another public comment period, June 28<sup>th</sup> – July 12<sup>th</sup>. At the August 3<sup>rd</sup> Board of Transportation Meeting the final STIP was approved.

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Please Visit [http://www.landofsky.org/pdf/LGS/RPO/RPO\\_STIP\\_2018.pdf](http://www.landofsky.org/pdf/LGS/RPO/RPO_STIP_2018.pdf) to see Land of Sky RPO's 2018 – 2027 STIP.

Land of Sky RPO project additions:

- R-5764, Cove Creek Road Slide area repair, Haywood County, funded with Federal Lands Access Program (FLAP) funds.
- R-5765, US 276 improvements from Avery's Creek Trail head to US 64/NC 280 Pisgah Forest intersection. Funded with Federal Lands Access Program (FLAP) funds.
- EB-5918, Pedestrian Improvements at Student Drop off Way/Derringer Drive.

**Staff recommended action:**

No action required informational only.

**Item 4B: SPOT5.0 Presentation NCDOT Div 13/14 DPE's** Brenda Merithew/  
Steve Williams

NCDOT Division 13 DPE Brendan Merithew and Division 14 DPE will present to the TAC a review of the STI Law and Prioritization process and an update on SPOT5.0 Changes.

**Staff Recommendations:**

No action required, informational only

**Item 4C: LOSRPO DRAFT Project List for Submission to SPOT5.0** Vicki Eastland

In this round of prioritization, Land of Sky RPO has 15 new Project submittals for each mode of transportation. In addition to new submittals, Land of Sky RPO has five carryover highway projects. Two of these carryover projects H-111159-A and H-111159-D can be removed from the database making space for two new projects. H-111159-B is being modified to potentially combine this segment of US25/70 with R-5837, N. Main Street to Brush Creek in Madison County.

Land of Sky RPO Staff has held meetings with staff and elected officials from each RPO county to gather input on the DRAFT LOSRPO SPOT 5.0 Project Submittal list. This list represents the Highway Projects; there are seven bicycle and pedestrian

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projects in Transylvania County/City of Brevard and eight remaining Bike/Ped slots. The deadline to MODIFY or DELETE CARRYOVER projects is August 25<sup>th</sup>. Land of Sky RPO will continue to enter projects into the SPOT On!line tool for testing, and work with NCDOT Division 13/14 staff as well as SPOT office staff to improve submitted projects. The final list will come back before the TCC/TAC at the September meetings.

### **Staff Recommendations:**

Move to approve this project list including the deletions and modifications. LOSRPO staff will continue to work with NCDOT to develop the most competitive projects in all modes.

## Key Dates (P5.0)

### Prioritization 5.0

#### June 29, 2017

NCDOT Board of Transportation approves P5.0 criteria, measures, and weights

#### July 5, 2017

SPOT On!ine opens for testing, entering, and submitting new projects (closes September 29)

#### August 25, 2017

Deadline for Carryover Project Deletions ("one in/one out" to receive extra submittals)

Deadline for Carryover Project Modifications

#### September 29, 2017

Deadline for Alternate Weights for Regional Impact and Division Needs scoring

SPOT On!ine closes for submitting projects

#### End of March 2018

Quantitative scores for all projects released

Draft list of Programmed Statewide Mobility projects released

#### April 1, 2018

Regional Impact Local Input Points window opens for 3 months (closes June 30)

Deadline for Approval of Local Input Point Assignment Methodologies

#### September 1, 2018

Division Needs Local Input Points window opens for 2 months (closes October30)

