

Minutes of the Mid-East RPO
Technical Coordinating Committee
February 8, 2017

TCC: David Bone, Robert Cayton, Seth Laughlin, Jamie Heath, James Rhodes, Jonas Hill, Woody Jarvis, Glen Moore, Hood Richardson, Judi Lannon, Frank Halsey Jr., Gene Powell, Suzette Morales, Jeff Cabaniss

State/NCDOT: Scott Walston, Nastasha Earle-Young

Staff: Justin Oakes, Ben Rogers

TCC Chair Cayton called the TCC meeting to order at 9:10. Quorum for the TCC was established and the State Ethics Policy Statement was read. There were no conflicts.

Approval of Agenda:

James Rhodes made a motion for the TCC to approve the agenda for the February 8th 2017 meeting. The motion was seconded by Judi Lannon, the motion carried and the agenda was approved by the TCC.

Approval of Past Minutes:

David Bone made a motion to approve the minutes from the October 26th 2016 Mid-East RPO TCC Meeting. The motion was seconded by Hood Richardson, the motion carried, and the minutes were approved by the TCC.

Amendment to FY 16-17 MERPO Planning Work Program:

Mr. Oakes presented to the group a proposed amendment to the current Planning Work Program for the Mid-East RPO. This amendment would move funds from items that were not starting in FY 16-17 to cover Prioritization and Program Development, as Prioritization 5.0 activities for the RPO will get underway this Spring. Mr. Oakes explained that the items not being undertaken in FY 16-17 were the update to the Locally Coordinated Transit Plan, as well as work on the Pitt County CTP. Mr. Oakes asked if there were any questions or comments. Hearing none, Chairman Cayton asked for a motion for TCC approval of the amended PWP. James Rhodes made a motion to approve the amended FY 16-17 Mid-East RPO PWP. The motion was seconded by David Bone, the motion carried, and the PWP amendment was approved by the TCC.

2018-2027 STIP Overview:

Jeff Cabaniss, NCDOT Division 2 Planning Engineer, provided the group an overview of the NCDOT State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) and the projects from the Mid-East RPO that were included. The STIP identifies the construction funding and scheduling for

transportation projects at the state level over a 10-year period. Although federal law requires the plan to be updated every four years, the department proactively updates it every two years to ensure it accurately reflects the state's current financial situation. Highway 17 north of Washington to south of Williamston, which falls within Highway Division 1 and 2, has been listed as a committed project, with right-of-way and construction scheduled to begin within the first five years of the STIP. Mr. Cabaniss discussed that projects in Division 2 were competing with projects in Greenville, New Bern, Jacksonville, and Wilmington, making the competition for limited funding difficult.

Highway 17/64 Association Update:

Marc Finlayson with the Highway 17 Association provided a corridor update and presentation to the group. The association, which has grown to include the US 64 corridor with the announcement of the proposed Interstate 87, was rebranded as the Highway 17/64 Association, and continues to serve the mission of completing the vital corridor for Eastern North Carolina. Mr. Finlayson discussed potential transportation legislation in the upcoming legislative session, including funding for specific corridors who's cost exceed the current corridor cap, as well as a Blue Ribbon Committee to discuss transportation revenue.

SPOT 5.0 Update:

Mr. Oakes provided the RPO with an update on the upcoming Prioritization 5.0 cycle, including the P 5.0 Schedule and important upcoming dates for the Mid-East RPO. Mr. Oakes presented the Carryover/Cut Project List to the group, breaking down the classification of projects post P 4.0, which included committed, carryover, or holding tank. Mr. Oakes said that he would be reaching out to schedule County Meetings in March/April in which project submittals would be discussed. Mr. Oakes said the goal of these meetings was to develop a P 5.0 new project submittal list to be preliminarily approved at the May meeting.

NCDOT Division Updates:

Jeff Cabaniss with NCDOT Division 2 shared updates from the Division on ongoing and future projects, as well as took questions from RPO members. Woody Jarvis, Town Manager from Belhaven, inquired about a bridge project that was delayed. Mr. Cabaniss said he would look into the matter and follow up. Mr. Oakes provided the group with handouts of updates in Martin County from Division 1. He explained that Gretchen Byrum was unable to attend, but if there were any questions, he could relay them to her.

NCDOT Transportation Planning Branch Update:

Mr. Oakes introduced the new Mid-East RPO Coordinator, Suzette Morales, to the group. Suzette is replacing Carlos Moya, as TPB underwent a structure shift in late 2016. Ms. Morales introduced herself to the group, and provided updates on CTP's in the region. Scott Walston and Nastasha Earle-Young, also with NCDOT TPB introduced themselves as well.

Public Input:

Chairman Cayton asked if there was anyone from the public that would like to speak; there were no comments.

Member Discussion/Comments:

Chairman Cayton asked if there were any final comments from the TCC. There were none.

Next Meeting:

Mr. Oakes said the next meeting was scheduled for Wednesday May 3rd in Martin County, with a future meeting date in August.

Adjournment:

David Bone made a motion for the TCC to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Judi Lannon, the motion carried. TCC adjourned.