



TCC MEETING MINUTES

January 16, 2020

The New Bern Area Metropolitan Planning Organization held their regularly scheduled meeting on Thursday, January 16, 2020 at 1:30 pm in the Development Services Conference Room, 303 First Street.

Members Present:

Mr. Jeff Ruggieri – Chairman
Mr. Gene Hodges – Vice-Chairman
Mr. Don Baumgardner – County of Craven
Ms. Diane Hampton - NCDOT
Ms. Kelly Walker – CARTS
Ms. Bailey Hardin – NCDOT
Mr. Steve Hamilton – NCDOT
Mr. Christopher Connolly – NCDOT
Mr. Len White – NCDOT
Mr. Kevin Roberts – New Bern Chamber of Commerce
Mr. Bill Marley – Federal Highway Administration (non-voting)
Mr. B.J. Eversole – Down-East RPO (non-voting)

Members Excused:

Mr. Andrew Shorter – NB Regional Airport
Mr. Behshad Norowzi – NCDOT

Members Absent:

Mr. George Chiles – City of New Bern Engineer
Mr. Delane Jackson – River Bend
Mr. Preston Hunter – NCDOT

Guests Present:

Ms. Hemal Shah – NCDOT
Mr. Mickey Anderson – Eastern Carolina RPO
Ms. Terry Jones – Public

Staff Present:

Ms. Kimberly Maxey – New Bern Area MPO
Ms. Felicia McRee – New Bern Area MPO

43 **1. Call to Order:** Chair Ruggieri called the meeting to order.

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45 **2. Roll Call:** Roll Call was taken and a quorum was declared.

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47 **3. Approval of today's agenda:**

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49 The board unanimously approved the agenda as presented.

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51 **4. Election of TCC Chairman and Vice-Chairman**

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53 **Motion: Mr. Hamilton made a motion to re-elect Mr. Ruggieri as Chairman and**
54 **Mr. Hodges as Vice-Chairman. The motion was seconded by Mr. Baumgardner**
55 **and passed with majority vote in favor, and one against.**

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57 **5. Approval of minutes for the joint October 2019 meeting:**

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59 **Motion: Mr. Baumgardner made a motion to approve the October 2019 minutes as**
60 **presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Roberts and passed unanimously.**

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62 **6. FY 2021 Draft Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP):** *Kim Maxey*

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

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68 This document is being presented in draft format and is due to the State by the end of
69 January. The final document will be presented during the March meeting. Ms. Maxey
70 does not anticipate allocation amounts to change, but a final budget will be presented at
71 this time.

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73 **Motion: Mr. Roberts made a motion to approve the draft UPWP and recommend**
74 **TAC approval. The motion was seconded by Mr. Hamilton and passed**
75 **unanimously.**

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77 **7. Annual Self Certification of 3Cs Planning Process:** *Kim Maxey*

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79 Ms. Maxey reviewed the 3Cs process, a continuing, cooperative, and comprehensive
80 transportation planning process. This certification states that we continue to participate in
81 a comprehensive and cooperative discussion with all member agencies, surrounding
82 communities and planning organizations.

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84 **Motion: Mr. Baumgardner made a motion to recommend TAC approval by**
85 **resolution of the certification of the 3Cs Planning Process. The motion was**
86 **seconded by Ms. Hampton and passed unanimously.**

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88 **8. NCDOT Mobi Award Submission:** *Kim Maxey*

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90 Ms. Maxey advised that the MPO submitted the First Street corridor project for the 2nd
91 annual NCDOT Mobi Awards. The Mobi Awards recognize multi-modal projects that
92 impact communities. Specific criteria they're looking for include projects that boost

93 economic growth, create long term jobs, improve public health, enhance the community
94 and quality of life, and contribute to the community in other significant ways. The First
95 Street corridor is a second entrance into the city, with access to Lawson Creek Park, the
96 Volt Center, residential neighborhoods, city offices, churches, fire department and more.
97 On top of the wide range of facilities, the number of accidents along this corridor has
98 been drastically reduced with the completion of the road diet. The award ceremony is
99 April 1, 2020. There are 6 prize categories, which include rural, urban, suburban, tourism,
100 innovation and most voted project.

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102 **9. P6.0 Discussion:** *Kim Maxey*

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104 Ms. Maxey advised MPO staff is still entering projects into SPOT.

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106 MPO staff and NCDOT have been working with a consulting firm on the Neuse Blvd
107 corridor project. After receiving a draft map of the potential changes, the main topics of
108 discussion were to:

- 109 - Keep full movement light at Bosch
- 110 - Keep all bulbs the same size/large enough for trucks
- 111 - Potentially keep light at Health Dept/DSS offices
- 112 - Concerns with access to/from hospital for medical vehicles
- 113 - Get updated GIS info to show current facilities

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115 **10. Updates:**

- 116 • **Transportation Planning Division Update:** *Christopher Connolly, NCDOT*
117 *TPD*

- 118 ○ Mr. Connolly advised that the CTP went through the preliminary review. Next
119 step is to implement any changes made from public involvement and
120 presenting for adoption. All municipalities need to adopt and the Down-East
121 RPO needs to endorse.
- 122 ○ Mr. Connolly also provided a presentation on NC Moves 2050, North
123 Carolina's long-range transportation plan which is currently being updated.

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

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127 • **Division 2 Update:** *Diane Hampton and Len White, NCDOT*

- 128 ○ Ms. Hampton presented the Construction Report and the Upcoming Project
129 Report.
- 130 ○ Mr. White advised that the Havelock Bypass is underway.

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

- 133 ○ Ms. Maxey requested feedback from the board on having joint meetings
134 moving forward. The consensus was to keep meetings separate, potentially
135 having them on the same day with TCC in the morning, TAC in the afternoon.
- 136 ○ Ms. Maxey provided a summary on the 2020 NC Transportation Summit and
137 recommended board members attend if possible in the future. Specifically, the
138 presentation by Tony Seba which MPO staff is putting together a slideshow of
139 some key points from his speech.

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141 **11. Discussion:**

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Ms. Terry Jones from the public came to ask how residents of Dover and Cove City could use CARTS to get to the Volt Center, and how residents of New Bern can get to the industrial park. Ms. Walker advised that there is a new grant CARTS is hoping to receive that will get rural residents to their place of employment. She also suggested using the demand response option, that residents can call and ask about the times and schedule.

12. Adjournment: There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Jeff Ruggieri, Chairman

Kimberly Maxey, MPO Administrator