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TCC MEETING MINUTES
May 11, 2023

10 The New Bern Area Metropolitan Planning Organization held their regularly scheduled meeting
11 on Thursday, May 11, 2023 at 1:30 pm in the Development Services Conference Room, 303 First
12 Street, as well as via Zoom.

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Members Present:

Mr. Gene Hodges – Chairman, Craven County
Mr. Andy Shorter – Coastal Carolina Regional Airport
Mr. George Chiles – City of New Bern
Ms. Kelly Walker – CARTS
Mr. Len White – NCDOT
Mr. Steve Hamilton – NCDOT
Ms. Bailey Harden – NCDOT
Mr. Jeff Cabaniss - NCDOT
Mr. Jeremy Stroud – NCDOT
Mr. Brandon Oliver – Federal Highway Administration (non-voting)
Ms. Becca Eversole – Down-East RPO (non-voting)

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Members Absent:

Mr. Delane Jackson – Vice-Chairman, River Bend
Mr. Chad Strawn – Craven County
Ms. Jessica Rhue – City of New Bern
Mr. Kevin Roberts – New Bern Chamber of Commerce
Mr. Behshad Norowzi – NCDOT

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Staff Present:

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

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Guests Present:

Ms. Wendi Johnson – NCDOT
Mr. Brad McMannen – NCDOT

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1. Call to Order: Chair Hodges called the meeting to order.

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2. Roll Call: Roll Call was taken and a quorum was declared.

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3. Approval of today's agenda:

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**Motion: Mr. Shorter made a motion to approve the agenda as presented.
The motion was seconded by Mr. Hamilton and passed unanimously.**

42 **4. Approval of minutes for the March 9, 2023 meeting:**

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44 **Motion: Mr. Shorter made a motion to approve the March minutes as**
45 **presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Hamilton and passed**
46 **unanimously.**

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48 **5. Approval of FY 2024 Meeting Schedule:** *Felicia McRee*

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50 **Motion: Mr. Shorter made a motion to approve FY 2024 meeting schedule as**
51 **presented and recommend TAC approval. The motion was seconded by Mr.**
52 **Hamilton and passed unanimously.**

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

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

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62 **Motion: Mr. Hamilton made a motion to approve Resolution No. 7 to the**
63 **MTIP and recommend TAC approval. The motion was seconded by Mr. White**
64 **and passed unanimously.**

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

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

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

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

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85 **8. CARTS Discussion:** *Gene Hodges and Kelly Walker*

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87 Ms. Walker advised that due to the 2020 Census results and the NBAMPO population
88 dropping below 50,000, CARTS has lost their urbanized designation. 5307 funds that

89 have already been awarded prior to FY24 will not be affected and may continue to be
90 used under the terms for which they were originally apportioned. This will have the
91 most impact on the new Omnibus fixed route system that runs solely within the
92 urbanized area. It is currently paid by CARES Act funds which will run out June 30,
93 2024.

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95 **9. P 7.0 Update:** *Kim Maxey*

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

99 The City of New Bern has created a Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee in lieu of the Plan
100 that was recently passed.

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102 **10. Updates:**

- 103 • **NCDOT Transportation Planning Division (TPD):** *Behshad Norowzi*

- 104 • **NCDOT Integrated Mobility Division (IMD):** *Tony Sumter*

- 105 • **CARTS:** *Kelly Walker*

- 106 ○ Ms. Walker advised Craven County is building CARTS a new facility on Parks
107 Road, next to the Judicial Center
108 ▪ The move is planned for July
109 ▪ No State or Federal money was used
110 ○ The County opened up a fueling center in the same location

- 111 • **Coastal Carolina Regional Airport:** *Andy Shorter*

- 112 ○ Mr. Shorter advised there are more American Airlines seats available for
113 purchase locally than there were in 2019
114 ○ The DCA-EWN route begins June 3 and runs through August
115 ○ The County was awarded a Commerce grant to build a road on airport
116 property to access the new corporate aerospace area

- 117 • **NCDOT Division 2:** *Len White*

- 118 ○ Mr. White presented the Construction Report
119 ○ The advanced warning signals that are set to be installed on US 17 S at Ben
120 D. Quinn are about 90 days out

- 121 • **New Bern Area MPO:** *NBAMPO Staff*

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