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**5. NBAMPO Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) “Destination 2040”:** *Kim Maxey*

Ms. Maxey advised there were no changes to the MTP after the final public involvement meeting held in February. One member of the public attended this meeting and provided very positive feedback on the document.

Ms. Maxey requested members approve the MTP and recommend TAC approval.

**Motion: Approval of the MTP was achieved by unanimous consent.**

**6. Metropolitan Transportation Plan Indirect and Cumulative Effects (ICE) Products:** *VHB*

Ms. Chapman relayed that Ms. Tayal from VHB was attending for the final time. Mr. Dan Thomas from NCDOT TPB attended to answer any questions that the board may have. The ICE products are provided within the document by an executive summary and the document is in entirety is included as an appendix within the MTP.

Mr. Thomas reminded the board that the ICE product is a pilot program and they are very pleased with the results. One of the recommendations that came out of this process was to work with local governments to use the Green Growth Toolbox. Dan will work with the MPO and Casey Cook with the Wildlife Resource Commission to get some training with all local governments to discuss recommendations of the ICE analysis and provide training on the Green Growth Toolbox. This tool is a way to encourage growth in an environmentally friendly way.

Chair Ruggieri questioned the direction this product will take now that the pilot program has been accomplished with the NBAMPO. Mr. Thomas relayed this product will be presented at the State MPO conference in Greensboro in May, as well as the National Transportation Research Board Tools of the Trade Conference being held in September.

Mr. Thomas relayed this product will not be mandatory for MPO’s, but will be encouraged as a good process for those who would like to voluntarily undertake. An outside consultant would be required, as the NCDOT would not have the necessary expertise.

Ms. Chapman requested members approve the MTP ICE Products and recommend TAC approval.

**Motion: Approval of the MTP ICE Products was achieved by unanimous consent.**

**7. FY 2016 Amendment to the Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP):** *Maurizia Chapman*

Ms. Chapman advised there are two items that pertain to the UPWP. The first is an amendment to which an email was provided to the board for review. Typically at the

98 point of completing the MTP, the MPO would begin work on the Comprehensive  
99 Transportation Plan (CTP). Due to unforeseen circumstances at the NCDOT level, we  
100 are unable to begin work on this document. Therefore, the MPO is requesting approval  
101 to move funds that were slated for CTP work to the special studies area.  
102

103 When doing the area modeling, a small area along MLK Blvd. between McCarthy Blvd.  
104 and Trent Road was determined to benefit from a small area study. The MPO is seeking  
105 a consultant to do this work and these funds being transferred will cover the cost of the  
106 consultant. This is being done in anticipation of development in this area. The  
107 jurisdictions and the MPO would like to be proactive in preparing for heavier traffic in  
108 this area. The budget is not changing, rather funds are just being shifted.  
109

110 Ms. Chapman requested members approve the amendment and recommend TAC  
111 approval.  
112

113 **Motion: Approval of the UPWP Amendment was achieved by unanimous consent.**  
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115 **8. FY 2017 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) and Five Year Planning**  
116 **Program: *Maurizia Chapman***  
117

118 In January the Draft UPWP was presented to the board. The MPO provides time for  
119 NCDOT to comment on the draft before finalizing. Having received no comments or  
120 suggestions from NCDOT, the document being presented for final approval has not  
121 changed.  
122

123 The MPO received a letter from the NCDOT regarding funds. The FY 2017 MPO  
124 allocation is of \$162,853, however the MPO is earmarking only \$158,000.  
125

126 Between what the MPO did not use in previous years and the current balance, the grant  
127 funds balance is \$106,385. This money is being held as back up funds if the need arises.  
128

129 The Five Year Plan is submitted at the end of the year and is included in this document.  
130 The Five Year Plan identifies the types of tasks the MPO will undertake between 2017 –  
131 2022. The only change is that staff is anticipating updating the MTP earlier than required  
132 as we are trying to synchronize the MTP update with the release of the 2020 census data.  
133

