



45 **5. Approval of the minutes of the June 26, 2014 meeting:** Initially approval was waived  
46 due to insufficient voting members. Upon arrival of Chair Tyson, reading of the minutes  
47 was waived. Mayor Tyson made a motion to approve the minutes as presented.  
48 Commissioner Chittick seconded. Motion passed by unanimous vote.  
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50 **6. Public Comments:** *Mr. Ron Sage, 101 Egret Circle, New Bern* introduced himself. He  
51 is a former resident of the City of Havelock where he was on the Planning Board and  
52 Greenway Committee.  
53

54 Mr. Sage had previously reviewed the project scoring and submitted his version to Ms.  
55 Chapman for review. He questioned if the other members had received his submission.  
56 Ms. Chapman noted this would be discussed in the next agenda item. He would like to  
57 explain and answer any questions on the difference between the two proposed project  
58 rankings. Mr. Sage replied he did not take the MPO criteria into account, rather took  
59 each category individually, giving each a ranking. He then put them together to create a  
60 ranking.  
61

62 He discussed the differences, noting he was trying to be a voice for bike/pedestrian  
63 projects in the New Bern area. He noted some projects have already been touched on in  
64 the New Bern Bike/Pedestrian plan as well as what is currently underway in Trent  
65 Woods.  
66

67 He also voiced concerns on safe pedestrian crossing at railroads.  
68

69 *Alderman Bernard White* noted he received an email regarding bike and pedestrian  
70 planning and explained that he has been working with the City of New Bern Parks and  
71 Recreation Director, Mr. Thurman Hardison on future planning and expects these issues  
72 to be addressed in the near future for the area. His hope is to connect the eastern regions  
73 with a bike path.  
74

75 **7. Public Hearing: P 3.0 Projects prioritization ranking and scoring: Maurizia**  
76 **Chapman:** *Maurizia Chapman, AICP, NBAMPO Administrator*  
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78 Initially, the Public Hearing could not be held due to insufficient voting members. Upon  
79 arrival of Chair Tyson, a motion to open the Public Hearing was made by Mayor  
80 Kirkland. Mayor Tyson seconded. Motion passed unanimously.  
81

82 Mr. Ron Sage added that his project ranking doesn't change the content of the projects,  
83 rather just the ranking of such projects. He agrees with the projects the TAC have ranked  
84 overall.  
85

86 With no additional comments, Mayor Tyson made a motion to close the public hearing.  
87 Chair Tyson seconded. Motion passed unanimously.  
88

89 Ms. Chapman noted the projects have not been amended. She brought attention to a

90 letter received by the Southern Environmental Law Center (SELC). Federal Highway  
91 Administration indicated a need to respond to the content of the letter. Mr. Flanagan  
92 advised most of what is covered in the letter pertains to the Havelock Bypass. He spoke  
93 with the project manager from the NCDOT, who also received a letter from SELC. The  
94 NCDOT representative had previously received comments regarding the Economic  
95 Impact Statement (EIS), and feels the comments will be similar in nature. The decision  
96 was if a response is required, a cross referencing of the letter and EIS will be mirrored.  
97 Therefore coordination with all those in receipt of the letter will be required so responses  
98 will be unified.

99  
100 Ms. Chapman highlighted comments made on the MPO methodology, specifically noting  
101 safety and the score being based on quantitative score given by NCDOT. The  
102 requirements have been met based on the methodology. As far as economic,  
103 environmental justice, the MPO referred back to the study that came out of the US 70  
104 corridor discussing the economic advantage of improving US 70 with the bypass.

105  
106 Chair Tyson questioned how to properly respond. Ms. Chapman replied that if a  
107 response is required, a meeting will be held to create an appropriate response. Mr.  
108 Flanagan advised there was no rush at this point in responding, and suggested this be  
109 included on the next agenda for additional discussion/follow up.

