

MEMORANDUM

DATE: September 14, 2023

TO: Winston-Salem Urban Area MPO Technical Coordinating Committee (TCC)

FROM: Kelly Garvin, Assistant Director of Transportation
e-mail: kellym@cityofws.org; office phone: (336) 747-6881

SUBJECT: Agenda for the September 21, 2023 TCC Meeting at 2:00 p.m.

PLACE: Bryce A. Stuart Building – 2nd Floor WS/FC Utilities Engineering
Conference Room, 100 E First Street, Winston-Salem, NC 27101

AGENDA

1. Public Comments (Chairman, Jeff Fansler)

Action Items

- Election of Officers (Chairman, Jeff Fansler)
2. Consideration of the July 20, 2023 TCC Meeting Minutes. (Enclosed) (Chairman, Jeff Fansler)
 3. Public Hearing and Consideration of the Draft Winston-Salem Urban Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (WSUAMPO) 2024-2033 Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program (MTIP). (Enclosed) (Hunter Staszak)
 4. Consideration of an Approval for a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with the Greensboro MPO for the Continued Transfer of Planning Responsibility and Authority of the Portion of the Winston-Salem Urbanized Area (UZA) located within the Guilford County Limits. (Enclosed) (Kelly Garvin)
 5. Consideration of an Approval of a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with the High Point MPO for the Transfer of Planning Responsibility and Authority of the Portion of the Winston-Salem Urbanized Area (UZA) located within the Davidson County Limits. (Enclosed) (Kelly Garvin)

Information Items for Future Action

6. Public Hearing and Consideration of an Amendment to the 2045 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) to Update the List of Programmed Projects for the Winston-Salem Urban Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (WSUAMPO) for Consistency with the 2024-2033 State and Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Programs. (Enclosed) (Hunter Staszak)
7. Review of the Fiscal Year 2020 – 2029 Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program (MTIP) Amendments and Modifications for the Winston-Salem Urban Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (WSUAMPO). (Enclosed) (Hunter Staszak)
8. Review of the “Smoothed” Urbanized Area Boundary Map of the Winston-Salem Urban Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (WSUAMPO). (Enclosed) (Hunter Staszak)
9. Review of the Fiscal Year 2024-2033 Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program (MTIP) Amendments and Modifications for the Winston-Salem Urban Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (WSUAMPO) and Amending the 2045 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP). (Enclosed) (Hunter Staszak)

10. Review of a Presentation on Extending Program Windows for Federal Calls for Projects.
(Enclosed) (Jason Schronce, David Wasserman, Kelly Garvin, Hunter Staszak)

Information Only

11. Review of a Presentation on Rail Safety and Risks in the Winston-Salem Urban Area: A Preliminary Investigation of the Data (Hunter Staszak)

Staff Reports (Presentation by Staff)

12. MPO Staff Reports (Enclosed)
 - a. NCDOT Division 9 Transportation Projects Update (Pat Ivey)
 - b. NCDOT Transportation Planning Update (Pam Cook)
 - c. NCDOT Integrated Mobility Division (Alex Rotenberry)
 - d. FHWA Update (Suzette Morales)
 - e. Piedmont Triad Regional Council of Governments Update (Carter Spradling)
 - f. Forsyth County OEAP Air Quality Update (Cary Gentry)
 - g. Bicycle and Pedestrian Facilities Projects Update (Ben Woeber)
 - h. Winston-Salem Transit Authority (WSTA) Update (Donna Woodson)
 - i. Piedmont Authority for Regional Transportation (PART) Update (Scott Rhine)
 - j. Davidson County Transportation (DCT) (Richard Jones)
 - k. Title VI Compliance Update (Marlene Davis)
 - l. MPO Calendar of Activities (Hunter Staszak)
 - m. Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act Funding Opportunity Report (Ridwaana Allen)
 - n. Ethics Liaison (Kelly Garvin)
 - o. Moving Times Magazine (Hunter Staszak)
13. Next Meeting/Adjourn Meeting (Chairman, Jeff Fansler)

