

1                   **NEW BERN AREA METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION**  
2                   **TCC MEETING MINUTES**

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4                   **July 25, 2013**

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6 The New Bern Area Metropolitan Planning Organization held its regularly scheduled meeting on  
7 Thursday, July 25, 2013 at 10:00 AM in the City Hall Courtroom, 2nd floor, 300 Pollock Street.  
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9                   **Members Present:**

10                   Mr. Jeff Ruggieri - Chair  
11                   Mr. Gene Hodges – Vice-Chair  
12                   Mr. John Chittick - Bridgeton  
13                   Mr. Terry Jordan – CARTS  
14                   Mr. Jordan Hughes – City of New Bern  
15                   Mr. Ivo Dernev – NCDOT  
16                   Mr. Steve Hamilton - NCDOT  
17                   Mr. Kevin Roberts – New Bern Chamber of Commerce  
18                   Mr. Drew Havens – River Bend

19                   **Members Excused:**

20                   Mr. Don Baumgardner – Craven County  
21                   Mr. Patrick Flanagan – Down Ease RPO  
22                   Ms. Jill Stark – FHWAY  
23                   Mr. Jeff Cabaniss - NCDOT  
24                   Ms. Cheryl Leonard - NCDOT

25                   **Members Absent:**

26                   Mr. Tom Braaten – New Bern Regional Airport

27                   **Guests Present:**

28                   Mr. Mike Epperson – City of New Bern  
29                   Mr. Adam Snipes – NCDOT  
30                   Mr. Ray McIntire – NCDOT

31                   **Staff Present:**

32                   Ms. Kim Langley  
33

34                   **New Business:**

- 35  
36                   **1. Call to Order:** Chairman Mr. Jeff Ruggieri called the meeting to order  
37  
38                   **2. Action:** Staff Kim Langley took roll call. A quorum was declared.  
39  
40                   **3. Action:** Approve minutes from June 27, 2013 Meeting.

41  
42 Reading of the minutes was waived. No changes were noted.  
43  
44

45 **Motion** was made by Mr. Steve Hamilton to accept the minutes as presented. Mr. Drew Havens  
46 seconded. Minutes were unanimously approved.  
47

48 **4. Presentation:** NCDOT's STIP – Mr. Adam Snipes & Mr. Ray McIntire  
49

50 Mr. Adam Snipes provided a PowerPoint presentation regarding the Transportation Program, the  
51 Two-Year STIP process, funding sources and NCDOT funding appropriations.  
52

53 Mr. Snipes advised the STIP process is a two-year process with a draft being created the first  
54 year and the final being approved the second year. The schedule varies due to new federal  
55 and/or state laws, but the goal is to have the draft completed by December 2014 and present for  
56 public comment, with approval coming in June 2015.  
57

58 Mr. Ruggieri asked for clarification on Spot Safety. Mr. Steve Hamilton advised this is state  
59 legislative money to manage projects that are developed through the annual report. Examples of  
60 Spot Safety include the turning lanes into Riverbend, the traffic circle on Broad Street and  
61 improvements slated for Carolina Pines. These projects do not go through the STIP.  
62

63 Mr. Hamilton questioned if there is a sign-off needed on federally funded Spot Safety projects.  
64 Mr. Ray McIntire advised these are funded through Spot Safety.  
65

66 Mr. Snipes noted with the new bill there is no longer a bridge project or interstate merit fund.  
67 All projects will come out of a general road construction fund. Mr. McIntire advised with the  
68 new policy congress is trying to give each state the ability to determine what projects should be  
69 completed within each state with their funds.  
70

71 Mr. McIntire advised with the new legislation, any project under construction prior to June 2015  
72 will go forward as planned. Any project after June 2015 will have to go through the new  
73 prioritization process. Projects slated after June 2015 are no longer definite, and must compete  
74 with other projects for completion. The MPO's and RPO's are vital in determining project and  
75 fund prioritization.  
76

77 Mr. Mike Epperson noted on the map provided the 43 connector has not been identified. Mr.  
78 Snipes advised not all projects have been included on the map as there are multiple projects that  
79 would clutter the initial content of the map. Mr. Epperson advised in our statewide and regional  
80 divisions, he feels the 43 connector and the 70/17 connector should be required for consideration.  
81

82 Mr. Epperson noted the New Bern Bypass has not been included with discussion among the  
83 MPO and questioned if the members of the MPO should be more engaged in it, especially given  
84 the new scoring system. Mr. McIntire advised the MPO will be at the table for the merger  
85 process and will get a vote. The New Bern Bypass documents will have to be reviewed again  
86 and will have to score well on the quantitative status, with appropriate points given to it by the  
87 MPO.  
88

89 Mr. Jordan Hughes questioned when to have input in decisions on the statewide level if it is felt

90 they are moving in a wrong direction for regional decisions; how to effectively re-channel. Mr.  
91 Snipes advised if the MPO is involved early enough, they will be part of the process to prioritize  
92 projects  
93

94 Mr. Ivo Dernev advised the Highway 70 project is done with a feasibility study, then no  
95 additional input is needed for prioritization, as it is in the TIP already. Raleigh will get a  
96 preliminary feeling on cost and where the project stands, but there is no guarantee due to the new  
97 prioritization process.  
98

99 **5. Action: Review & Approve Regional Transportation Model – Ivo Dernev**

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101 Mr. Dernev advised the information provided is used as a tool to study traffic in the future,  
102 acquired through the MPO. The model is based off employee data as well as traffic projections  
103 for traffic flow in the future.  
104

105

106 Mr. Jordan Hughes questioned if this model captures pedestrian traffic as well. Mr. Dernev  
107 advised at this level, the model is strictly for vehicular traffic. If requested, a pedestrian model  
108 could be done separately.

109

110 In light of a few members' absence at the June meeting when this topic was initially presented,  
111 the group voted unanimously to table further discussion and a decision until the August 22<sup>nd</sup>  
112 meeting.

113

114 **6. Action: Discussion regarding NBAMPO Project List – Jeff Ruggieri**

115

116 Mr. Ruggieri advised Mr. Terry Jordan is still compiling data for the CARTS Transportation  
117 funds, and requested the group consider tabling this item until the August 22<sup>nd</sup> meeting. The  
118 group voted unanimously to table.

119

120 **7. Other Business: Update on Transit Funds – Terry Jordan**

121

122 Mr. Jordan advised previously the MPO passed a resolution allocating the 5307 Transit Funds to  
123 the CARTS program. Mr. Jordan prepared a final draft Resolution which he presented to the  
124 state Public Transportation Division for review. He is awaiting their approval as well as  
125 guidelines and discussion on next steps. Mr. Jordan advised the matter is not too pressing as the  
126 service will not be implemented until 2014.

127

128 **8. Public Comment: N/A**

129

130 **9. Adjourn**

131

132 There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

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Jeff Ruggieri, Acting Chairman

  
Kim Langley, Secretary