110  
111 **Motion: Mayor Tyson made a motion to approve the project scores as**  
112 **recommended by the TCC as final. Mayor Kirkland seconded. Motion passed**  
113 **unanimously.**

114  
115 Mr. Flanagan noted that the work group was trying to determine how the highway and  
116 non-highway funds would be divided. They determined that 90% of the funding across  
117 the state will go to highway projects, at least 4% will go to non-highway projects, and the  
118 remaining 6% will go wherever it can, based on how projects score. Non-highway  
119 projects that are currently funded at the statewide level are airport projects. There are rail  
120 projects competing at the statewide level but they didn't get funded. These then dropped  
121 down to the regional funding. In order for the programming unit of the DOT to figure out  
122 how it will work, they determined that out of the 4%, 2% will be defined to regional non-  
123 highway modes, and 2% will be defined to division non-highway modes. This  
124 information was just provided the previous month. They anticipate the majority of the  
125 non-highway money will be in the larger areas (Piedmont) where scoring will be higher.

## 126 127 **8. Hurricane Evacuation Planning Peer Exchange: Maurizia Chapman**

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129 Ms. Chapman informed the TAC that, after much time and effort, The New Bern MPO  
130 staff hosted the Hurricane Evacuation Planning Peer Exchange, where representatives  
131 from the GRAND STRANDS MPO of South Carolina, the Wilmington, Jacksonville and  
132 New Bern MPOs from North Carolina, as well as the Hampton Roads MPO from  
133 Virginia, participated in this effort. Representatives from FEMA and NOAA attended as  
134 well. NCDOT Emergency Management Group and Traffic Services, Incident

135 Management and SCDOT were represented as well.

136

137 The purpose of the meeting was to look at what type of involvement MPOs have in  
138 disaster planning, and what the MPOs could do together as well as include in their MTP  
139 to assist in a hurricane disaster.

140

141 There will be a report written by Ms. Loretta Barren that will be made available  
142 nationwide and used by other coastal area MPOs.

143

144 **9. NBAMPO 2040 Metropolitan Transportation Plan Goals and Objectives: Maurizia**  
145 **Chapman**

146

147 Ms. Chapman reported she has been visiting Planning Board meetings, and has upcoming  
148 meetings with the City of New Bern and Town of Trent Woods. Mr. Chittick felt it  
149 would be beneficial for Ms. Chapman to visit their Commissioners as well.

150

151 She will have a booth at Mumfest, and between now and then will try to go to other areas  
152 and/or festivals to get input on goals and objectives.

153

154 **10. New Ethics Legislation for TAC Members: Maurizia Chapman**

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156 Ms. Chapman provided the latest passed bill advising there will be a fine if proper  
157 documentation is not filed. This will be done annually, and completed by April 15<sup>th</sup> of  
158 each year. MPO staff has additional requirements, and must also submit a list of current  
159 TAC members.

160

161 **11. Updates:**

162 *a. Transportation Planning Branch Update: Priya Nimbole, P.E., NCDOT*  
163 *NBAMPO Coordinator*

164

165 Ms. Nimbole stated that the model development base has been created. A base  
166 scenario was run and work on calibrating is happening now, and they are on track  
167 for timely completion.

168

169 *b. New Bern Area MPO Update: Maurizia Chapman, AICP, NBAMPO*  
170 *Administrator*

171

172 Ms. Chapman reported on the following:

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- 174 • She tried to get rail division here for next meeting, but there is a rail  
175 conference during the same time. Rail Division staff wondered if the TAC  
176 would reschedule the September meeting to participate in the rail conference,  
177 and if not representatives of the North Carolina Rail Company and the  
178 NCDOT Rail Division will attend in November. She indicated November  
179 would be better suited for the board. Mayor Kirkland supports building

180 rapport with the rail division and feels now is a good time to establish this.  
181 • Ms. Nimbole noted she spoke with a representative with the railway who  
182 questioned which meeting they should attend; TAC or TCC. Mayor Kirkland  
183 feels they should attend both meetings, even though that's outside of their  
184 comfort zone. Ms. Chapman provided additional details on her discussion  
185 with them as well.  
186 • An MPO Planner has been hired and should begin within two weeks' time.  
187 • When information was sent to NCDOT regarding leftover points going to the  
188 US 17 projects, the NCDOT required detailed information regarding what  
189 projects we request the points be allocated to. She is waiting for information  
190 from the RPOs and then will submit information to NCDOT.

191 **12. Discussion:** There was no additional discussion

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193 **13. Adjourn:** There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

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Steve Tyson, Chairman

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Jeff Ruggieri, Secretary