



**North Carolina Association of RPO's
January 26, 2006 Quarterly Meeting
Triangle J Council of Governments Offices
Research Triangle Park, NC**

Attendees

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| 1. Ann Whitley, Peanut Belt/Upper Coastal Plain RPO | 19. Pat Strong, Triangle Area RPO |
| 2. Brandon Shoaf, Albemarle RPO | 20. Paul Black, Triangle Area RPO |
| 3. Carrie Runser-Turner, Land of Sky RPO | 21. Phil Trew, High Country RPO |
| 4. Chris Lukasina, Upper Coastal Plain RPO | 22. Shelby Powell, Kerr-Tar RPO |
| 5. Chris Rountree, Peanut Belt RPO | |
| 6. Cliff Kendall, Mid-East RPO | 23. Atefe Northcutt, NCDOT TPB |
| 7. Craig Hughes, High Country RPO | 24. Beverly Williams, NCDOT TPB |
| 8. Dana Stoogenke, Mid-Carolina RPO | 25. Elina Zlotchenko, NCDOT TPB |
| 9. Don Eggert, Cape Fear RPO | 26. Ivo Dernev, NCDOT TPB |
| 10. Ed Johnson, Capital Area MPO | 27. Kerry Vallant, NCDOT TPB |
| 11. Geraldine Dumas, Kerr-Tar RPO | 28. Jaime Adrignola, NCDOT TPB |
| 12. Greg Christo, Isothermal RPO | 29. Matt Day, NCDOT TPB |
| 13. Hanna Cockburn, Piedmont Triad RPO | 30. Mike Lindenbeck, NCDOT TPB |
| 14. Janet Robertson, Lumber River RPO | 31. Mottaz Uthman, NCDOT TPB |
| 15. Jim Daughtry, Eastern Carolina RPO | 32. Sara Sherman, NCDOT TPB |
| 16. John Marshall, Unifour RPO | 33. Scott Walston, NCDOT TPB |
| 17. Matt Roark, Southwestern RPO | 34. Tyler Bray, NCDOT TPB |
| 18. Marc Allred, Northwest Piedmont RPO | |

Minutes

Welcome

J. Marshall called the meeting to order at 3:45 pm.

Minutes

J. Marshall called for a motion to accept the minutes of the NCARPO October 2005 meeting. Following a request for revision made by A. Whitley, **a motion made by D. Eggert to adopt the minutes as revised; Second by Dana Stoogenke.** There being no further discussion, the motion carried unanimously.

Highway Trust Fund Resolution Discussion

J. Marshall polled attendees regarding RTAC consideration of the resolution, with 12 indicating affirmatively, and five or six pending. A lengthy discussion ensued, including D. Eggert stating that RTACs were made up of elected officials, and needed free reign. H. Cockburn indicated that the Executive Directors of the COGs had discussed the matter recently. D. Stoogenke indicated that using supporting materials such as the Blue Ribbon Commission report had been effective to support the resolution. M. Allred indicated there had been questions from his RTAC about where these additional funds might be used. J. Daughtry shared information from a meeting with NC Senator Clark Jenkins with his RTAC. A question was raised regarding consideration of the resolution by MPOs. E. Johnson indicated numerous MPOs had approved the resolution over the past year. J. Marshall indicated that no action would be taken until the majority of RPOs had considered the resolution, and the item would be on the agenda again in April.

MPO Update

E. Johnson briefed the association on the continuation of the collaboration project and the resulting work program for the coming year. The purpose was to identify win-wins for all three groups, and included three items: communications, technical information and education and training for practitioners and policy makers. E. Johnson shared that the Capital Area MPO had recently expanded, and CAMPO would continue working closely with surrounding RPOs. E. Johnson announced that the next NCAMPO meeting would be held February 10th, 2006 in Greensboro.

Transportation Planning Branch Update

S. Walston introduced himself, and provided an update on a number of items. S. Walston indicated that Planning Work Programs are due March 1st, and that the procedures manual is currently being updated. S. Walston introduced Elina Zlotchenko, who would be filling the vacancy left several years ago by Earlene Thomas as Senior RPO Coordinator. An open meetings law handout was distributed which covered quorums and strategies for meeting quorum requirements. The association was reminded that RTCCs and any RPO subcommittees must meet public meetings law standards. Members were reminded to make use of alternates and different Board of Transportation members where multiple divisions are within a single RPO. A flowchart of TPB personnel was distributed. S. Walston also shared the new web address for the branch, which he indicated would remain constant, regardless of further reorganization within NCDOT.

Committee Reports

GIS – P. Black stated that a working group had been formed to standardize local road standards for routine use, and that meetings with the NCDOT GIS Unit were ongoing. P. Black indicated that uploading of local road data for use by NCDOT would be unlikely due to data structure differences. P. Black acknowledged that the majority of work related to this committee would move forward through the collaboration project.

Legislative – P. Strong stated that the finance session at the MPO conference detailed revenue projections, and distributed a related handout. Focus will now shift to observing the steady flow of funding through the remaining years of SAFETEA-LU. P. Strong referred attendees to the summary prepared and distributed by S. Powell in November, and indicated he would be attending legislative meetings during the next session.

Transportation Finance – S. Powell stated that the matrix of projects and funding categories was beginning to take form, and should be complete by early 2007. S. Powell indicated that additional meetings were being scheduled with other NCDOT staff, and as new versions of the matrix were drafted, they would be sent to members for review. S. Powell also shared that Bjorn Hansen had joined the committee.

Future Topics and Future Meeting Locations. J. Marshall stated that the April meeting would be in Wilmington or Southport, and the July meeting would be held in Greensboro. A concern was voiced that the location of future meetings would impact the ability of NCDOT staff to participate. J. Marshall then opened the floor for future topics. Additional discussion time regarding quorums was offered as a topic, with the suggestion that a representative from the Attorney General's office attend. Another topic was offered regarding NADO initiatives for rural transportation planning and success stories. Speakers who could provide details about other SAFETEA-LU provisions such as the Highway Safety Improvement Plan, Strategic Highway Safety Plan, and Safe Routes to Schools were also suggested.

Adjournment. With no other business to consider, J. Marshall adjourned the meeting at 5:00 p.m.