#### January 2019

2020-2029 Draft STIP released



We are  
Here



SPOTID	Project Category	Improvement Type	Specific Improvement	Specific Improvement Number	TIP #	Route Number	Route Name	From/Cross Street	To	Description	First County	Highest Division	SPOT 5 Status
H141279	Regional Impact	Modernization	Modernize Roadway	16		US 276	Jonathon Creek Road	US 19	I 40	Install paved shoulders on the median and outside shoulders with rumble strips. Construct or upgrade left turn lanes at various crossovers.	Haywood	14	Resubmit
H090857-A	Regional Impact	Modernization	Modernize Roadway	16		NC209		SR 1501 (Silvers Cove Road)	SR 1334 (Max Patch Road)	Highway 209 - Silvers Cove Road (SR 1501) to SR 1334 (Max Patch Road) (at Ferguson's Store) - Upgrade, Widen, and Guardrails	Haywood	14	Resubmit
	Regional Impact	Realign Multiple Intersections	Realign Multiple Intersections	21		US 276	Pigeon Road	ST 1134 (Crymes Cove Road)	SR 1131 (Raccoon Road)	Realign offset intersection of SR 1134/SR 1131/US 276.	Haywood		New Project
H090092-A	Regional Impact	Modernization	Modernize Roadway	16	R-2426	NC 208		US 25/70	NC212	US 25/70 to NC 212. Upgrade Two Lane Roadway.	Madison	13	Resubmit
H090092-B	Regional Impact	Modernization	Modernize Roadway	16	R-2426	NC 208		NC 212	Tennesseess State Line	NC 212 to Tennessee State Line. Upgrade Two Lane Roadway.	Madison	13	Resubmit
H090317	Division Needs	Capacity	Construct Roadway on New Location	5	R-5117		New Route	Marshall	Spring Creek Community	Construct Facility on New Location	Madison	13	Resubmit
H111159-B	Regional Impact	Capacity	Modernize Roadway	16		US 25		Smith Hollow Rd (SR 1393)	North Main Street (US 25/US70 Bus)	US 25/US 70 - Modernization (Marshall) from Smith Hollow Road (SR 1393) to North Main Street (US 25/US70 Bus) Incorporate Complete Streets Elements	Madison	13	Carryover/Modification
	Regional Impact	Capacity	Convert Existing Roadway to Superstreet			US25		Stanleys Store, just west of NC 251	Monticello Road	US25/70 Superstreet	Madison/Buncombe	13	New Project

SPOTID	Project Category	Improvement Type	Specific Improvement	Specific Improvement Number	TIP #	Route Number	Route Name	From/Cross Street	To	Description	First County	Highest Division	SPOT 5 Status
H129070-D	Regional Impact	Modernization	Modernize Roadway	16	R-2409D	US 64		Indian Creek Road (East end of R-2409C)	East of the east intersection with Flat Creek Valley Road (SR 1147)	Widen, Realign and Climbing Lanes	Transylvania	14	Carryover
H090858	Regional Impact	Modernization	Modernize Roadway	16		US 178		SR 1156 (Main Street) in Rosman	Middlefork Road	Widen, Realign, and Climbing Lanes	Transylvania	14	Resubmit/New Termini
H170251	Regional Impact	Access Management	Modernize Roadway	11		NC 280	Asheville Hwy	Norther Termini of R-5799	North Transylvania Fire Dept	Widen roadway and install median in existing 4 lane roadway and general access management to increase safety. Build to complete streets standards.	Transylvania	14	New Project
H170394	Regional Impact	Intersection Improvements	Realign Multiple Intersections	21		US64		S. Broad/N.Country Club/	S. Caldwell/US 64	Realign Intersections	Transylvania	14	New Project
H170396	Regional Impact	Widen Existing Roadway	Capacity	5		US64	Rosman Hwy	SR 1337 Clement Road	Just past Rosman Park n Ride	Widen existing roadway to 4 lane divided. Consider addition of shared use path within right of way	Transylvania	14	New Project
H090162	Division Needs	Capacity	Construct Roadway on New Location	5	R-2594	NC 215	Balsam Grove Sunburst, FH 32	US 64 at Cherryfield	SR 1326 (Macedonia Church Road) South of Balsam Grove	Construct Two Lanes on New Location	Transylvania	14	Carryover
H150561	Division Needs	Modernization	Modernize Roadway	11		SR 1512	(Ecusta Rd)	US 64	Old US 64 (Old Hendersonville Rd)	Modernize roadway, improve intersections, include curb and gutter, bike lanes and sidewalk.	Transylvania	14	Resubmit
H111128	Division Needs	Modernization	Modernize Roadway	16		SR 1533	Everette Farm Road	SR 1528	SR 1504	Upgrade Roadway. Proposed Typical Is 22' Paved Roadway with 6' Grass Shoulders. Current Typical Is Two Lane 18' Paved Roadway with 3' Grass Shoulders	Transylvania	14	Resubmit
H111133	Division Needs	Modernization	Modernize Roadway	16	R-5764	SR 1546	Neely Road/Chestnut Street	US 64	US 276	Modernize roadway, improve intersections, include curb and gutter, bike lanes and sidewalk.	Transylvania	14	Resubmit/New Termini
H111137	Division Needs	Modernization	Modernize Roadway	16	R-5765	SR 1116	North Country Club Road	Barclay Road	US 64	Upgrade Roadway to NCDOT standards, include curb and gutter, bike and pedestrian accommodations.	Transylvania	14	Resubmit/New Termini