Next meeting: November 16, 2023

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MINUTES
WINSTON-SALEM URBAN AREA
TECHNICAL COORDINATING COMMITTEE (TCC)
July 20, 2023
1:00 P.M
IN-PERSON MEETING

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Pam Cook, Transportation Engineer III, Western Piedmont Planning Division, NCDOT
Pat Ivey, Division 9, Division Engineer, NCDOT
Amy Crum, Assistant Planning Director, Planning and Development Services
Amy Flyte, Assistant Manager, Town of Clemmons
Andrew Meadwell, Manager, Bermuda Run
Stacey Tolbert, Assistant City Manager, Town of Lewisville
Chris Jensen, Town Engineer, Town of Kernersville
Cary Gentry, Director, Forsyth County Air Quality
Steve Smotherman, Project Planner, Winston Salem - Forsyth County
Scott Leonard, Director Planning, Davidson County
Kelly Garvin, Assistant Planning Director, WSDOT
Jason Hill, Public Works Director, Rural Hall
Donna Woodson, WSTA

PRESIDING: Jeff Fansler, Chairman, WSDOT

STAFF PRESENT:

Marlene Davis, Title VI Coordinator, WSDOT
Hunter Staszak, Transportation Planner, WSDOT
Brenda King, Financial Manager, WSDOT
Bill Marley, FHWA
Fred Haith, Division Planning Engineer, NCDOT
Phillip Craver, Corridor Engineer, NCDOT
Richard Jones, Transportation Manager, Davidson County
Alex Rotenberry, Sr. Regional Planner, Integrated Mobility Division, NCDOT

RECORDING SECRETARY: Laura Nixon, WSDOT & Nateja Hale, WSDOT & Laura Whitaker, WSDOT

Chairman Fansler welcomed all members and had all present individuals introduce themselves.

1. Public Comments.

- No One present.

Action Items

Election of Officers

- Chairman Fansler proposed the elections of officers to be postponed until all positions are filled.

2. Consideration of the May 18th, 2023, Meeting Minutes

Presented by Chairman Jeff Fansler

MOTION: Pat Ivey

SECOND: Amy Crum

VOTE:

FOR: Unanimous

AGAINST: None

Abstained: None

- Chairman Fansler omitted

3. Consideration of the Prioritization 7.0 Submitted Projects for the Winston-Salem Urban Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (WSUAMPO).

Presented by Hunter Staszak

- The State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) identifies the construction funding for and scheduling of transportation projects at the state level over a 10-year period. The North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) proactively updates the STIP every two years to ensure that it accurately reflects the state's current financial situation. Strategic Transportation Investments (STI) law mandates ongoing evaluation and improvement to ensure the process is responsive to North Carolina's diverse needs. To develop the 2026-2035 STIP, NCDOT will use a process called Prioritization 7.0 (P7.0) to identify, evaluate, and ultimately program projects.
- Prioritization 7.0 involves three key parts: 1) a data driven, quantitatively scored estimate of project need, 2) MPO priority score, and 3) NCDOT Division priority score. The first step of Prioritization 7.0 is the identification of projects for evaluation and scoring by NCDOT's Strategic Planning Office of Transportation (SPOT).
- Including 21 highway projects, 23 bicycle and pedestrian projects, 4 transit projects, 1 aviation project, and 3 rail projects.
 - *Alex Rotenberry expressed interest in Rail projects. He also questioned who WSUAMPO would work with directly to complete the proposed work.*

MOTION: Kelly Garvin

SECOND: Amy Crum

VOTE:

FOR: Unanimous

AGAINST: None
Abstained: None

4. Consideration of an Update to the Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program (CMAQ) and Carbon Reduction Program (CRP) Joint Call for Projects Application Process and Project Selection Criteria for the Winston-Salem Urban Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (WSUAMPO).

