

Minutes  
of the  
Joint Meeting  
Mid-East RPO Technical Advisory Committee  
Technical Coordinating Committee  
Beaufort County Commissioners Room  
Wednesday, February 2, 2012  
10:00 am

Present: Robert Cayton, Alicia Arnold, Dempsey Bond, Peggy Wilson, Derek Price, James Rhodes

Staff: Bryant Buck, Linda Roberts

State: Saeed Mohammed, Tyler Bray, Barr Hobbs, Betty Ann Caldwell, Neil Lassiter

Robert Cayton, Chair of the TAC and Dempsey Bond, Vice Chair of the TCC called the meeting to order.

There were no public comments and a quorum was not present.

NC DOT 2040 Statewide Transportation Plan

Tyler Bray gave a PowerPoint presentation on the draft NC DOT 2040 Statewide Transportation Plan, which he stated that during the next few months there will be briefings/workshops. The draft plan will be on the DOT website for 45 days and DOT would like to for the stakeholders to give their comments. He informed the committees this plan will be brought to the DOT Board to be adopted in June.

There was a question and answer session.

Rural Transportation Organization/Rural Transit Providers Workshop

Mr. Buck reported that the staff of the Mid-East RPO, Peanut Belt RPO and Albemarle RPO held a workshop in October with local transit providers to receive input and ideas on coordination of a regionalized transit system. Maps were distributed and he asked the providers to mark up the maps of their trips. He stated that he was looking for coordination for a more efficient system.

Eastern NC RPO/MPO Meeting

Mr. Buck remarked that the Mid-East staff along with TAC/TCC representatives attended meetings regarding prioritization of NC Eastern Regions top five regional projects. As a follow-up to this project priority list, the RPO/MPO coalition will be inviting additional RPO/MPO's to provide input at an upcoming meeting with the Governor to examine additional needs in rural Eastern North Carolina.

He reported that the Coalition will focus attention on the legislators during the May session. In Early April the coalition will meet with the legislators to get a chance to voice our issues.

#### Beaufort County Comprehensive Transportation Plan

Mr. Buck stated that the Beaufort County employment data has been calculated and forward to the DOT for modeling purposes. Survey data has been compiled and reviewed; currently compiling sidewalk/pedestrian facility needs as identified based on survey and municipalities input.

He informed the committees that the plan is usually a two year process and the final document should be ready to be presented to the Beaufort County Commissioners the middle of next year.

#### Southern Albemarle Association Update

Mr. Buck stated that the Ferry Tolls was the primary topic of discussion at its January meeting. A resolution was adopted at this meeting to ask the Governor not to endorse ferry tolls which are to be established by April 1<sup>st</sup>. He informed the committees that on the DOT website one can voice their opinion regarding the tolls.

#### NC Association of Rural Planning Organizations Conference Updates

Mr. Buck talked about the merger process and training that will be held. Rules were changed on RPO prospective, but not any changes in membership

#### NCDOT Updates

Mr. Hobbs noted that NC 171 (5503) is being restrengthening and resurfacing. Project NC 125 resurfacing has gone to Raleigh.

Ms. Caldwell presented a handout and stated that meetings for bridge replacement will be held for Division 1 and 4 on March 13 at the Bob Martin Agricultural Center in Williamston; Division 2 and 3 on February 22 at the James Sprout Community College in Kenansville.

Mr. Lassiter stated that the bridge that was destroyed by Hurricane Irene at the Ferry Dock in Aurora will be open to traffic in two months. The Highway 17 project, outside of Washington, is a little ahead of schedule. In Pitt County, NC 143 is being widen back of the hospital and trafficking is ahead of schedule.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned. The next TCC meeting is scheduled for May 2<sup>nd</sup>.