

45 response has been attached to the minutes.

46 Mr. Ipock advised they were invited on behalf of Vice-Chair Kinsey. They are currently
47 working on population numbers and trending. They are working with Oriad
48 Laboratories on a 10-year school age population trend, which shows a decline in
49 numbers. They are also working with Frank Barber on the military impact, phasing out
50 and phasing in. They are trending for 6-8 years showing 1,000 – 1,200 troop decline.
51 They want to ensure their numbers include our projections as well.

52 **5. Approval of today's agenda:** Chair Tyson requested a change to the agenda; move Item
53 #9, NBAMPO Citizen Advisory Committee to item #7. Mayor Tyson made a motion to
54 approve the agenda. Mayor Kirkland seconded. Motion passed by unanimous vote.
55

56 **6. Approval of the minutes of the January 22, 2015 meeting:** Reading of the minutes was
57 waived.
58

59 **Motion: Mayor Chuck Tyson made a motion to approve the minutes as presented.**
60 **The motion was seconded by Vice-Chair Kinsey and passed unanimously.**
61

62 **7. NBAMPO Citizen Advisory Committee:** *Kim Maxey*
63

64 Ms. Maxey thanks the CAC members that were able to attend the meeting today, and
65 relayed that the applications for the members were included in the board member packets.
66 She requested the board members appoint each member for a specific term. Having
67 received no preference on terms from the CAC members, she suggested the terms be
68 divided alphabetically, and a form was provided showing length of term for each
69 member. The first term will end December 31, 2016 and second term December 31,
70 2017. This will allow for continued coverage.
71

72 The meeting schedule will be created after today, but anticipate an initial training meeting
73 in April, first meeting in May and bi-monthly meetings thereafter. The goal will be to
74 reach a point where only quarterly meetings are necessary.
75

76 Chair Tyson questioned if all potential members were in attendance. Ms. Maxey advised
77 two members were not in attendance. He then questioned if that completed the board.
78 Ms. Chapman advised we will continue actively recruiting a few more members, not to
79 exceed the maximum of 17, but would like representation from freight, as well as each
80 jurisdictions. Currently River Bend and Bridgeton do not have representation.
81

82 **Motion: Mayor Tyson made a motion to approve appointment of the applications**
83 **received for members of the Citizen Advisory Committee, with respective terms as noted.**
84 **Vice-chair Kinsey seconded. Motion passed by unanimous vote.**
85
86
87
88

89 **8. FY 2016 Draft Planning Work Program:** *Maurizia Chapman*

90
91 Ms. Chapman relayed there had been no changes since their receipt of the draft document.
92 The direction staff received from the North Carolina Department of Transportation was to
93 continue with the numbers that were initially presented. It was approved by both branches of
94 DOT as well. It does reflect the emphasis areas that were identified by the Federal Highway
95 and Federal Transit Administrations.

96
97 Staff finalized the document and are requesting they approval by resolution. The Public
98 Transportation Division must have this submitted by tomorrow, Friday, March 23rd. It does
99 reflect the emphasis areas that were identified by the memo from FTA received yesterday.

100
101 **Motion: Mayor Tyson made a motion to approve the Planning Work Program as**
102 **presented and as recommended by the TCC. Vice-chair Kinsey seconded. Motion**
103 **passed unanimously.**

104
105 **9. Self-Certification of 3Cs Planning Process:** *Maurizia Chapman*

106
107 Ms. Chapman relayed that this is an annual requirement by the Federal Government. Staff
108 received a list of questions that must be answered from Federal Highway. This list certifies
109 that we have met all requirements of the Federal Highway Administration.

110
111 Staff requests the Board certify the process through Resolution, which has been provided.

112
113 **Motion: Mayor Tyson made a motion to approve the Annual Self-Certification**
114 **through Resolution be approved as presented. Mayor Kirkland seconded. Motion**
115 **passed unanimously.**

116
117 **10. Indirect and Cumulative Effects in Long Range Planning:** *Alena R. Cook, P.E.,*
118 *NCDOT-TPB*

119
120 Ms. Chapman introduced Ms. Alena Cook. Ms. Cook is an engineer with the NCDOT
121 Transportation Planning Branch, which works very closely with MPOs.

