



METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION
A PROGRAM OF LAND OF SKY

French Broad River Metropolitan Planning Organization

Minutes from the Governing Board meeting on March 26, 2015

Meeting Date:

3/26/2015

Representing	VotingTAC		Via Phone
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Asheville, City of	Jan	Davis	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Asheville, City of	Marc	Hunt	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Biltmore Forest, Town of	Fran	Cogburn	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Black Mountain	Margaret	Tuttle	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Buncombe County	Ellen	Frost	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Buncombe County	Brownie	Newman	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Flat Rock, Village of	Don	Farr	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fletcher, Town of	Eddie	Henderson	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Haywood County	Michael	Sorrells	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Henderson County	William	Lapsley	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hendersonville, City of	Steve	Caraker	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Maggie Valley, Town of	Ron	DeSimone	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NCBOT, Division 13	David	Brown	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Weaverville, Town of	Douglas	Dearth	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Woodfin, Town of	Jerry	VeHaun	<input type="checkbox"/>
15 Voting Members Present			

Alternates/Agencies and Other Non Voting At TAC			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Asheville, City of	Gwen	Wistler	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Biltmore Forest, Town of	Johnathan	Kanipe	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Buncombe County	Josh	O'Conner	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FBRMPO/LOSRC	Tristan	Winkler	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FBRMPO/LOSRC	Annie	Sarac	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FBRMPO/LOSRC	Paul	Black	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Henderson County/Apple Country Transit	Matthew	Cable	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NCDOT, Division 13	Rickv	Tipton	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NCDOT, Division 13	Kristina	Solberg	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NCDOT, Division 14	Ed	Green	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NCDOT, TPB	Pam	Cook	<input type="checkbox"/>
11 Non-Voters Present			

WELCOME

Jan Davis opened the meeting and read the conflict of interest statement. Following introductions, the Agenda was presented for approval.

Eddie Henderson motioned to approve the Agenda, Fran Cogburn seconded, and as none were opposed, the Agenda was approved.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comments were presented.

CONSENT AGENDA

- January 29 minutes
- TIP Amendments and Modifications
- Five-year Workplan updated to reflect the UPWP adopted in January.

Eddie Henderson motioned to approve the Minutes, Jerry Vehaun seconded, and as none were opposed, the January 29 minutes were approved.

Jerry Vehaun motioned to approve the TIP Amendments, Doug Dearth seconded, and the motion to approve the TIP Amendments and Modifications was approved.

Brownie Newman motioned to approve the Five-year Workplan, Jerry Vehaun seconded, and as none were opposed, the motion carried.

REGULAR UPDATES

- Division 13 updates provided by Ricky Tipton; Division 14 updates provided by Ed Green; both of which are available from the fbrmpo.org home page. Some discussion followed regarding the recent fatality on Leicester highway and the various criteria available for measuring the safety or hazardousness of this corridor.
- Transportation Planning Branch updates provided by Brendan Merithew who indicated that there will be a brief presentation at the next meeting on the updated Travel Demand Model. Paul Black added his appreciation to those involved in the model and the use of regional data instead of the older information from a comparable city in Ohio.
- FHWA: There were no updates at this time.
- Subcommittee reports are included in the Agenda packet. Paul Black invited all members to a Friday legislative meeting that will provide information to the new delegation regarding projects and operations.
- Ethics: The deadline for filing 2015 ethics forms is April 15, with a \$500 fine for late filers.
- Legislative: MPO Staff presented to the Joint Transportation Appropriations Committee March 5th on lessons learned from SPOT 3. The NC Association of MPOs and our RPO counterparts jointly presented on a number of issues. These included:
 - Continued use of the SPOT Workgroup for working out the technical details of STI.
 - For STP-DA and directly allocated TAP funds to be excluded from STI (similar to Appalachian and CMAQ funding),
 - Looking at adding high volume arterial roads (regardless of US/NC route designation) and fixed guideway projects for regional tier eligibility. The RPOs also asked for ferries to be added.
 - Finding a way to recognize MTP/LRTPs in the prioritization of statewide tier projects.
 - Allowing State match for bike and ped projects along with creating more ways for cities and towns to generate transportation revenue.
 - The RPOs asked for short line rail owned by the state (affects the ports) to be eligible for STI.

BUSINESS

- MTP Fiscal Constraint Draft
The MTP Executive Committee reviewed the revenue model and potential highway project list. The MTP Executive Committee directed staff to determine how to test individual projects against the draft goals and come back to the Committee. The MTP Executive Committee directed staff to determine how to test individual projects against the draft goals and come back to the Committee. The TCC agreed to continue in this direction and staff seeking agreement to continue development of the project list provided in the

Agenda. Paul Black briefly spotlighted the large table from the Agenda, the five-year STiP, and unfunded projects, including sibling projects that did not get funded.

Jan Davis asked for any objections to the approach and all were in favor of continuing with the approach as presented.

- L RTP Amendments

FHWA requested we add the I-5504 project to the current L RTP so that it can proceed. As the staff reviewed how to accommodate the project under fiscal constraint for each tier, they looked at how the current plan would be affected by the draft STIP. With the caveat that STI made it possible to accelerate a number of projects, the draft changes proposed were included in the Agenda packet. The TCC recommended the items favorably.

Jerry Vehaun motioned to approve the L RTP Amendments, Eddie Henderson seconded, and as all were in favor, the motion carried.

- STP-DA Scoring Results

The last round of STP-DA funding awarded a greenway study to Buncombe County. NCDOT was able to step forward and fund the majority of the study where there was potential co-location with I-26 as part of the I-4700 project. The MPO's Prioritization Subcommittee met on March 5, 2015 to determine selected projects for STP-DA and TAP funding. The Agenda packet pointed out those recommended by the subcommittee and TCC for approval by the MPO Board. Some discussion followed regarding the challenge of combining a greenway or city project with NCDOT so that one does not overlap the other project in timing. Paul Black added that on April 22 there is an opportunity to provide input on agency and community needs to forward to PDEA and that Board members are encouraged to attend. Tristan Winkler added that there was about \$600,000 remaining for the next highest scoring project, that the city was given right of first refusal, and then the next highest scoring project would receive the funds. If the City of Asheville revised the scope, then it will return through the scoring process and into competition with other projects. Further discussion included ranking methodology and possible improvements.

Marc Hunt motioned to approve, Eddie Henderson seconded, and with no further discussion, the motion carried.

- Bylaw Amendment: The TCC asked the staff to see if the election process in the bylaws could be simplified for election, and the staff wanted to offer the same simplification to the Board. Marc Hunt offered appreciation and applause for Jan Davis's dedicated efforts as Chair. Jan Davis expressed his pleasure at serving as Chair and applauded the commitment of others.

Marc Hunt motioned to approve the Bylaw Amendments as presented, Ellen Frost seconded, and as all were in favor, the Bylaws were so amended.

- Nominations and Election of Chair and Vice-Chair: Marc Hunt nominated Doug Dearth as Chair and Brownie Newman as Vice-Chair. Jan Davis pointed out that the floor is open for additional nominations and self-nominations. With no further nominations for Chair, and as all were in favor of Doug Dearth, the new **MPO Chair is now Doug Dearth.**
- Marc Hunt reaffirmed his nomination of Brownie Newman for Vice-Chair, Eddie Henderson nominated William Lapsley, who then graciously withdrew that nomination and added his support for Brownie Newman. All were in favor of Brownie Newman's nominations and with no further discussion, **Brownie Newman accepted the Vice-Chair nomination.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

No further announcements.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment at this time.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further discussion or items, the meeting adjourned.