



TAC MEETING MINUTES

March 28, 2019

The New Bern Area Metropolitan Planning Organization held their regularly scheduled meeting on Thursday, March 28, 2019 at 11:00 am in the Development Services Conference Room, 303 First Street.

Members Present: Mr. John Kirkland – Chairman, River Bend
Mr. Jeffrey Odham – Vice-Chairman, New Bern
Ms. E.T. Mitchell – Commissioner, Craven County
Mr. Chuck Tyson – Mayor, Trent Woods

Members Excused: Ms. Elizabeth Parker – Commissioner, Bridgeton
Mr. Thomas Taft – NC Board of Transportation

Non-Voting Members: Ms. Kelly Walker – Director, CARTS
Mr. Christopher Connolly - NCDOT

Members Absent:

Guests Present: Ms. Taruna Tayal – VHB
Mr. Gene Hodges – Craven County
Mr. George Liner – Craven County Commissioner
Ms. Heather Hildebrant – NCDOT
Mr. Behshad Norowzi - NCDOT

Staff Present: Ms. Kimberly Maxey – New Bern Staff
Ms. Diane Hampton – NCDOT

- 1. Call to Order:** Chair Kirkland called the meeting to order at 11:00 am.
- 2. Roll Call:** Roll call was taken and a quorum was declared.
- 3. Ethics Reminder:** Ms. Maxey advised that all members have passed the ethics test. Chair Kirkland reminded members to consider the ethics statement before voting on a motion.

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4. Approval of today’s agenda:

Motion: Ms. Mitchell made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Mr. Tyson seconded. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

5. Approval of minutes for January meeting:

Motion: Vice-Chair Odham made a motion to approve minutes as presented. Ms. Mitchell seconded. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

6. Metropolitan Transportation Plan Update – Scope of Services: *Kim Maxey and Taruna Tayal*

Ms. Maxey advised that we will no longer be doing a 3-year phased update of the MTP implementation as discussed last meeting, but a smaller update to ensure we are within the 5-year update requirement. The next update for 2025 will be larger and include the new 2020 census data. Ms. Tayal presented the following revised scope of services and additional information:

- How VHB works, communicates and collaborates with the MPO
- Anticipated changes with 2020 census socioeconomic data
- Projects that are in construction or have been approved by the state since the last update
- Prioritize recommendations

VHB helped the NCDOT with an Indirect Cumulative Effects (ICE) pilot study done alongside the creation of the first NBAMPO MTP to see if it was something that would work with MPOs across the state. VHB will be updating the initial 2013 model with current 2019 socioeconomic data. This will not be a new model, they are just validating current socioeconomic data to include information from the American Community Survey (ACS) that shows population and employment data, and traffic count information available to NCDOT.

Ms. Mitchell requested if the socioeconomic data from Florence could be addressed in the update since it is probable there have been shifts in population density due to climate change and weather patterns over the last 10 years. Ms. Maxey advised that this information would be included in the larger 2025 update since there will be more data from the 2020 census.

Motion: Ms. Mitchell made a motion to approve the Metropolitan Transportation Plan Update – Scope of Services as presented. Vice-Chair Odham seconded. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

87 **7. NC Statewide Transportation Plan – NC Moves 2050: Heather Hildebrant**
88

89 Ms. Hildebrant presented the 4 steps involved in the planning process: current assessment
90 of the system, a plan for uncertainties, possible futures, and developing a plan. They are
91 currently in phase 2, planning for uncertainties. This has been a 2 year process that will
92 wrap up in 2020.
93

94 Ms. Hildebrant expressed the importance of public engagement in doing this plan and
95 their surveys. The goal is to ensure the plan will work for all residents of North Carolina.
96 In order to obtain public input, there will be multiple opportunities for participation,
97 including tabling events, table topics, and surveys, both paper and online.
98

99 The NCDOT is working on white papers that will obtain national data, to compare North
100 Carolina to other states to get an idea of the future in the following 8 areas:
101 demographics, economy, tourism, partnerships, funding, technology, security and
102 climate/resiliency.
103

104 The board discussed which areas were most important in their perspective regions.
105

106 **8. FY 2020 Unified Planning Work Program: Kim Maxey**
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108 Ms. Maxey presented the Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) in draft format
109 during the January meeting and no additional changes have been made to the proposed
110 budget and expenditures. The final document includes the 5 year plan, and local matches
111 for next year's budget.
112