122
123 Ms. Cook provided handouts to members reviewing the Indirect and Cumulative Effects
124 (ICE) in Long Range Transportation Planning.

125
126 She relayed there is an assessment the NCDOT is offering to work with our MPO as part of
127 our Transportation Plan. It will be a component of the MTP, which is due next March, 2016.

128
129 This piece is called Indirect and Cumulative Effects (ICE) assessment. NCDOT is offering
130 to pilot this assessment for the first time through the NBAMPO. It's a piece of transportation
131 analysis that is required based on Federal and State law. Typically this is done after a
132 transportation project has been funded and is done as part of the Environmental Review
133 Process under NEPA that is required to get the permit to construct the project.

134 They have a team that has been working on combining ICE and Long Range Planning. Under
135 the current format, the ICE piece typically holds up a project during Environmental Review
136 which hinders the ability to issue a permit to begin work. Typically mitigation is then
137 required. They hope that if these issues are looked at earlier in the process, it will make the
138 entire process more efficient and faster. They think it will help with project implementation
139 as well as long range planning.

140
141 Ms. Cook reviewed the handout that was provided, providing background on integration,
142 which is where this concept was created. Integration started under a Federal Highway
143 streamlining grant that North Carolina received. It made them review how long range
144 transportation planning was done and how it could be improved. There are other components
145 to integration (shown on the handout). Some components are already implemented and
146 others are still in the concept phase.

147
148 There are several connections between long range planning and the development process.

- 149 1. The problem statement provides the basis for the purpose and need of the
150 development process.
- 151 2. The alternatives analysis looks at alternatives and solutions for transportation
152 projects, which assists in the project development process.
- 153 3. The community impact assessment documents populations and special features
154 in the area. This assists in developing the public involvement process.

155
156 There are products that will be rolled out in 6-10 months and will be implemented within
157 MPOs and RPOs around the state. These are topics that had previously been handled in the
158 long range transportation process, but documentation has not been done appropriately,
159 therefore this will document in a useful way and assist in the NEPA process.

160
161 Another link identified is indirect cumulative effects, which is relative to land use
162 development. There are three types of environmental impacts:

- 163 1. Direct Impact. This works with the alternatives analysis and is relatively easy
164 to determine and understand; what are the physical impacts to the
165 environment in developing the project.
- 166 2. Indirect Impact. This is what occurs due to a project being developed.
- 167 3. Cumulative Impact. This is everything that has ever occurred to a resource
168 and anything that may occur to a resource. It is not related to the project.

169
170 The goal of this process is to identify these issues to make a better connection between the
171 transportation plan and the land development plan. This process is being developed in North
172 Carolina and has never been done anywhere in the country prior. This would improve
173 communication between local government and developers.

174
175 Ms. Alena Cook explained the cumulative effects are a key focus area within the NEPA
176 process. There will be benefits to the process by generating this information within the long
177 range plan.

179 Using the handouts provided, Ms. Cook referred to the four products described within the
180 Integration ICE process.

- 181 1. Existing Conditions Assessment: The NBAMPO has already started this with
182 the development of the MTP. There are a few more categories to be
183 considered; land availability, water & sewer, expected service areas.
- 184 2. Future Growth Potential Assessment: Tied closely to the development of the
185 MTP. Provides an assessment on how we're doing the growth projections and
186 how it will impact the assessment process.
- 187 3. MTP Indirect and Cumulative Effects Screening: When it comes to doing the
188 analysis, there are two separate types of considerations. Indirect looks at
189 effects on the entire study area, and get a sense for indirect effects. This can
190 also be applied to particular project proposals. Cumulative effects look at it
191 more from a resource perspective, past actions and adding transportation
192 proposals and the impacts of it.
- 193 4. Best Management Practices Recommendations: This step helps individual
194 communities the most, providing recommendations based on the results of the
195 screenings to help minimize future cumulative and indirect effects to
196 development planning.

