



TAC MEETING MINUTES

March 25, 2021

The New Bern Area Metropolitan Planning Organization held their regularly scheduled meeting on Thursday, March 25, 2021 at 11:00 am in the Development Services Conference Room, 303 First Street, as well as via webinar.

Members Present:

Mr. John Kirkland – Chairman, River Bend
Mr. Jeffrey Odham – Vice-Chairman, New Bern
Mr. Bill Joiner – Town of Trent Woods
Mr. Bill Marley – Federal Highway Administration (non-voting)
Mr. Chris Connolly – NCDOT (non-voting)
Ms. Diane Hampton – NCDOT (non-voting)
Mr. Len White – NCDOT (non-voting)

Members Absent:

Ms. E.T. Mitchell – Commissioner, Craven County
Mr. Bill Howell – Town of Bridgeton
Mr. Hugh Overholt – NC Board of Transportation
Ms. Kelly Walker – CARTS (non-voting)

Guests Present:

Mr. Andy Shorter – Coastal Carolina Regional Airport
Ms. Taruna Tayal – VHB
Ms. Candice Andre – VHB

Staff Present:

Ms. Kimberly Maxey – New Bern Area MPO
Ms. Felicia McRee – New Bern Area MPO

1. **Call to Order:** Chair Kirkland called the meeting to order.
2. **Roll Call:** Roll Call was taken and a quorum was declared.
3. **Ethics Reminder:** Chair Kirkland reminded members of the ethics requirements.
4. **Approval of today's agenda:**

Motion: Vice-Chair Odham made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Joiner and passed unanimously.

43 **5. Public Comment:**

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45 No members of the public were present.

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47 **6. Election of TAC Chairman and Vice-Chairman**

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49 **Motion: Mr. Joiner made a motion to re-elect Mr. Kirkland as Chairman. The**
50 **motion was seconded by Mr. Odham and passed unanimously.**

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52 **Mr. Joiner made a motion to re-elect Mr. Odham as Vice-Chairman. The motion**
53 **was seconded by Mr. Kirkland and passed unanimously.**

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55 **7. Approval of minutes for the joint January 14, 2021 meeting:**

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57 **Motion: Vice-Chair Odham made a motion to approve the January 2021 minutes as**
58 **presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Joiner and passed unanimously.**

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60 **8. FY 2022 Final Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP): *Kim Maxey***

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62 The document has not changed since the draft was presented in January.

63
64 **Motion: Chair Kirkland made a motion to approve the FY22 Final UPWP as**
65 **presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Joiner and passed unanimously.**

66
67 **9. Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) Envision 2045: *VHB***

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69 Ms. Maxey advised this final document will be posted on our website, and it includes all
70 comments received during the public comment period.

71
72 **Motion: Chair Kirkland made a motion to approve the final MTP update as**
73 **presented. The motion was seconded by Vice-Chair Odham and passed**
74 **unanimously.**

75
76 **10. Endorse NCDOT established Safety Performance Measures: *Kim Maxey***

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78 The resolution for the Safety Performance Measures state that the MPO agrees to plan
79 and program projects that contribute toward the accomplishment of the State's targets.

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81 **Motion: Chair Kirkland made a motion to approve the NCDOT Safety**
82 **Performance Measures as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Joiner and**
83 **passed unanimously.**

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85 **11. Approve Local Input Methodology and Ranking Process: *Kim Maxey***

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87 Ms. Maxey advised the only update to this document was the addition of the Flexing
88 Policy. This allows the MPO to transfer up to 500 Local Input Points from one category
89 to another. For example, if there are more Division Needs projects than Regional Needs,
90 up to 500 points can be transferred.

91

92 **Motion: Vice-Chair Odham made a motion to approve the Local Input**
93 **Methodology as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Joiner and passed**
94 **unanimously.**
95

96 **12. P6.0 Discussion: *Kim Maxey***
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98 Ms. Maxey advised all projects are currently going through scoring and project design
99 with the SPOT office. We will begin our review and prioritization in August once we
100 receive their scoring. Public involvement will begin about a month before the board
101 begins regional point assignments.
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103 **13. Reclassification of current Office Assistant III position to MPO Planner: *Kim Maxey***
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105 Ms. Maxey requested approval to reclassify Ms. McRee's position from Office Assistant
106 III to MPO Planner. She has successfully absorbed all responsibilities of the MPO
107 Planner position. Ms. Maxey has discussed with her Director and received approval
108 through Human Resources as well as the City Manager. Chair Kirkland and Vice-Chair
109 Odham agreed to this reclassification, and remaining board members supported the
110 decision as well.
111

112 **14. Updates:**

- 113 • **NCDOT Transportation Planning Division: *Chris Connolly***
 - 114 ○ Mr. Connolly presented the TPD newsletter and advised the CTP is on hold
115 until public meetings can be held
116 ○ The Traffic Survey Group has launched a new website that provides traffic117 data118
- 119 • **CARTS: *Kelly Walker***
- 120
- 121 • **Coastal Carolina Regional Airport: *Andy Shorter***
 - 122 ○ Mr. Shorter advised the airport applied for the DOT Small City Air Service
123 Development Program grant aimed at recruiting additional airlines
- 124 ○ Received nearly 90 letters of support and over \$100,000 in pledges125 ○ Grant awards announced May 1
- st
- 126 ○ Roundabout project moving along127
- 128 • **NCDOT Division 2: *Diane Hampton and Len White***
 - 129 ○ Mr. White presented the Construction Report
130 ○ Resurfacing projects have begun, starting with US 17
- 131 ○ Ms. Hampton advised NCDOT has come out with a new Swat-a-Litterbug app132 ■ Ms. Maxey advised NCDOT has picked up 2 million pounds of litter133 since launching new program in January134
- 135 • **New Bern Area MPO: *Kim Maxey and Felicia McRee***
 - 136 ○ NCDOT has completed their long-range transportation plan, NC Moves 2050
137 ○ American Rescue Plan highlights:
 - 138 ■ \$30.5 billion available for transit, including \$26.09 billion for
139 urbanized area formula grants
- 140 ■ No official word on how the state will divvy up the money

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- We are expecting CARTS to receive \$130,000 in 5307 funds

15. Discussion: Vice-Chair Odham commented on the future CARTS bus stops and shelters, and the need for consistency when planning.

16. Adjournment: There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.