

Minutes  
Of the  
RPO Technical Coordinating Committee  
Held  
November 2, 2011

TCC: Betty Moore, Joyce Harrell, David Bone, Dempsey Bond, Eric Pearson, Hood Richardson, James Rhodes, Glen Moore, Jonas Hill, Randell Woodruff

State: Betty Ann Caldwell, Saeed Mohamed

Staff: Bryant Buck, Justin Oakes

Guest: Judy Jennette, Robert Cayton, Marc Finlayson

Chair Moore called the meeting to order. Ms. Caldwell handed put a report from Division 2. Rev. Cayton led the committee in prayer.

Approval of Agenda

Mr. Buck asked to add under new business: Merger Resolution; move item C up to new business – MPO/RPO Resolution; D. Freedom Roads Endorsement.

Mr. Rhodes made the motion to approve the agenda, and Mrs. Harrell second the motion. The motion carried.

Minutes

One correction on page 2 under the NC Association of Rural Planning Organizations Conference held in Boone; the word should be “commuting” in stead of comminuting. Mrs. Harrell made the motion to correction to approve the minutes with the one correction, and Mr. Rhodes seconded the motion. The motion carried.

There were no public comments.

Prioritization of Mid-East RPO Highway Projects.

Mr. Buck stated that he had sat down and looked at the projects, prioritized points; scored high priority projects that were 100 points and not as many for others. Ones scored 8, 11, 6 were done so because only that percentage is in the Mid-East area. NorthEast Bypass was given a 0 because the Greenville MPO scored it a 0 as well and its 75% in their area.

Mr. Richardson stated that he thought the Pamlico Bridge got X number on TIP, and Mr. Buck responded it did.

Someone stated that the project on Prison Camp Road was the same logic as regional split. It was pronounced due to regional need.

Mr. Rhodes asked Mr. Bryant if he had the scores DOT provided, and Mr. Buck stated not with him.

Mr. Rhodes announced that some new projects have been added and asked Mr. Buck to explain. Mr. Buck stated that the compiled list was developed when he was named the Planning Director. He asked Mr. Rhodes to give him an example. Mr. Rhodes stated that NC 903; there coming in off DOT list. Mr. Buck stated this was because of loop projects.

Mr. Rhodes asked if there were any new projects in other counties. Mr. Buck responded that he believed that was all that has been added.

Mr. Rhodes stated he thought the 258 went away long ago; did it also come off DOT list? Mr. Buck stated yes. Mr. James noted that five all the small communities between Kinston and Tarboro on 258, it would seem, as

too difficult to do. Mr. Buck stated that is why it was only given the \_\_\_\_\_ in our area in Pitt. Mr. Rhodes stated that it has not been talked about in Pitt County.

Ms. Caldwell noted not here to tell you what to give; this is what you want to assign. She stated so we should assume if no one \_\_\_\_\_ it should not go. She stated that Lenoir County RPO should be contacted. Mr. Rhodes stated that he was not aware of it ever being discussed at the regional meetings.

Mr. Rhodes stated that he was not aware of the 903 project; yet it ranks highest through DOT.

Mr. Bone stated that he would like to look over the project before he gave an endorsement.

Mr. Buck stated that another meeting could be held to approve projects before ranking.

Mr. Rhodes stated that it comes down to five projects; partially scored; NorthEast Bypass; would be glad to give points to Martin County from 258 or something.

Ms. Caldwell asked what is meant by maximum points.

Mr. Buck stated that up to 100 points; \_\_\_\_\_ as projects you give maximum our percentage. Mr. Rhodes asked if we can give full points even if through MPO. Mr. Buck stated that is understanding is yes.

Mr. Bone asked about project 289. Mr. Buck responded can be given point's maximum.

Mr. Rhodes made the motion we go with this spreadsheet will 11 \_\_\_\_\_ in 217 up to 182 to get to 67. Mr. Bone seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

Alpesh breaks down the points \_\_\_\_\_ between area.

Mr. Bone made the motion to record previous \_\_\_\_\_ carried motion.

Mr. Rhodes made the motion to maximize points across the board, and Mr. Woodruff seconded the motion. The motion carried.

### Merger Resolution

Mr. Buck stated that the Rural Planning Organizations are requesting full partner status in the DOT Merger Process. Staff is seeking support and endorsement of this resolution from TAC members.

Mr. Richardson made the motion to endorse the resolution, and Mr. Bone seconded the motion. The motion carried.

### MPO/RPO Coalition Resolution

Mr. Buck stated a coalition of MPO/s and RPO/s representing 13 counties within Eastern North Carolina have come together and identified six key highway projects and one urban loop project that will improve mobility and facilitate growth and prosperity through Eastern North Carolina.

After a brief discussion, Mr. Richardson made the motion to approve the resolution and Mrs. Harrell seconded the motion. The motion carried, but the RPO requested to be brought in as well.

### Freedom Roads Endorsement

Mr. Buck noted that the NC African American Heritage Commission is seeking endorsement for a proposed "Freedom Roads" Trail to commemorate routes used by freedom seeking African Americans from the antebellum period to the end of the civil war.

\_\_\_\_\_ made the motion to approve the endorsement, and \_\_\_\_\_ seconded the motion. The motion carried.

### 2040 Update

Mr. Mohamed gave an update on the 2040 Plan.

### Rural Transportation Organization/Rural Transit Providers Workshop

Mr. Buck announced that the staff of Mid-East RPO, Peanut Belt RPO, and Albemarle RPO held a workshop with local transit providers to receive input and ideas on coordination of a regionalized transit system.

### Eastern NC RPO/MPO Meeting

Mr. Buck stated that the Mid-East RPO staff along with TAC/TCC representatives attended two meetings regarding prioritization of North Carolina Eastern Regions top five regional projects.

### Beaufort County Comprehensive Transportation Plan

Mr. Buck stated that the development of the boundary area for Washington Model with Chocowinity have been included in the plan. Needs and goals survey have been distributed at strategic location throughout the Beaufort County area. The next step of the project will be sidewalk and pedestrian facility needs identified based on survey and municipalities input.

### Southern Albemarle Association

Mr. Buck reported that the Southern Albemarle Association held its 76<sup>th</sup> Annual meeting on October 20, 2011. Rep. Matt Wood from Division attended the meeting. Discussion on the following topics: Cap Gas Ta, Ferry Toll and eliminate 1% sales tax.

#### NC Association of Rural Planning Organizat6ions Conference

Mr. Buck updated the TCC on information discussed at the NCARPO conference held in Wilmington on October 26-28.

#### East Coast Greenway

Mr. Buck informed the TCC members that a subcommittee has been formed.

#### NC Maritime Strategy

Mr. Buck told the members that there is a study being developed on the Morehead and Wilmington Ports.

#### Reports

Ms. Caldwell from Division 2 updated the TCC on projects.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.