197
198 General Overholt questioned if under this planning process, would it be possible to color
199 code homes for example, retired military, active military, civilians working for the
200 government? Ms. Cook advised that is a different scope than what this is geared for. Ms.
201 Chapman confirmed.

202
203 Ms. Cook relayed that no one is currently doing this, but professional staff is viewing it with
204 excitement about how it will make planning more efficient. She noted if the MPO is
205 interested in participating in this process, it would be a seamless part of the Transportation
206 Plan. It won't be a separate study or assessment, it will be integral in what the MPO is
207 already doing. The NCDOT is offering to hire a consultant to assist with the process, since
208 it's the first time being implemented. Nor did they want to put additional burden on MPO
209 staff. This process will not delay the schedule required of the MPO.

210
211 Ms. Chapman relayed the TCC was interested and requested Ms. Cook come speak with
212 TAC. From the MPO Staff perspective, it is recommended. If New Bern opts out, they will
213 find another pilot MPO then potentially come back and require this process be completed, at
214 which time the NBAMPO would be required to pay for it.

215
216 Mr. White voiced concern on projects that may previously been scheduled but over time
217 dropped off the list. Ms. Cook advised it depends on the reasons why projects are delayed.
218 Sometimes that pertains to current political leadership, which is outside of their control.
219 While this process can't help with local leadership, it will help get a more accurate estimate
220 of project delivery. Once a project is funded, they will look at the extent of the indirect and
221 cumulative effects they think they will have as part of that project, which allows them insight
222 into what mitigation measures may be required or put in place, which provides better
223 planning on when a permit will be issued.

224 Ms. Cook advised no action from the board is required, she prefers confirmation that they are
225 interested in proceeding with the process. The board supports continuing.

226
227 **11. Draft Title VI Program and Limited English Proficiency Plan:** *Kim Maxey*
228

229 Ms. Maxey relayed the documents for Title VI have been submitted to Ms. Christy Tillery at
230 the NCDOT and are awaiting approval that documents area ready to move forward for board
231 approval and implementation. These documents should be ready for approval by the May
232 2015 meeting. At that point we will post the plan and have public comment periods
233 scheduled. The draft documents are available now for review if interested.
234

235 **12: NCAMPO Annual Conference April 29-May 1, 2015:** *Kim Maxey*
236

237 Ms. Maxey relayed the NCAMPO conference will be coming up at the end of April. It will
238 be held in downtown Raleigh. The MPO has funds to send a total of 4 members of both
239 boards to the conference. The MPO will cover registration and hotel costs. Travel and food
240 will be absorbed by the individual. Registration is required by the end of March. Ms. Maxey
241 confirmed that Chair Tyson is attending as well as member Gene Hodges. There is one slot
242 still available if anyone else is interested.
243

244 **13. Updates:**

245 **A. Transportation Planning Branch Update:** *Behshad Norowzi, P.E., NCDOT*
246 *TPB*
247

248 Mr. Norowzi introduced Mr. Farhan Javed. He has a PhD in transportation
249 engineering. He has been working on the transportation model, with Craig
250 Gresham and additional projects for the MPO.
251

252 Mr. Javed provided updates on the model.
253

254 **B. Division 2 Update:** *Jeff Cabaniss, NCDOT Division 2 Planning Engineer*
255

256 Mr. Jeff Cabaniss updated the board on current projects:

- 257 ~ The NC 43 Connector project has been awarded to S.T. Wooten and is
258 expected to be completed by August 1, 2016.
- 259 ~ Three bike and ped projects in various stages. Many of these were
260 referenced in the citizen letter from Mr. Noyes.
- 261 ~ The Clark's rest area building upgrade is underway.
- 262 ~ Resurfacing list hasn't changed. Was available in September, with
263 completion date of June 30th.
264

265 **C. CARTS Update:** *Gene Hodges, Interim Transit Director*
266

267 Mr. Hodges advised they kicked off the Transit Development Plan with the
268 consulting firm The Wendel Group. They are making a lot of progress. The

269 weather has played a role in their ability to travel as they are north, but
270 communication continued and the timeline is still on track to be completed by the
271 end of May.