134 One of the largest tasks the MPO will undertake in 2017 is hosting the State-wide MPO  
135 conference. If all goes as planned, the other major task to be accomplished next fiscal  
136 year will be updating the CTP.  
137

138 Ms. Chapman requested members approve the UPWP and Five Year Plan and  
139 recommend TAC approval.  
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141 **Motion: Approval of the UPWP and Five Year Planning Program was achieved by**  
142 **unanimous consent.**  
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**9. Annual Self Certification of 3Cs Planning Process: *Maurizia Chapman***

Ms. Chapman relayed being a small MPO we are not certified by the Federal Government, but we are required to self-certify every year. Ms. Chapman presented a resolution to the board addressing this self-certification of the federal regulations handout, ensuring the MPO follows requirements of the 3C process and meet guidelines for Title VI requirements. Ms. Chapman advised that the NBAMPO does meet all requirements.

The TAC will approve the resolution and the Chair will sign. This documentation will be forwarded to the NCDOT and the Federal Government to ensure we remain in compliance.

Ms. Chapman requested members approve the Self Certification/Resolution and recommend TAC approval.

**Motion: Approval of the Certification of 3C’s Planning Process was achieved by unanimous consent.**

**10. Updates:**

**a. Transportation Planning Branch Update: *Behshad Norowzi, NCDOT TPB***

Mr. Norowzi relayed that Mr. Javed was offered a research position that he accepted, so he is no longer with the NCDOT. His position has been advertised, but they have not received any applications with the desired skill set. Mr. Norowzi advised he would attend the meetings until such time a candidate is hired.

**b. CARTS Update: *Kelly Walker, Transit Director***

Ms. Walker provided updates:

- Staff has been working on the budget. CARTS has submitted their request to the county budget for review and consideration.
- Staff has been working on state and federal grants.
- They have not ordered their first federal vehicles yet. The state contract is currently on hold. There was an issue with the initial contract and it has been put back out for bidding. Once this is resolved, they will order the vehicles. The soonest they could order the vehicles would be fall, but it could be spring. The public will not know the difference as the vehicles will look the same, therefore it will not affect riders in any way.
- The Non-Emergency Medical Transportation (NEMT) wants to require transit services that provide non-emergency Medicaid transportation to go through the NC FAST system that is used through Social Services in order to get paid. A letter was sent to the Director of Social Services which was forwarded to Ms. Walker. CARTS is waiting to learn the outcome and will continue services as normal.

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c. **Division 2 Update:** *Jeff Cabaniss, NCDOT Division 2 Planning Engineer*

Mr. Jeff Cabaniss updated the board on current projects:

- The bike/ped paths along Glenburnie and Neuse are about almost complete.
- Landscape enhancement project scheduled in Bridgeton this spring, across from the Hardee's has a 5-week turnaround time once started.
- Resurfacing of the Hwy 55 interchange in Bridgeton was awarded to S.T. Wooten and will begin in the spring.
- Four additional roads within the MPO are scheduled for resurfacing beginning in July including:
  - Simmons from Neuse Blvd. to National Ave.
  - Glenburnie from Neuse Blvd. to National Ave.
  - Rocky Run Road
  - Staten Road
- The Neuse River Bridge construction has begun. A joint in the bridge is being replaced. Upon completion of this, crews will begin work on the Trent River Bridge.

d. **New Bern Area MPO Update:** *Maurizia Chapman, MPO Administrator*

Ms. Chapman provided updates on:

- Due to the NCAMPO conference, the May meeting will need to be rescheduled. The suggested date is Thursday, May 19<sup>th</sup>. The board agreed.

Ms. Maxey provided updates on:

- The MPO is offering to pay all expenses for two members to attend the NCAMPO annual conference May 11-13, being held in Greensboro. Chair Prewitt has agreed to attend. There is one additional slot open to the CAC. Deadline to inform staff would be March 18<sup>th</sup>.
- Staff is participating in the PEV stakeholders meetings regarding battery and hybrid vehicles.

**11. Discussion:**

**12. Adjourn**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

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Jeff Ruggieri, Chairman

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Maurizia Chapman, MPO Administrator