Presented by Hunter Staszak

- The Winston-Salem Urban Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (WSUAMPO) holds an annual call for projects for the Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program (CMAQ) and Carbon Reduction Program (CRP). In anticipation of future competitive CMAQ & CRP application cycles, MPO staff developed a new set of criteria to clarify how projects will be selected and better align the process with MPO objectives and the Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP).
- The proposed criteria:
 - Maintains the importance of evaluating projects on emissions reduction. 50% up to 75% of a project's final score or rank is based on its emissions reduction as reported by Forsyth County OEAP.
 - Adds a quantitative "checklist" or scorecard-based assessment for spatial projects based on five key MPO objectives and areas of focus: congestion management, community health & safety, equity, project readiness, and connectivity & innovation. Up to 25% of a project's final rank is based on the score received in this section.
 - Clarifies the qualitative criteria by requiring applicants to submit project narrative responses to prompts related to the five key MPO focus areas outlined above. 25% of a project's final rank is based on the narrative section. Projects will be assigned a ranking in this area by a Project Selection Committee of at least five (5) members including at least one member each from Winston-Salem DOT, NCDOT Division 9, and the public.
 - *Alex Rotenberry asked to speak on potential health criteria, and CDC collaborations.*

MOTION: Carey Gentry
SECOND: Donna Woodson

VOTE:
FOR: Unanimous
AGAINST: None
Abstained: None

5. Consideration of the Fiscal Year 2020 – 2029 Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program (MTIP) Amendments and Modifications for the Winston-Salem Urban Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (WSUAMPO).

Presented by Hunter Staszak

- The Fiscal Year (FY) 2020-2029 Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program (MTIP) is a comprehensive list of all transportation projects programmed for the Winston-Salem Urban Area and must be a subset of the Winston-Salem Urban Area 2045 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) and match Winston-Salem Urban Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (WSUAMPO) projects in the FY 2020-2029 State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP). The 2045 MTP Update was adopted by the TAC on November 19, 2020.
- The North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) regularly updates the STIP to include new projects and modify existing projects. Any STIP amendment for new statewide projects or projects within the Winston-Salem Urban Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (WSUAMPO) triggers the amendment of the MTIP. Modifications to the STIP do not require adoption but are provided for information.
- As required by the WSUAMPO's Public Participation Policy, the amendments, and modifications to the FY 2020 – 2029 MTIP were made available for public review and comment for at least thirty (30) days between June 1 and July 19, 2023.
- *No Comments*

MOTION: Amy Crum

SECOND: Pat Ivey

VOTE:

FOR: Unanimous

AGAINST: None

Abstained: None

6. Consideration of an Amendment to the Comprehensive Transportation Plan (CTP) for the Winston-Salem Urban Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (WSUAMPO) to Remove the “311 Connector” Project.

Presented by Chairman, Jeff Fansler

- The City of Winston-Salem owns a series of properties near Cline Street in the southeast ward for which the intention is to construct approximately 378 affordable housing units. Affordable housing has become one of the top priorities for the city, as housing costs continue to rise and housing stock, particularly the stock of affordable units, continues to trail demand. Fewer than half of all rental units in Winston-Salem are affordable to families earning 80% of the Area Median Income (AMI) or less, meaning the city has a shortage of more than 16,000 affordable units. The City of Winston-Salem Community Development Department is pursuing options to construct multifamily or single family housing on the subject properties and intends to issue a Request for Proposals (RFP) to solicit proposals for private development of housing units on the properties. The private investment is to be supplemented with approximately \$9,500,000 in federal housing funds through the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

- To determine the applicability of federal funding investment, HUD requires the city to conduct an Environmental Assessment (EA) to identify potential environmental impacts of the proposal. One component of the EA requires a review of existing plans to determine if the housing proposal is consistent with the community's long-range goals and policies as articulated in its comprehensive plans. Through a review of the Winston-Salem Urban Area Metropolitan Planning Organization's (WSUAMPO) Comprehensive Transportation Plan (CTP), Community Development staff identified the proposed "311 Connector" project to be in direct conflict with the housing proposal, which would prevent access to HUD funding for the project. The "311 Connector" project proposal includes the construction of a new highway facility between Interstate 40 and Salem Parkway, west of Salem Lake, which represented the original Northern Beltway alignment until the decision was made to shift the Beltway alignment further east.
- *No Comments*

MOTION: Pat Ivey

SECOND: Amy Crum

VOTE:

FOR: Unanimous

AGAINST: None

Abstained: None

7. Consideration of a Resolution Supporting the Winston-Salem, NC to Raleigh, NC and Winston-Salem, NC to Charlotte, NC Corridor Proposals Identified in the North Carolina Department of Transportation Rail Division's Application to the Corridor Identification and Development Program.