113 The TCC recommends approval.
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115 **Motion: Mr. Tyson made a motion to approve the proposed FY 2020 Unified**
116 **Planning Work Program as presented. Ms. Mitchell seconded. Motion passed by**
117 **unanimous vote.**
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119 **9. Annual Self Certification of 3C's Planning Process: Kim Maxey**
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121 Ms. Maxey advised that we are required to ensure the MPO is following the 3C Planning
122 Process every year:

- 123 • Cooperative – cooperation between federal, state, local levels of government and
124 various agencies within each level
- 125 • Continuing – updating approach to how we view transportation planning
- 126 • Comprehensive – refers to 10 facets including:
 - 127 1. Economic factors affecting development
 - 128 2. Population
 - 129 3. Land use
 - 130 4. Transportation facilities
 - 131 5. Travel patterns
 - 132 6. Terminal and transfer facilities

- 133 7. Traffic control features
- 134 8. Zoning, building codes, subdivision codes
- 135 9. Financial resources
- 136 10. Social & community value factors

137
138 Ms. Maxey feels confident we are achieving this goal. Communication between member
139 agencies has improved each year, and there has been collaboration with rural
140 counterparts.

141
142 The TCC recommends approval.

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144 Chair Kirkland agrees that NBAMPO has worked hard to be transparent and endorses
145 this statement.

146
147 **Motion: Mr. Tyson made a motion to approve the Annual Self Certification of 3C's**
148 **Planning Process as presented. Ms. Mitchell seconded. Motion passed by**
149 **unanimous vote.**

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151 **10. P 6.0 Pre-Submittal Project Discussion: *Kim Maxey (0:58:20)***

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153 Ms. Maxey has presented the following upcoming P 6.0 schedule, which is a breakdown
154 from now through 2021 when the next draft is released.

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- 156 • July-September 2019: All projects entered
- 157 • April-July 2020: Regional Impact window- opens for 4 months
- 158 • September-October 2020: Division Needs window opens for 2 months
- 159 • July 2021: 2022-2031 STIP released

160
161 Ms. Maxey reviewed the pre-submittal process for P 6.0 of interchange/intersection
162 improvement projects. The following is a breakdown of the 5 projects that were discussed
163 at the March and January meetings, and additional suggestions. These projects still need
164 to go through the prioritization process.

- 165 • H183996 – First/Trent/Pollock/Rhem intersection: re-alignment of this
166 intersection to aid in safety or construct a roundabout. Engineers are considering
167 both options.
- 168 • H184053 – MLK Blvd./Mall entrance: to address congestion issues stemming
169 from Chick-fil-a drive through overflow that backs up along MLK
 - 170 ○ A portion of road has been funded for super street design. This is still in
171 developmental phase. The owner of the shopping center needs to approve
172 work.
- 173 • Williams Road at airport: re-align the road to create a better entrance

179 11. Updates:
180

181 • **Transportation Planning Division Update:** *Christopher Connolly, NCDOT*
182 *TPD*

- 183 ○ Mr. Connolly presented efficiency maps in recent TPD meeting. Changes
184 were made to the 3 lane construction boulevard, but they are still on
185 schedule for the work order adoption at the end of October.
186

187 • **CARTS Update:** *Kelly Walker, Transit Director*

- 188 ○ Ms. Walker advised that there has been an increase in urban riders and
189 decrease in rural riders.
190 ■ The data tracks that someone has gotten on and off, but not where they
191 got on and off.
192 ○ The Assistant Transportation director is on board. Roy ____.
193

194 • **Division 2 Update:** *Diane Hampton, NCDOT*

- 195 ○ Ms. Hampton advised that Len White is the new Planning Engineer.
196 ○ The Upcoming Project List contains all new projects and their let and right
197 of way dates.
198 ■ Havelock Bypass let date has been extended to April 16th. The
199 remainder of the projects are currently on time.
200 ○ The Construction Progress Report contains project information such as the
201 name and number, person in charge, how far along, if it is on schedule or
202 not, and additional dates.
203 ■ \$1 Billion in construction projects within the next 5 years in Division 2
204

205 • **New Bern Area MPO Update:** *Kim Maxey, MPO Staff*

- 206 ○ Ms. Maxey requested confirmation on how to progress with project
207 prioritization. The board agreed to continue discussing projects
208 individually in TAC/TCC meetings. There will be no sub-committee
209 meetings at this time, and everyone is in agreeance that meetings will run
210 over an hour.
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212 12. **Discussion:** There was a brief discussion about a train from New Bern to Charlotte.
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214 13. **Adjournment:** There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.
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218

219 John Kirkland, Chairman
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Jeff Ruggieri, Secretary