



North Carolina Association of Rural Planning Organizations

**North Carolina Association of RPOs
October 28, 2010 Quarterly Meeting
Lumber River Council of Governments
Pembroke, NC**

Attendees

1. Robert Will, Down East RPO
2. Patrick Flanagan, East Carolina/Down East RPO
3. Carrie Runser-Turner, Land-of-Sky RPO
4. Craig Hughes, High Country RPO
5. Daniel Van Liere, Upper Coastal Plain RPO
6. Hanna Cockburn, Piedmont Triad RPO
7. Marc Allred, Northwest Piedmont RPO
8. Steve Lambert, Albemarle RPO
9. Paul Black, Triangle Area RPO
10. Elina Zlotchenko, NCDOT TPB
11. Travis Marshall, NCDOT TPB
12. Alex Rickard, Eastern Carolina RPO
13. John Marshall, Unifour RPO
14. Bethany Wild, Unifour RPO
15. Bryant Buck, Mid-East RPO
16. Andrew Bryant, Lake Norman RPO
17. Dana Stoogenke, Rocky River RPO
18. Shelby Powell, Capital Area MPO
19. Janet Robertson, Lumber River RPO
20. Faye Lewis, Mid-Carolina RPO
21. Chris Roundtree, Peanut Belt RPO
22. Ann Whitley, Peanut Belt RPO

Welcome

Hanna Cockburn called the meeting to order at 1:10 p.m.

Action Items

Minutes of July 2010 Quarterly Meeting

Hanna Cockburn asked for a motion to adopt the minutes of the July 2010 NCARPO meeting. After some discussion, Rob Will made a motion to adopt the minutes as presented. Dana Stoogenke seconded the motion. There being no further discussion, it passed unanimously.

Report of Nomination Committee – Hanna Cockburn

Hanna provided a report from the Nomination Committee. The committee recommended that Daniel Van Liere serve as secretary, Craig Hughes serve as vice chair, and Carrie Runser-Turner serve as chair for the next year. Craig Hughes made a motion to accept the committee's recommendation. Daniel Van Liere seconded the motion. There being no further discussion, it passed unanimously.

Election of Officers– Hanna Cockburn

Hanna stated that since the report of the Nomination Committee had been approved, we could receive any additional nominations. There being none, Andrew Bryant moved that they be closed. The motion was seconded by Paul Black. The slate of officers was approved unanimously.

Discussion Items and Reports

Transportation Branch Update – Elina Zlotchenko

- Evaluation Survey Update. Response totals for each RPO were given and individual RPOs were encouraged to remind their RTAC and RTCC members to complete the surveys. PTD has evaluated 17 of the 20 RPOs, and should have their evaluations completed next week. PTD looked at how RPOs assisted them with the locally coordinated plans (LCP), timeliness, and quality of the LCPs. The results have been good. Meetings with TPB regional groups will start next week to evaluate deliverables. RPOs will be evaluated by two separate scores; a deliverables score and survey score. Either score can cause a RPO to not meet expectations. Results should be available by the first of December. Meetings to discuss the results will be conducted in January or February. It was noted that the process could be discussed again next year.
- SPOT will be discussing the prioritization schedule with the RPOs and PWP's need to be amended to reflect efforts spent in this fiscal year on prioritization.
- TPB still needs indirect cost information from Triangle RPO, Southwestern RPO, Isothermal RPO, Albemarle RPO, and Piedmont Triad RPOs.

NCDOT RPO Update - Elina Zlotchenko

- Manual Revisions. Variances of \$2,500 or 100% (whichever is lower) per line item can be made within the PWP administratively. This is consistent with the MPO procedures. CTP study needs will need to be submitted to the Transportation Planning Branch again this year. The list will be due to TPB by February 1, 2011. Changes to the TPB calendar have been updated. Revised evaluation criteria have been added to the manual. Elina noted that a copy of the Coordinator Deliverables Evaluation form has been included in the manual and she briefly discussed how the deliverables would be evaluated. A discussion of what deliverables would be reviewed followed.

