



TCC MEETING MINUTES

March 11, 2021

The New Bern Area Metropolitan Planning Organization held their regularly scheduled meeting on Thursday, March 11, 2021 at 1:30 pm in the Development Services Conference Room, 303 First Street, as well as via webinar.

Members Present:

Mr. Jeff Ruggieri – Chairman
Mr. Gene Hodges – Vice-Chairman
Mr. Don Baumgardner – Craven County
Mr. Andy Shorter – Coastal Carolina Regional Airport
Ms. Diane Hampton - NCDOT
Ms. Kelly Walker – CARTS
Ms. Bailey Hardin – NCDOT
Mr. Steve Hamilton – NCDOT
Mr. Delane Jackson – River Bend
Mr. Christopher Connolly – NCDOT
Mr. B.J. Eversole – Down-East RPO (non-voting)

Members Absent:

Mr. George Chiles – City of New Bern Engineer
Mr. Behshad Norowzi – NCDOT
Mr. Preston Hunter – NCDOT
Mr. Kevin Roberts – New Bern Chamber of Commerce
Mr. Bill Marley – Federal Highway Administration (non-voting)

Guests Present:

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 Ruggieri called the meeting to order.
- 2. Roll Call:** Roll Call was taken and a quorum was declared.
- 3. Approval of today's agenda:**

The board unanimously approved the agenda as presented.

43 4. Election of TCC Chairman and Vice Chairman

44
45 **Motion: Mr. Hamilton made a motion to re-elect Mr. Ruggieri as Chairman and**
46 **Mr. Hodges as Vice-Chairman. The motion was seconded by Mr. Shorter and**
47 **passed unanimously.**
48

49 5. Approval of minutes for the joint January 14, 2021 meeting:

50
51 **Motion: Mr. Shorter made a motion to approve the January 2021 minutes as**
52 **presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Hodges and passed unanimously.**
53

54 6. FY 2022 Final Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP): *Kim Maxey*

55
56 The document has not changed since the draft was presented in January.
57

58 **Motion: Mr. Jackson made a motion to accept and recommend TAC approval of**
59 **the FY22 Final UPWP as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Ruggieri and**
60 **passed unanimously.**
61

62 7. Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) Envision 2045: *VHB*

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64 Ms. Andre advised this final document includes all comments received during the public
65 comment period.
66

67 **Motion: Mr. Hamilton made a motion to accept and recommend TAC approval of**
68 **the final MTP update as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Shorter and**
69 **passed unanimously.**
70

71 8. Endorse NCDOT established Safety Performance Measures: *Kim Maxey*

72
73 The resolution for the Safety Performance Measures state that the MPO agrees to plan
74 and program projects that contribute toward the accomplishment of the State's targets.
75

76 **Motion: Mr. Shorter made a motion to approve the NCDOT Safety Performance**
77 **Measures as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Ruggieri and passed**
78 **unanimously.**
79

80 9. Approve Local Input Methodology and Ranking Process: *Kim Maxey*

81
82 Ms. Maxey advised the only update to this document was the addition of the Flexing
83 Policy. This allows the MPO to transfer up to 500 Local Input Points from one category
84 to another. For example, if there are more Division Needs projects than Regional Needs,
85 up to 500 points can be transferred.
86

87 **Motion: Mr. Jackson made a motion to accept and recommend TAC approval of**
88 **the Local Input Methodology as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr.**
89 **Hamilton and passed unanimously.**
90
91
92

93 **10. P6.0 Discussion:** *Kim Maxey*

94
95 Ms. Maxey advised all projects are currently going through scoring and project design
96 with the SPOT office. We will begin our prioritization in August once we receive their
97 scoring.
98

99 **11. Updates:**

- 100 • **NCDOT Transportation Planning Division:** *Chris Connolly*
101 ○ Mr. Connolly presented the TPD newsletter and advised the CTP is on hold
102 until public meetings can be held
103 ○ The Traffic Survey Group has launched a new website that provides traffic
104 data
105
106 • **CARTS:** *Kelly Walker*
107 ○ Ms. Walker advised February 2021 ridership is at 73% of February 2020
108 ○ CARTS was given a grant to cover costs to assist with transportation to and
109 from vaccine locations
110
111 • **Coastal Carolina Regional Airport:** *Andy Shorter*
112 ○ Mr. Shorter advised the airport applied for the DOT Small City Air Service
113 Development Program grant aimed at recruiting additional airlines
114 ○ Received nearly 90 letters of support and over \$100,000 in pledges
115 ○ Grant awards announced May 1st
116 ○ Roundabout project moving along
117
118 • **NCDOT Division 2:** *Diane Hampton and Len White*
119 ○ Ms. Hampton presented the Construction Report
120 ○ Mr. Hamilton advised re-striping has begun on NC-43 between US 70 and
121 Ernul
122 ○ Next areas will be NC 55 from Bridgeton to Bayboro, then US 70 from Front
123 St. exit area to Havelock
124
125 • **New Bern Area MPO:** *Kim Maxey and Felicia McRee*
126 ○ Ms. Maxey advised MTP update team held first virtual public engagement
127 meeting end of January
128

129 **12. Discussion:**

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