Presented by Chairman Jeff Fansler

- In March 2023, the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) submitted applications for twelve (12) rail corridors for consideration under the USDOT Federal Railroad Administration (FRA)'s Corridor Identification and Development Program. Two (2) of these corridors would provide direct connection with Winston-Salem and our MPO communities: Winston-Salem, NC to Raleigh, NC and Winston-Salem, NC to Charlotte, NC.
- The Corridor Identification and Development Program was authorized by the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, and provides funding for various development activities including scoping, scheduling, cost estimation, the preparation of a service development plan, and project development, to create a pipeline of intercity passenger rail projects ready for implementation in the future.
- The application submitted to the FRA in March 2023 by NCDOT included letters of support from Forsyth County and the City of Winston-Salem. The letters emphasized the value passenger rail would provide for citizens across our MPO, the continued growth of our communities and economies, and investments in equitable, sustainable, and multimodal transportation in our region.

- As the applications undergo review, the Winston-Salem Urban Area Metropolitan Planning Organization wishes to also emphasize its support for the Winston-Salem to Raleigh and Winston-Salem to Charlotte corridors and urge the FRA to consider this vital transportation investment in our growing and innovative community.
- *No Comments*

MOTION: Kelly Garvin

SECOND: Pat Ivey

VOTE:

FOR: Unanimous

AGAINST: None

Abstained: None

Chairman Fansler stated requested that Information Item #11 be moved to the Action Items. A motion was made to move the Information Item to Action Items and was approved by the committee.

MOTION: Pat Ivey

SECOND: Amy Crum

VOTE:

FOR: Unanimous

AGAINST: None

Abstained: None

8. Review of the Fiscal Year 2020 – 2029 Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program (MTIP) Amendments and Modifications for the Winston-Salem Urban Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (WSUAMPO). (TCC Information Item #11 moved to Action Item)

Presented By: Hunter Staszak

- The Fiscal Year (FY) 2020-2029 Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program (MTIP) is a comprehensive list of all transportation projects programmed for the Winston-Salem Urban Area and must be a subset of the Winston-Salem Urban Area 2045 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) and match Winston-Salem Urban Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (WSUAMPO) projects in the FY 2020-2029 State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP). The 2045 MTP Update was adopted by the TAC on November 19, 2020.
- The North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) regularly updates the STIP to include new projects and modify existing projects. Any STIP amendment for new statewide projects or projects within the Winston-Salem Urban Area Metropolitan Planning

Organization (WSUAMPO) triggers the amendment of the MTIP. Modifications to the STIP do not require adoption but are provided for information.

- The attached document describes the additions, deletions, amendments, and modifications to the Winston-Salem Urban Area FY 2020 – 2029 MTIP.
- As required by the WSUAMPO's Public Participation Policy, the amendments, and modifications to the FY 2020 – 2029 MTIP were made available for public review and comment for at least thirty (30) days between June 1 and July 19, 2023.
- *No Comments*

MOTION: Kelly Garvin

SECOND: Pat Ivey

VOTE:

FOR: Unanimous

AGAINST: None

Abstained: None

Information Items for Future Action

9. Review of an Approval for a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with the Greensboro MPO for the Continued Transfer of Planning Responsibility and Authority of the Portion of the Winston-Salem Urbanized Area (UZA) located within the Guilford County Limits.

