

1           **NEW BERN AREA METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION**  
2   **TCC MEETING MINUTES**

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4   **May 19, 2016**

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6    The New Bern Area Metropolitan Planning Organization held its regularly scheduled meeting on  
7    Thursday, May 19, 2016 at 1:30 PM in the Development Services Conference Room, 303 First  
8    Street.  
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- 10 **Members Present:**                   Mr. Jeff Ruggieri – Chair  
11   Mr. Don Baumgardner – County of Craven  
12   Mr. Andrew Shorter – NB Regional Airport  
13   Ms. Amanda Boone – City of New Bern  
14   Mr. Delane Jackson – River Bend  
15   Mr. David Fort – Town of Bridgeton  
16   Mr. Jeff Cabaniss – NCDOT  
17   Mr. Behshad Norowzi - NCDOT  
18   Mr. Haywood Daughtry - NCDOT  
19   Mr. Bill Marley - FHWA  
20   Mr. Patrick Flanagan – Down East RPO  
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- 22 **Members Excused:**                   Mr. Gene Hodges – Vice-Chair  
23   Ms. Kelly Walker – CARTS  
24   Mr. John Rouse - NCDOT  
25   Mr. Steve Hamilton – NCDOT  
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- 27 **Members Absent:**                    Ms. Nan Holton – Trent Woods  
28   Mr. Kevin Roberts – NB Chamber of Commerce  
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- 30 **Guests Present:**                    Ms. Laruen Tuttle – Eastern Carolina Council  
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- 32 **Staff Present:**                        Ms. Kimberly Maxey – New Bern Area MPO  
33   Ms. Maurizia Chapman – New Bern Area MPO  
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- 35       **1. Call to Order:** Chair Jeff Ruggieri called the meeting to order.  
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37       **2. Roll Call:** Roll Call was taken and a quorum was declared.  
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39       **3. Approval of today’s agenda:** The agenda was approved as presented.  
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41       **4. Approval of the minutes of the March 10, 2016 meeting:** Reading of the minutes was  
42       waived.  
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44       **Motion: Approval of the minutes as presented was achieved by unanimous consent.**  
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46       **5. Plug-In Electric Vehicle Plan for the Highway 70 Corridor:** *Lauren Tuttle, Eastern*  
47       *Carolina Council*

48 Ms. Lauren Tuttle with the Eastern Carolina Council provided a PowerPoint presentation  
49 on PEV vehicles, explaining the growth potential and how plans for future infrastructure  
50 are currently being considered.

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52 She relayed that a PEV steering committee meets on a monthly basis and encouraged  
53 members of the TCC to attend.

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55 **6. FY 2017 Meeting Schedule:** *Kim Maxey*

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57 Ms. Maxey provided the proposed dates for the upcoming year. TCC members did not  
58 indicate any issues with the schedule, therefore meetings will continue as noted.

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60 The schedule will be presented to the TAC next week for final approval.

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62 **7. P 4.0 Projects Prioritization Ranking and Scoring:** *Maurizia Chapman*

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64 Ms. Chapman reported that the NCDOT was late in sending out this information. Due to  
65 revised deadlines, the specially scheduled meeting previously called for June will not be  
66 necessary. Final scoring must be submitted by July 29<sup>th</sup>, which provides enough time for  
67 the public review period, and board approvals at regularly scheduled July meetings.

68  
69 After release of the projects list by NCDOT, a Projects Prioritization sub-committee was  
70 formed and met on April 25<sup>th</sup> and applied the approved methodology to determine the  
71 raw rankings based on that scoring. In discussion with the sub-committee members,  
72 DERPO, Division 2 representatives and other NCDOT members, staff developed the  
73 recommendations before the Committee. Ms. Chapman relayed that NBAMPO was  
74 given 1100 points at the Regional level. Many Statewide projects were cascading into the  
75 Regional tier and the recommendations provided deviate from the process.

76  
77 The number one project as scored by the sub-committee was the First Street road diet. If  
78 using regular methodology, the top project will receive 100 points and each subsequent  
79 project one less (99, 98, etc.).

80  
81 Ms. Chapman continued by describing the reasoning behind the proposed projects' scores  
82 and discussed each staff recommendation:

- 83  
84
- 85 • The Taberna interchange is one of the projects that scored the highest and one  
86 that is partially funded through the Statewide tier. This project has been pushed  
87 out to 2025 not for lack of funds but due to the fact this interchange is part of a  
88 larger project, which is currently in the TIP, but did not score well in this process  
89 and the environmental documents will be developed at the same time as the  
90 larger project.
  - 91 • The US 17 Bypass completion was carried over from P 3.0 and the projected cost  
92 is in excess of \$180 million. There are two projects in the scoring process for  
93 this road both recommended by the RPO: one for a multi-lane highway, and one  
94 for a freeway. Because both projects' alternatives scores are very close, staff and  
95 RPO staff recommend we award no points to the multi-lane highway project,  
rather give points to the original freeway request.