SPOTID	Project Category	Improvement Type	Specific Improvement	Specific Improvement Number	TIP #	Route Number	Route Name	From/Cross Street	To	Description	First County	Highest Division	SPOT 5 Status
H090855	Division Needs	Capacity	Construct Roadway on New Location	5	R-5743		New Route - West Loop Minor Thoroughfare	US 64/276	US 64 (North to Allison Road)	New Route - US 64/276 to Nicholson Creek Road/US 64 - West Loop Minor Thoroughfare (Adjust northern termini to Chestnut Street)	Transylvania	14	Resubmit/New Termini
H170395	Division Needs	Modernization	Modernize Roadway	16		SR 1504	Old US 64	Chestnut	Ecusta Road	Modernize roadway, improve intersections, include curb and gutter, bike lanes and sidewalk.	Transylvania	14	New Project

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## Item 4D. LOSRPO Division Needs Alternate Criteria Memo

Vicki Eastland

As encouraged by Secretary Trogon, on June 12<sup>th</sup>, 2017, Land of Sky RPO staff met with NCDOT Division 13 and 14 staff as well as staff from all PO's within Region G: High Country RPO, Isothermal RPO, Southwestern RPO, Greater Hickory MPO and French Broad River MPO.

The following Default Criteria changes were agreed upon:

- SPOT5.0 Regional Impact Default Criteria (no change).
- SPOT5.0 Division Needs **Division 13** Alternate Criteria (change), move 5% from Accessibility/Connectivity, to Safety. Result, Accessibility/Connectivity = 0% Safety = 15%.
- SPOT5.0 Division Needs **Division 14** Alternate Criteria (change), move 5% from Accessibility/Connectivity and Freight. Apply this to Pavement Condition. Result, Accessibility/Connectivity = 0%, Freight = 0%, Pavement Condition = 10%.

For alternate criteria to be used, each NCDOT Division and each MPO/RPO in the region or division must unanimously agree to use it and must send a memo from their TAC or Board Chair to the SPOT office by September 29<sup>th</sup>. If a Division/MPO/RPO does not wish to participate this also must be communicated to NCDOT SPOT office.

# P5.0 Highway Criteria & Weights (Default)

Funding Category	<u>QUANTITATIVE</u>		<u>LOCAL INPUT</u>	
	Data		Division	MPO/RPO
<b>Statewide Mobility</b>	Congestion = 30% Benefit-Cost = 25% <b>Freight = 25%</b> <b>Safety = 10%</b> Economic Comp. = 10%	100%	--	--
<b>Regional Impact</b>	Congestion = 20% Benefit-Cost = 20% Safety = 10% Accessibility/Connectivity = 10% Freight = 10%	70%	15%	15%
<b>Division Needs</b>	Congestion = 15% Benefit-Cost = 15% Safety = 10% Accessibility/Connectivity = 5% Freight = 5%	50%	25%	25%

Note: Region(s) \_\_\_\_\_ and Division(s) \_\_\_\_\_ use Alternate Criteria & Weights

# P5.0 Highway Criteria & Weights (**Division 13**)

Funding Category	<u>QUANTITATIVE</u>		<u>LOCAL INPUT</u>	
	Data		Division	MPO/RPO
<b>Statewide Mobility</b>	Congestion = 30% Benefit-Cost = 25% <b>Freight = 25%</b> <b>Safety = 10%</b> Economic Comp. = 10%	100%	--	--
<b>Regional Impact</b>	Congestion = 20% Benefit-Cost = 20% Safety = 10% Accessibility/Connectivity = 10% Freight = 10%	70%	15%	15%
<b>Division Needs</b>	Congestion = 15% Benefit-Cost = 15% <b>Safety = 15%</b> <b>Accessibility/Connectivity = 0%</b> Freight = 5%	50%	25%	25%

Note: Region(s) \_\_\_\_\_ and Division(s) \_\_\_\_\_ use Alternate Criteria & Weights

