



## TAC MEETING MINUTES

**January 23, 2020**

The New Bern Area Metropolitan Planning Organization held their regularly scheduled meeting on Thursday, January 23, 2020 at 11:00 am in the Development Services Conference Room, 303 First Street.

**Members Present:** Mr. John Kirkland – Chairman, River Bend  
Ms. E.T. Mitchell – Commissioner, Craven County  
Mr. Chuck Tyson – Mayor, Trent Woods (via phone)  
Ms. Kelly Walker – Director, CARTS (non-voting)  
Mr. Christopher Connolly – NCDOT (non-voting)

**Members Excused:** Mr. Jeffrey Odham – Vice-Chairman, New Bern

**Members Absent:** Mr. Ray Parker – Town Council, Bridgeton  
Mr. Thomas Taft – NC Board of Transportation

**Guests Present:** Mr. Len White – NCDOT  
Ms. Diane Hampton – NCDOT  
Ms. Amanda Ohlensehlen – City of New Bern  
Mr. Gene Hodges – Craven County

**Staff Present:** Ms. Kimberly Maxey – New Bern Staff  
Ms. Felicia McRee – New Bern Staff

- 1. Call to Order:** Chair Kirkland called the meeting to order at 11:00 am.
- 2. Roll Call:** Roll call was taken and a quorum was declared with Mr. Tyson’s approval via phone.
- 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 as presented. Chair Kirkland seconded. Motion passed by unanimous vote.**

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 The election has been postponed until the next meeting.

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51 **7. Approval of minutes for the joint October 2019 meeting:**

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53 The approval of minutes has been postponed until the next meeting.

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55 **8. FY 2020 Draft Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP): *Kim Maxey***

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57 Ms. Maxey relayed that the Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) is an annually  
58 updated document that outlines accomplishments from the previous year and establishes  
59 goals for the upcoming year.

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61 This document is being presented in draft format and is due to the State by the end of  
62 January. The final document will be presented during the March meeting. Ms. Maxey  
63 does not anticipate allocation amounts to change, but a final budget will be presented at  
64 this time.

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66 **Motion: Mr. Tyson made a verbal motion to approve the FY 2020 Draft Unified**  
67 **Planning Work Program. Ms. Mitchell seconded. Motion passed by unanimous vote.**

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69 **9. Annual Self Certification of 3Cs Planning Process: *Kim Maxey***

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71 Ms. Maxey reviewed the 3Cs Planning process, a continuing, cooperative, and  
72 comprehensive transportation planning process. This certification states we continue to  
73 participate in a comprehensive and cooperative discussion with all member agencies,  
74 surrounding communities and planning organizations.

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76 **Motion: Mr. Tyson made a verbal motion to approve the certification of the 3Cs**  
77 **Planning Process. Ms. Mitchell seconded. Motion passed by unanimous vote.**

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79 **10. NCDOT Mobi Awards: *Kim Maxey***

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81 Ms. Maxey advised that the MPO submitted the First Street corridor project for the  
82 2<sup>nd</sup> annual NCDOT Mobi Awards. The Mobi Awards recognize multi-modal projects that  
83 impact communities. Specific criteria they're looking for include projects that  
84 boost economic growth, create long term jobs, improve public health, enhance the  
85 community and quality of life, and contribute to the community in other significant ways.  
86 The First Street corridor is a second entrance into the city, with access to Lawson Creek  
87 Park, the Volt Center, residential neighborhoods, city offices, churches, fire department  
88 and more. On top of the wide range of facilities, the number of accidents along this  
89 corridor has been drastically reduced with the completion of the road diet. The award

ceremony is in Raleigh, on April 1, 2020. There are 6 prize categories, which include rural, urban, suburban, tourism, innovation and most voted project.

**11. P 6.0 Pre-Submittal Project Discussion:** *Kim Maxey*

Ms. Maxey advised MPO staff is still entering projects into SPOT.

MPO staff and NCDOT have been working with a consulting firm on the Neuse Blvd corridor project. After receiving a draft map of the potential changes, the main topics of discussion were to:

- Keep full movement light at Bosch
- Keep all bulbs the same size/large enough for trucks
- Potentially keep light at Health Dept/DSS offices
- Concerns with access to/from hospital for medical vehicles
- Get updated GIS info to show current facilities

**12. Updates:**

- **Transportation Planning Division Update:** *Christopher Connolly*
  - Mr. Connolly advised that the Comprehensive Transportation Plan (CTP) went through the preliminary review. Next steps are to implement any changes made from public involvement and to present for adoption. All municipalities within Craven County need to adopt the CTP and the Down-East RPO needs to endorse.
  - Mr. Connolly also provided a presentation on NC Moves 2050, North Carolina's long-range transportation plan which is currently being updated. There are fact sheets available with more information on the NBAMPO website.
- **CARTS Update:** *Kelly Walker*
  - Ms. Walker presented a comparison of urban ridership from FY18 to FY20. CARTS is on track for a 3.66% growth in FY20 from FY18.
  - Chair Kirkland and Ms. Mitchell suggested creating a universal branding of CARTS, especially to have on signage.
- **Division 2 Update:** *Diane Hampton*
  - Ms. Hampton presented the Construction Report and the Upcoming Project Report.
- **New Bern Area MPO Update:** *Kim Maxey*
  - Ms. Maxey advised the consensus of both boards is to continue having separate meetings and holding specially called joint meetings to discuss SPOT projects when necessary.

**13. Discussion:**

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