

Minutes  
of the joint  
RPO Technical Coordinating Committee  
And  
Transportation Advisory Committee  
August 7, 2013

TCC: Gray Hodges, David Hodgkins, Betty Moore, Jonas Hill, Judi Lannon, Randell Woodruff, David Bone, Eric Pearrrson, Charlotte Griffin, Hood Richardson, Robert Belcher

TAC: Tom Coulson, Robert Cayton, Dempsey Bond

State/NCDOT : Hemang Surti, Carlos Moya, Bill Kincannon, Woody Jarvis, Wayne Davis

Staff: Bryant Buck

Guest: Patrick Flannagan,

TAC Chair Bond called the meeting to order. Upon motion duly made, seconded and carried, the agenda was approved. Inasmuch as the Chair and the Vice Chair of the TCC were not present, the meeting was led by Chair Bond.

The minutes of the May 8, 2013, meeting were considered and upon motion duly made, seconded, and carried, the minutes were approved. The minutes of the June 25, 2013, called meeting were considered and upon motion duly made, seconded, and carried, the minutes were approved.

Public Comments: None.

Strategic Mobility Formula

An overview of the Strategic Mobility Formula was presented by Patrick Flanagan of the Eastern Carolina RPO. Mr. Flanagan discussed the latest revised plan, noting that additional revisions may still be instituted. Funding remains at the Statewide (40%), Regional (30%), and Divisional (30%) levels. The formula combines all funding previously designated as equity funds, urban loop funds, mobility funds, Powell Bill, and secondary roads paving. All capital expenditures, regardless of mode, will be funded from the Highway Trust Fund.

Mr. Flanagan noted that funds obligated for projects scheduled for construction by July 1, 2015 are *not* subject to the formula. He discussed the point scoring of projects and pointed out that there is an incentive for local funding of highway projects whereby fifty percent of the local commitment of non-State/Federal funds will be returned to the local area for other high-scoring projects in that area. It was noted that this “area” would include the entire local DOT division.

In response to question, Mr. Flanagan stated that if the Oregon Inlet Bridge starts construction by July 1, 2015, then those funds are safe. He also noted that Divisional funds will be decreasing. Road tolls will go toward statewide projects while ferry tolls stay within the division. RPO and MPO scoring of projects will begin in January 2014 and these organizations will be assigned a set amount of points to be assigned to its projects. Mr. Flanagan also reviewed the allocations of the Highway Scoring Quantitative Criteria, Economic Competitiveness, and other factors of scoring.

#### Ferry Tolling

Discussion was held of Senate Bill 402 and other impacts on ferry tolling. Mr. Buck explained that there will be a divisional funding allocation from which ferries will be replaced as needed. Replacing a ferry generally runs between \$15 to \$17 million dollars. The RPO is requested to pass a resolution for the tolling of ferries.

Rev. Cayton recommended that we have the specific language of the bill before any decision. Mr. Flanagan noted that DOT will hold a workshop in March 2014.

#### Point of Order

Inasmuch as Mr. Bond had to leave the meeting, Vice Chair Cayton led the remainder of the meeting.

#### Beaufort County Comprehensive Transportation Plan

Mang Surti of the DOT Planning Office staff presented an overview of the Beaufort County Comprehensive Transportation Plan which has been distributed for public comment. It was noted that public workshops have been held and that the maps have been approved by DOT and that within the next two months, it is expected that the DOT Board will also adopt the maps. The final report is expected by mid-2014.

#### Beaufort Area Transit

Gary Hodges, Director of the Beaufort Area Transit, gave an update of the services. He reported that the service provided from July 2012 through June 2013 covered 340,000 miles.

#### Eastern NC RPO/MOP Coalition

It was noted that training is being planned for the criteria for scoring and ranking of projects.

#### Southern Albemarle Association

At its July meeting, the Beaufort County Comprehensive Transportation Plan was discussed and two recommended changes were submitted.

#### NC Association of Rural Planning Organizations Conference

Mr. Buck stated that the TAC is still required to do SEI, but no training. For the TCC, both the SEI and the ethics training have been eliminated. Furthermore, the SEI documents for the TCC have been destroyed.

He also stated that a brief workshop on the Strategic Mobility Formula was held at the Association conference.

#### NCDOT Updates

Mr. Woody Jarvis, Division 2, reviewed the distributed lists of projects for Beaufort and Pitt Counties. He noted that the criteria for ranking and funding of secondary roads projects are unknown at present.

#### Transportation Planning Branch Updates

Mr. Carlos Moya stated that the Transportation Board recommends the ranking and scoring program but noted that this is an ongoing situation.

#### Next Meeting:

Meetings are scheduled for November 6, 2013 and February 5, 2014.