272
273 Mr. Ruggieri inquired as to the timeframe of the TIP. Ms. Chapman relayed it
274 would be early 2016. The Board Of Transportation will adopt the TIP in June and
275 request the MPO wait until BOT action, FHWA will approve and January –
276 February we will begin the reprioritization process.

277
278 Chair Tyson requested an update on the Director Position. Mr. Hodges advised
279 the position has been posted and they continue accepting applications, but
280 applicants have been few.

281
282 **D. New Bern Area MPO Update:** *Maurizia Chapman, AICP, NBAMPO*
283 *Administrator, Ms. Kim Maxey, NBAMPO Planner*
284

285 Ms. Chapman:

- 286 • Thanked all participants of the Vision and Goal planning as well as plan
287 projection meeting. She provided handouts on the meetings, noting all
288 outreach meetings and survey information were incorporated into the
289 vision:

290
291 “A transportation system that provides increased availability of safe and
292 efficient mode choices for all users, promotes economic development and
293 maintains existing infrastructure.”

294
295 Ms. Chapman advised there are 8 Federal planning factors that must be
296 met as an MPO. The goals were also addressed that will assist in
297 achieving the vision. One strategy was determined. This information will
298 be posted and the Citizen Advisory Committee will participate which will
299 be included as part of the process.

300
301 In meeting with the consultant and dealing with projections, we want to
302 emphasize the projections are for transportation planning purposes.
303 Others are welcome to use them but they use population forecast to project
304 traffic. Regarding Cherry Point, it was agreed to keep the population
305 static through the year 2040. As the plan must be updated every five
306 years, the MPO will account for any change at that time. The projections
307 cover the entire MPO as well as Cherry Point and Havelock due to their
308 proximity to the MPO, even though they aren’t included in it.

- 309
310 • Regarding the Comprehensive State Rail Plan, Ms. Chapman provided a
311 letter written on behalf of Mayor Kirkland. Mayor Kirkland feels it’s a
312 good document, but one issue pertains to linking the Railroad and
313 Highway 70 relocation. The MPO has previously discussed the need to

314 look at right of way acquisition when relocating Highway 70 to keep rail
315 in the same corridor and improve connectivity with Morehead City. The
316 letter is a reply to the Plan, which should have been submitted one week
317 prior, but Mayor Kirkland felt it required MPO review and approval prior
318 to mailing. He is requesting a copy be sent to the Secretary as well.
319

320 **Motion: Mayor Tyson made a motion to approve the letter be signed and**
321 **mailed as presented. Vice-chair Kinsey seconded. Motion passed**
322 **unanimously.**
323

- 324 • Ms. Chapman provided members with a copy of a bill that has been presented
325 that would limit the number of studies an MPO is allowed to do. It may not
326 be approved, but if it is, it would be detrimental to the MPO and we may need
327 assistance in trying to stop it from being passed. Mayor Tyson questioned
328 what prompted the bill being presented. Ms. Chapman advised staff is still
329 trying to resolve that issue. General Overholt advised this was the first he had
330 seen of the bill and he will also try to get an explanation.
331

332 **12. Discussion:** Chair Tyson re-introduced members of the Board of Education that were in
333 attendance. He recommended their transportation individuals remain in contact with the
334 MPO to continue relaying information and encouraged them to attend regularly. Mr.
335 Ipock expressed an interest in sharing trending data to assist in their model forecasting.
336

337 **13. Adjourn:** There being no further business, Mayor Tyson made a motion to adjourn.
338 Chair Tyson seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 12:30 p.m.
339
340
341
342

343 Steve Tyson, Chairman

Jeff Ruggieri, Secretary