- Staff is recommending only one or two transit projects be scored based on the following: the points provided by the MPO are worth 15% of the overall score. 70% of the score is the quantitative one that comes from the State. The other 15% comes from the Division 2 office. The Division methodology says they can only give 200 points to non-highway modes within the Division, or if necessary no more than 400 points. Division 2 includes Greenville, rural RPOs that includes Morehead City and Kinston. If we concentrate on one of the transit projects, we might have a better chance of getting it funded. The vehicles included in this process will be purchased FY 2017, 2018 and 2019. FY 2017 did not score well. The state match is about \$9,000 and if the projects don't receive the points CARTS will still purchase the vehicle. After speaking with the Transit Director, staff found that FY 2018 is the preferred year to try and receive NCDOT match for purchasing vehicles. By not scoring all three transit requests, points can be used towards other projects. Members agreed.

Ms. Chapman requested members approve the project prioritization ranking and scoring as presented by staff and recommend TAC approval.

**Motion: Chairman Ruggieri requested a motion to approve the draft P 4.0 Project Prioritization and scoring. A motion was made by Mr. Baumgardner and seconded by Mr. Shorter. The motion passed unanimously.**

#### 8. Updates:

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

Mr. Norowzi provided the following updates:

- TPB has a new branch manager, Mr. Alavi. He has been with TPB for over 25 years.
- Regarding the New Bern position, his recommendation has been submitted and Patrick Norman has signed off on it. He hopes to hear something soon. Until this position is filled they cannot begin work on the CTP as previously planned.
- NCDOT had planned on additional restructuring within TPB and Program Development up to a 7% reduction. This has been put on hold for another year to review the best way to proceed.

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

As Ms. Walker could not attend, Ms. Maxey provided the following updates:

- There are five part-time driver positions open with an average of 20 hours per week.
- The Assistant Director position remains open and applications are still being accepted for this position.
- The tablets are scheduled to be shipped out next week. Once received staff will be trained once installation is completed.

- 144 c. **Division 2 Update:** *Jeff Cabaniss, NCDOT Division 2 Planning Engineer*  
145 Mr. Jeff Cabaniss provided the following updates:  
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  - Preliminary SPOT project points will be turned in by June 10<sup>th</sup>.
  - The Division meeting will be held on July 7<sup>th</sup> at Craven Community  
148 College from 5pm-7pm. They are utilizing an online tool this year as well  
149 to try an increase participation.
  - The bike/ped paths along Glenburnie and Neuse are about 95% complete.
  - Landscape enhancement project in Bridgeton has been completed.
  - The Trent River Bridge project has begun and is 60% complete and  
154 contractors are on track to finish the project as scheduled by June 15<sup>th</sup>.  
155 Crews will focus on completing the westbound lanes before the upcoming  
156 Memorial Day weekend.
  - Resurfacing of the Hwy 55 interchange in Bridgeton was awarded to S.T.  
157 Wooten and will begin once the Trent Bridge project is completed.
  - Four additional roads within the MPO are scheduled for resurfacing  
160 beginning in July including:
    - Simmons from Neuse Blvd. to National Ave.
    - Glenburnie from Neuse Blvd. to National Ave.
    - Rocky Run Road
    - Staten Road
  - They are preparing to resurface a number of roads in Trent Woods.
  - Haywood Daughtry advised that the following Friday, May 27<sup>th</sup> at 11am  
166 the Goldsboro Bypass will be open to traffic.

- 169 d. **New Bern Area MPO Update:** *Maurizia Chapman, MPO Administrator*  
170 Ms. Chapman provided updates on:  
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  - Staff and some board members attended the NCAMPO annual conference in  
172 Greensboro the previous week, which was highly successful. The New Bern  
173 MPO will host the 2017 annual conference and work has already begun in  
174 planning for this event.
  - Staff will hold a public meeting in June for the SPOT projects. Details will  
175 follow as a date and location are determined.
  - In regards to the functional classification of MLK between U.S. 70 and  
178 Highway 17 Bypass, which had previously been downgraded, the MPO  
179 worked with NCDOT to change it. The classification will be changed to an  
180 “Other Principal Arterial” and will be once again part of the Strategic  
181 Highway Network, making this road segment eligible for specific Federal  
182 transportation funds.
  - Copies of the completed MTP were handed out to each member.

184 **9. Discussion:**

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186 **10. Adjourn**

187 There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.  
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Jeff Ruggieri, Chairman

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Maurizia Chapman, MPO Administrator