Presented by Kelly Garvin

- 23 USC 134 and Section 8 of the Federal Transit Act require that a Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) be designated for each urbanized area and that, if necessary, the boundaries of the MPO be expanded after each decennial Census to cover the Census defined urbanized area (UZA).
- As a result of the 2000 United States Census, portions of the Winston-Salem UZA went into western Guilford County for the first time. The Winston-Salem Urban Area MPO and Greensboro Urban Area MPO met and agreed on a new Metropolitan Area Boundary (MAB) map that kept the entire UZAs within each MPO. There was no transfer of planning responsibilities and no MOA at that time. Simply, the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) Transportation Planning Division reviewed the new MAB map and gave their approval.
- With the 2010 United States Census, the Winston-Salem UZA expanded farther into Guilford County taking in very small portions of the Town of Oak Ridge. In 2012, the Winston-Salem Urban Area MPO and Greensboro Urban Area MPO developed and informally agreed on a new MAB map. The 2020 United States Census resulted in a different expansion of the Winston-Salem UZA into Guilford County east of Kernersville. In 2023, the Winston-Salem Urban Area MPO and Greensboro Urban Area MPO again agreed that the Winston-Salem Urban Area MPO would not encroach into Guilford County and remain entirely in Forsyth County. The Greensboro UZA did not expand into Forsyth County and thus was not an issue.

10. Review of an Approval of a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with the High Point MPO for the Transfer of Planning Responsibility and Authority of the Portion of the Winston-Salem Urbanized Area (UZA) located within the Davidson County Limits.

Presented by Kelly Garvin

- 23 USC 134 and Section 8 of the Federal Transit Act require that a Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) be designated for each urbanized area and that, if necessary, the boundaries of the MPO be expanded after each decennial Census to cover the Census defined urbanized area (UZA).
- As a result of the 2000 United States Census, portions of the Winston-Salem UZA went into northern Davidson County for the first time. The Winston-Salem Urban Area and High Point MPOs met and agreed on a new Metropolitan Area Boundary (MAB) map that kept the entire UZAs within each MPO. There was no transfer of planning responsibilities and no MOA at that time. Simply, the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) Statewide Planning Branch reviewed the new MAB map and gave their approval.
- With the new 2010 United States Census, the Winston-Salem UZA expanded farther south into Davidson County taking in the community of Welcome and most of the City of Lexington along the US 52 corridor. In 2012, the Winston-Salem Urban Area, High Point and Cabarrus Rowan MPOs developed and informally agreed on a new MAB map subject to the approval of the City of Lexington, the Davidson County Commission and the NCDOT. Those approvals were received and a new MAB for each MPO has been established.
- The MPOs agreed that the Winston-Salem Urban Area MPO would only take in some additional area north of Welcome over to the Yadkin River, while the High Point MPO would expand greatly to take in Welcome, the entire City of Lexington, and the entire rest of Davidson County to the west and south, including the small portion of the Cabarrus-Rowan UZA.

Staff Reports

11. MPO Staff Reports

No questions for staff.

a. NCDOT Division 9 Transportation Projects Update

Pat Ivey briefly updated members regarding NCDOT transportation and anticipated construction in Winston-Salem.

b. WSUAMPO Transportation Project Update

No questions for staff.

c. NCDOT Transportation Planning Update

Continued work on development of transportation plan to potentially convert to NCDOT template. Pam Cooke shared updates that were included in shared links and mentioned drivenc.gov regarding checking road for closures especially during inclement weather.

d. NCDOT Integrated Mobility Division

Alex Rotenberry discussed competitive annual grant for communities regarding improvements however the grant does not include infrastructure. Congratulated Davidson County transportation for receiving grant.

e. FHWA Update

No questions for staff.

f. Piedmont Triad Regional Council of Governments Update

No questions for staff.

g. Forsyth County OEAP Air Quality Update

No questions for staff.

h. Bicycle and Pedestrian Facilities Projects Update

No questions for staff.

i. Winston-Salem Transit Authority (WSTA) Update

No questions for staff.

j. Piedmont Authority for Regional Transportation (PART) Update

No questions for staff.

k. Davidson County Transportation (DCT)

No questions for staff.

l. Title VI Compliance Update

No questions for staff.

m. MPO Calendar of Activities

August 31st Public TIP Meeting

n. Ethics Liaison

50 years for MPO in 2024. Suggested plans for celebrating.

12. Next Meeting/Adjourn Meeting

- Next TCC meeting will be **September 21st 1:00 pm at Bryce A. Stuart**

ADJOURNMENT: 1:32 pm