



**TAC MEETING MINUTES
May 25, 2023**

The New Bern Area Metropolitan Planning Organization held their regularly scheduled meeting on Thursday, May 25, 2023 at 11:00 am in the Development Services Conference Room, 303 First Street, as well as via Zoom.

Members Present: Mr. John Kirkland – Chairman, River Bend
Ms. E.T. Mitchell – Vice-Chairman, Craven County
Mr. Bob Brinson – City of New Bern
Ms. Merrie Jo Alcock – NC Board of Transportation
Ms. Kelly Walker – CARTS (non-voting)
Mr. Behshad Norowzi – NCDOT (non-voting)
Mr. Len White – NCDOT (non-voting)

Members Absent: Mr. Bill Joiner – Town of Trent Woods
Mr. Randy Alexander – Town of Bridgeton
Mr. Brandon Oliver – FHWA (non-voting)

Guests Present: Mr. Andy Shorter – Coastal Carolina Regional Airport
Ms. Wendi Johnson – NCDOT
Mr. Cadmus Capehart – NCDOT
Ms. Becca Eversole – Down East RPO

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: Ms. Mitchell made a motion to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded by Mr. Brinson and passed unanimously.

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5. Public Comment:

No members of the public were present.

6. Approval of minutes for the January 26, 2023 and March 23, 2023 Meetings

Motion: Mr. Brinson made a motion to approve the January and March minutes. The motion was seconded by Ms. Mitchell and passed unanimously.

7. Approval of FY 2024 Meeting Schedule: *Felicia McRee*

Motion: Mr. Brinson made a motion to approve FY 2024 meeting schedule as presented. The motion was seconded by Ms. Mitchell and passed unanimously.

8. Adopt Resolution No. 7 to the Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program (MTIP): *Felicia McRee*

Ms. McRee advised any time modifications are made to the State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) we have to modify the MTIP. There are 2 statewide additions, adding funds to the right-of-way acquisition account, and 7 statewide modifications, modifying funds at the request of IMD.

Motion: Ms. Mitchell made a motion to approve Resolution No. 7 to the MTIP. The motion was seconded by Mr. Brinson and passed unanimously.

9. US 70/I-42 Corridor Construction Update: *Wendi Johnson and Brad McMannen*

Ms. Johnson presented an update on the James City Improvements project, providing photos and videos that can be found on the project website. A few key changes to design are that the pedestrian bridge will be remaining in place, storm water retention basins have been added along the corridor, there will be an additional roundabout at the Grantham Road interchange, and there will be noise walls added on either side of US 70 at the beginning of the project entering James City.

Mr. Capehart presented an update on the Havelock Bypass and Section C projects, providing photos and videos that can be found on the project website. The bypass is currently 61% complete, with an anticipated completion date of Spring/Summer 2024. New drone footage is scheduled to be filmed next week.

The Section "C" project is the 6.6-mile corridor between the James City Improvements and the Havelock Bypass. Balfour Beatty was awarded the contract in January 2023. There are 3 intersections that will be upgraded to interchanges, Camp Kiro Rd, Fisher Ave, and Stately Pines Rd, similar design to the James City interchanges.

91 **10. CARTS Discussion:** *Gene Hodges and Kelly Walker*

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93 Ms. Walker advised that due to the 2020 Census results and the NBAMPO population
94 dropping below 50,000, CARTS has lost their urbanized designation. 5307 funds that
95 have already been awarded prior to FY24 will not be affected and may continue to be
96 used under the terms for which they were originally apportioned. This will have the
97 most impact on the new Omnibus fixed route system that runs solely within the
98 urbanized area. It is currently paid by CARES Act funds which will run out June 30,
99 2024.

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101 **11. P 7.0 Update:** *Kim Maxey*

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103 Ms. Maxey presented the P7.0 timeline. The draft STIP is available on our website. We
104 have 14 slot submittal per mode.

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106 **12. Updates:**

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108 • **NCDOT Transportation Planning Division:** *Behshad Norowzi*
 - 109 ○ Mr. Norowzi presented the TPD newsletter
 - 110 ○ Interviews for the coordinator have been completed and they expect to have
 - 111 the position filled soon
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113 • **Integrated Mobility Division (IMD):** *Tony Sumter*
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115 • **Coastal Carolina Regional Airport:** *Andy Shorter*
 - 116 ○ Mr. Shorter advised there are more American Airlines seats available for
 - 117 purchase locally than there were in 2019
 - 118 ○ The EWN – DCA flights begin next week and runs through August
 - 119 ○ They are 2 weeks into the 12 month NEPA project for Williams Rd
 - 120 realignment project
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122 • **CARTS:** *Kelly Walker*
 - 123 ○ Ms. Walker advised ridership is up 19% from last FY
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125 • **NCDOT Division 2:** *Len White*
 - 126 ○ Mr. White presented the Construction Report
 - 127 ○ The advanced warning signals that are set to be installed on US 17 S at Ben
 - 128 D. Quinn are about 90 days out
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130 • **New Bern Area MPO:** *NBAMPO Staff*
 - 131 ○ Ms. Maxey announced her resignation to the City effective July 21, 2023

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133 **13. Discussion:**

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135 **14. Adjournment:** There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.