

48 **5.4.Approval of the minutes of the January 11, 2018 meeting:** Chair Ruggieri requested
49 approval of the January minutes be pushed to the May meeting.
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51 **6.5.Eastern NC Regional Freight Mobility Plan:** *Ryan Purtle, Greenville MPO*
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53 Mr. Purtle provided a presentation on the proposed Eastern NC Regional Freight Mobility
54 Plan being recommended for our area, including Division's 1, 2 and 4.
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56 This is a coordinated regional planning effort to identify, develop and support the
57 multimodal freight network within the identified eastern North Carolina planning area. The
58 goals of this proposed plan includes:

- 59 • Development of strategies to address freight movement, congestion and mobility
60 issues while identifying potential multimodal connectivity strategies across freight
61 modes
- 62 • Identify economically significant links to/from communities and State and regional
63 transportation hubs to leverage regional and local economic competitiveness
- 64 • Create a regional multimodal freight vision identifying State, regional and division
65 level projects for regional prioritization
- 66 • Develop strategies to support adoption and implementation of new and innovative
67 freight technologies
- 68 • Establish a collaborative regional partnership to support freight and other regional
69 planning opportunities
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71 This is a collaborative effort between MPO's and RPO's within the Divisions noted.

72 MPO's include:

- 73 • Greenville
- 74 • Rocky Mount
- 75 • Goldsboro
- 76 • New Bern

77 RPO's include:

- 78 • Eastern Carolina RPO
- 79 • Down East RPO
- 80 • Mid-East RPO
- 81 • Upper Coastal RPO
- 82 • Peanut Belt RPO
- 83 • Albemarle RPO
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85 Additional support comes from NCDOT, Highway 70 Corridor Commission, Highway
86 17/64 Corridor Commission and the NCEast Alliance.
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88 Key considerations include:

- 89 • Coordination from MPOs, RPOs, NCDOT, economic development professionals,
90 commercial rail providers, airports and ports
- 91 • Large commercial and industrial stakeholders will be key in developing a plan that
92 promotes development of the existing freight network while planning for future
93 industry needs
- 94 • Existing infrastructure and freight hubs will play a key role with focus on
95 connectivity between communities and industries to viable freight routes

96 In order to continue supporting the existing industries, and plan for future industrial growth,
97 this plan is vital to the area. The planning process for this plan is estimated to take
98 approximately twelve months after a consulting firm is chosen. The stakeholder interview
99 and the public involvement process will be substantial due to the size of the area included
100 in the study.

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102 This project is being submitted for consideration of State Planning Research (SPR) funds.
103 This would help offset the cost that each MPO and RPO has to budget to participate. The
104 estimated cost for this project is \$250,000. The cost share breakdown is as follows:

- 105 • MPOs - \$50,000 each for a total of \$200,000
- 106 • RPOs - \$ 5,000 each for a total of \$ 30,000
- 107 • Commissions/Additional partners – Cost shared for a total of \$20,000

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109 Vice-chair Hodges made suggestions on economic development individuals to be included
110 in stakeholder meetings, including Southeast Regional Partnership.

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112 **Motion: Chair Ruggieri made a motion in support of conception of the Eastern NC**
113 **Regional Freight Mobility Plan, pending additional funding details. The motion was**
114 **seconded by Vice-chair Hodges and passed unanimously.**

115 **7.6.FY 2019 Draft Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP):** *Kimberly Maxey*

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117 Ms. Maxey relayed that the Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) is an annually
118 updated document that outlines accomplishments from the previous year and establishes
119 goals for the upcoming year.

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121 The budget included in this document includes final budget allocation numbers as
122 received from the State. Ms. Maxey pointed out the line item the proposed \$50,000 for
123 the Freight study has been allocated to, which holds a total amount of \$60,152.

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125 This document can be revised during the year with a Resolution outlining where the shift
126 in funds would come from, if necessary. At this point, the funds being requested for the
127 Freight Study, consuming most of that line item, isn't an issue as there are no other plans
128 for those funds at this time. If at some point during the year, the Board determines a
129 study is required or the need for additional funds is necessary, a budget revision can be
130 completed with funds being shifted from other line items.

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132 The final UPWP is due by the end of March.

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134 **Motion: Mr. Fort made a motion to recommend approval of the Unified Planning**
135 **Work Program. The motion was seconded by Mr. Baumgardner and passed**
136 **unanimously.**

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8.7. Annual Self Certification of 3C’s Planning Process: *Kimberly Maxey*

Ms. Maxey advised this document works alongside the UPWP. Every year the NBAMPO is required to self-certify that they are following the guidelines established within the 3C, Continuing, Cooperative and Comprehensive, planning process. The MPO receives a checklist to ensure requirements are adhered to. Ms. Maxey confirmed the New Bern MPO is compliant.

Motion: Mr. Fort made a motion to recommend approval of the Annual Self Certification of 3C’s Planning Process by Resolution. The motion was seconded by Mr. Shorter and passed unanimously.

9.8. Updates:

- a. **Transportation Planning Division Update: *Catherine Bryant, NCDOT TPD***
 - Ms. Bryant provided statewide updates on performance measures, the statewide plan, corridor studies across the state, newly approved statewide freight plan, traffic forecasting
 - Craven County CTP efforts continue
- b. **CARTS Update: *Kelly Walker, Transit Director***
 - No specific updates.
- c. **Division 2 Update: *Jeff Cabaniss, NCDOT Division 2 Planning Engineer***

Mr. Jeff Cabaniss was unable to attend. Ms. Hampton provided updates:

 - US 17 Bypass is 65% complete.
 - US 70 Slocum Road Flyover is 13% complete. Completion date September 2019.
 - First Street road diet final design being completed. Checking on contaminated soil along this corridor. April let date, paving completed mid-June, sidewalks completed fall.
 - MLK/Neuse/Broad St. Roundabout project – public meeting held on February 8th. Low attendance.
- d. **New Bern Area MPO Update: *Kimberly Maxey, MPO Staff***
 - Working on updating Methodology. The document is more comprehensive than the original, to ensure requirements from the NCDOT/SPOT office are met. Essentially the methodology has been changed to put 100 points on every project deemed viable. We had deviated from previous methodology the past two years to allow for 100 points on every project and it worked well.
 - The RFP has been submitted for Bicycle/Pedestrian plans for River Bend and Bridgeton.

10.9. Discussion:

11.10. Adjourn

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

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Jeff Ruggieri, Chairman

Kimberly Maxey, MPO Administrator