MPO Update-Shelby Powell

- There is an MPO workgroup developing symbology for Comprehensive Transportation Plans. Discussions will include moving tying the CTP road classifications with federal functional classification roads. It was noted that other modes need to be addressed (i.e. pedestrian map symbology). Shelby requested that those who may be interested in assisting with this project let her know.
- The NCAMPO has issued a call for session recommendations which will close November 19th.
- NCAMPO and NCARPO are discussing the possibility of a joint January meeting.

National Rural Transportation Conference – John Marshall

- The National Rural Transportation Conference was held in St. Louis. Elina discussed the NCARPO manual at a session at the conference. The next National Rural Transportation Conference will be held August 24-26 in Washington, DC.

Workgroup Updates

Complete Streets – Hanna Cockburn

The group is working to develop street design standards for the complete streets policy. The group has been meeting since January. We are working on descriptions of street typologies, what the elements will look like. Discussions are also including the levels of service for various modes. We hope to wrap things up by March.

Indirect and Cumulative Effects of the ITT- Dana Stoogenke

The group is hoping to connect land use policy, NEPA, and CTPs so they can mesh together and one can inform the other. Recommendations will hopefully require that more than a zoning ordinance will be required to develop a CTP and communities will see how land use planning is critical when it comes to transportation planning and how they can build on one another.

Education and Communication Committee – Carrie Runser-Turner

Workgroup of the Intergovernmental Advisory Committee. The workgroup is analyzing surveys, grouping responses, and making recommendations to send to the Board of Transportation.

Mobility Fund and Prioritization 2.0 – Paul Black and Craig Hughes

The workgroup is taking comments on two proposed prioritization criteria for the Mobility Fund. Discussions on Prioritization 2.0 are beginning and RPO members are encouraged to attend the upcoming listening sessions.

Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan Light Committee – Craig Hughes

Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan Lights are ready to go. The abbreviated template will be sent out to the RPOs. The plans can assist RPOs in developing bicycle and pedestrian elements of CTPs.

Problem Statement Purpose and Need Committee – Elina Zlotchenko

The work on the Purpose and Need Committee is wrapping up. Sign up for training dates will be distributed by email. Classes will be limited to 25. There will be sessions in Raleigh, Kinston, and Greensboro. Elina will look into scheduling a session in Asheville in the spring.

Bicycle Committee – Hanna Cockburn

The committee is in the process of finalizing a contract to fund a bicycle rodeo trailer to haul bikes and materials for bicycle rodeos. This is for a children's education program that will be integrated with PE classes. This trailer will be made available to Safe Kids Coalitions. There will be no cost associated with using the materials.

Statewide Model Users Group - Paul Black

The group is changing the air quality model from Mobile 6 to MOVES. The new model considers new automotive technology (better emissions at higher speeds, different emissions at idling, etc).

Census and Urban Area Boundary Group – Hanna Cockburn

The proposed standard for establishing urban area boundaries have been released by the Census Bureau and comments will be received until November 15. The data is coming from the American Communities Survey and not the census.

Committee Reports

Legislative Committee – Paul Black

Jim Oberstar's bill is in committee and has been reported on favorably. The NCAPA legislative committee has developed their legislative priorities they want to approach and transportation infrastructure is one of them. One of the top priorities is looking at comprehensive planning legislation similar to what Maryland has in place. The legislation would require land use plans of all jurisdictions. At this time, there is not a definition of what the plan should look like.

GIS – Alex Rickard

The spatial data translator grant application should be complete and a signed contract with the developer should be ready by January. A prototype should be ready next summer. Your 2011-12 PWP should include some money set aside to translate local centerline data to the state standard if you are interested in performing those tasks. NCDOT GIS Unit is starting a strategic plan for an enterprise GIS. There are 8 working groups. The goal is to make resources at NCDOT GIS resource more accessible internally and externally. Alex would like to develop a draft list of GIS layers that we would like to have access too. Also, develop a list of datasets that we are producing to give back to NCDOT and develop a method of delivery or accessibility. Accessibility issues will need to be resolved prior to release.

Alex presented an FTP site that Eastern Carolina has set up for the RPOs. Each RPO has a working space on the FTP site. The user name is NCARPO and the password is P@ssw0rd.

Adjournment

With no further business to be considered, H. Cockburn adjourned the meeting.