# P5.0 Highway Criteria & Weights (**Division 14**)

Funding Category	<u>QUANTITATIVE</u>		<u>LOCAL INPUT</u>	
	Data		Division	MPO/RPO
<b>Statewide Mobility</b>	Congestion = 30% Benefit-Cost = 25% <b>Freight = 25%</b> <b>Safety = 10%</b> Economic Comp. = 10%	100%	--	--
<b>Regional Impact</b>	Congestion = 20% Benefit-Cost = 20% Safety = 10% Accessibility/Connectivity = 10% Freight = 10%	70%	15%	15%
<b>Division Needs</b>	Congestion = 15% Benefit-Cost = 15% Safety = 10% <b>Accessibility/Connectivity = 0%</b> <b>Freight = 0%</b> <b>Pavement Condition = 10%</b>	50%	25%	25%

Note: Region(s) \_\_\_\_\_ and Division(s) \_\_\_\_\_ use Alternate Criteria & Weights

# Highway – Accessibility / Connectivity

<u>Funding Category</u>	<u>Criteria Weight</u>
Statewide Mobility	N/A
Regional Impact	10%
Division Needs	5%

**Purpose – Improve access to opportunity in rural and less-affluent areas and improve interconnectivity of the transportation network.**

**50% - County Economic Indicator** – Points are based on economic distress indicators:

- property tax base per capita
- population growth
- median household income
- unemployment rate

**50% - Improve Mobility** – If project upgrades mobility of roadway (e.g. eliminating signals), points based on travel time savings per user

# Highway – Accessibility / Connectivity

**Improve Mobility (Does project upgrade the roadway facility type?)**

- Focus on improving how the roadway functions, with emphasis on enhancing traffic flow, removing/bypassing traffic signals, and increasing access control
- Eligibility based on combination of Existing Facility Type and Project Facility Type (see below)

Existing Facility Type (From)	Project Facility Type (To)
Two Lane Highway	Freeway
Two Lane Highway	Multilane Highway
Two Lane Highway	Superstreet
Multilane Highway	Freeway
Arterial (Signalized Roadway)	Freeway
Arterial (Signalized Roadway)	Multilane Highway
Arterial (Signalized Roadway)	Superstreet
Superstreet	Freeway
Superstreet	Multilane Highway

New Location (Freeway, Multilane Highway, Superstreet) and Upgrade Intersection to Interchange/Grade separation projects also eligible)

- If project is eligible, travel time savings per user is the measure



LAND OF SKY

# RURAL PLANNING RURAL ORGANIZATION

Aug 24th, 2017

David Wasserman  
STIP, Feasibility Studies,  
and Strategic Prioritization (SPOT)  
1534 Mail Service Center  
Raleigh, NC 27699-1534

Dear Mr. Wasserman:

This letter is to notify you of Land of Sky RPO's (LOSRPO) intent to utilize Alternate Criteria in this round of Prioritization, SPOT5.0. On June 12<sup>th</sup>, 2017, LOSRPO staff met with NCDOT Division 13 and 14 staff as well as staff from all PO's within the Region G including High Country RPO, Isothermal RPO, Southwestern RPO, Greater Hickory MPO and French Broad River MPO.

The following Default Criteria were changed:

- SPOT5.0 Regional Impact Default Criteria (no change).
- SPOT5.0 Division Needs **Division 13** Alternate Criteria (change), move 5% from Accessibility/Connectivity, to Safety. Result, Accessibility/Connectivity = 0% Safety = 15%.
- SPOT5.0 Division Needs **Division 14** Alternate Criteria (change), move 5% from Accessibility/Connectivity and Freight. Apply this to Pavement Condition. Result, Accessibility/Connectivity = 0%, Freight = 0%, Pavement Condition = 10%.

Sincerely,

Brownie Newman, TAC Chair  
Land Of Sky Regional Rural Planning Organization

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Staff recommended action:

Determine if LOSRPO wants to participate. If so, move to proceed with alternate criteria and send the attached Memo to the NCDOT SPOT office.

**5. REGULAR UPDATES**

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

NCDOT Staff  
Daniel Sellers  
Vicki Eastland

**Announcements, News, Special Updates**

**6. ADJOURN LOSRPO MEETING**

Brownie Newman

Next Meeting: September 28, 2017, 11:30 AM