

# North Carolina Association of Rural Planning Organizations

October 1, 2003  
Asheville, NC

## Meeting Minutes

### NCARPO Members Present:

1. John Marshall, Unifour RPO
2. Tammye Rey, Mid-Carolina RPO
3. Pat Strong, Triangle J RPO
4. Ann Whitley, Upper Coastal Plain/Peanut Belt RPOs
5. Shelby Powell, Down East RPO
6. Jake Gilmer, Land-of-Sky RPO
7. Janet Robertson, Lumber River RPO
8. John Robertson, NW Piedmont RPO
9. Greg Christo, Isothermal RPO
10. Phillip Trew, High Country RPO
11. Jim Daughtry, Eastern Carolina RPO
12. Joe Dooley, Mid East RPO
13. Ken Krulik, Kerr-Tar RPO
14. Don Eggert, Cape Fear RPO
15. Dawn Qiu, Lake Norman RPO
16. Rebecca Yarbrough, Rocky River RPO
17. Matt Roark, South Western RPO
18. Hanna Cockburn, Piedmont RPO

### Others Present:

1. Cliff Kendall, Mid East RPO
2. John Hodges-Copple, Triangle J RPO
3. Geraldine Dumas, Kerr-Tar RPO
4. Jan Hester Maynor, Lumber River RPO
5. Marc Allred, NW Piedmont RPO
6. Gene Foxworth, Mid East RPO
7. Jonas Hill, Mid East RPO
8. Blair Israel, Rocky River/Lake Norman RPOs
9. Barry McKinnon, Lake Norman RPO
10. Kurt Freitag, NCDOT Statewide Planning
11. Travis Marshall, NCDOT Statewide Planning

### Minutes:

1. **Start Up:** D. Eggert opened meeting and called for introductions at 12:00 PM.
2. **Consideration of Bylaws:** J. Marshall presented bylaws that had been discussed at previous meeting, and outlined changes suggested by members. *Motion made by J. Daughtry to accept Bylaws with changes; Second by J. Dooley. Motion carried unanimously.*
3. **Consideration of Association Officers for 2004:** J. Marshall reviewed candidates that had been nominated via email since previous meeting. Members voted via written ballot. Votes were tallied by K. Freitag. Winners were announced as follows: Chairman – Don Eggert, Cape Fear RPO; Vice Chairman – John Marshall, Unifour RPO; Secretary – Shelby Powell, Down East RPO.
4. **Other Business:** P. Trew discussed listserv, stating that since NCDOT had set up a listserv for MPOs and RPOs, the RPOs should show support by using that listserv instead of the one currently used.

Janet Robertson asked how other RPO's were planning to use the new \$37,500 given to them by the legislature. John Robertson stated the NW Piedmont RPO would buy traffic counters and obtain training; G. Christo stated the Isothermal RPO would buy data; J.

Marshall stated the Unifour RPO would hire a consultant to do a transportation website; R. Yarbrough stated the Lake Norman/Rocky River RPOs would do a financially constrained transportation plan for the region; J. Gilmer stated the Land-of-Sky COG was covering the match and using the money internally; P. Strong stated that a mobility study was a possibility if funds were pooled; S. Powell stated that the Down East and Eastern Carolina RPOs were pooling funds to do a transit project.

S. Powell asked how other RPOs were planning to assist transit operators since that was a stipulation of the GIS grants received by the RPOs. J. Dooley stated that the Mid East RPO would work with NCDOT Div 2 office to dedicate land at the new Hwy 17 interchange for use as a transit depot; D. Eggert stated the Cape Fear RPO was trying to increase participation by transit officials by holding quarterly meetings with transit operators; T. Rey stated the Mid Carolina RPO would provide links to transit sites on their website; P. Trew stated the High Country RPO would perform census mapping to assist transit operators in route planning.

John Robertson asked everyone's expectations on completing a regional plan. P. Trew stated he hoped to have a draft in 2006 and final in 2007. H. Cockburn stated hers would start in year 5 of her current 5 year plan; J. Gilmer stated that the Land-of-Sky RPO would coordinate theirs with the MPO update in their area; J. Marshall stated that the Unifour RPO would also coordinate with the MPO update; R. Yarbrough stated they hoped to be finished with theirs by 2005.

5. **DOT Update:** T. Marshall updated the group on NCDOT activities, including the NC Moving Ahead! project list is released, the Statewide Transportation Plan will go before the Board of Transportation in December, the TIP Public Hearings are coming up, and that NCDOT is still uncertain if the RPOs will get special meetings with DOT regarding the TIP. He also stated that RPO payments from NCDOT should be going out on schedule now with no further delays, and that uses for the \$37,500 should be submitted to coordinators ASAP. The next RPO training will be held in Raleigh in November. R. Yarbrough questioned whether there would be some recognition of RPOs in federal legislation; T. Marshall stated it did not look promising for the next reauthorization of the transportation legislation. John Robertson questioned when next enhancements call would come; T. Marshall suggested the group check with Sharon Lipscomb at NCDOT for this information.
6. **Next Meeting Date, Location, and Topics:** D. Eggert asked if the group would prefer a December meeting rather than a January meeting. Group consensus was everyone was too busy in December. Next meeting will be held in Raleigh, probably on January 29, possibly a two-day meeting depending on number of agenda items. Members agreed to a two-day meeting if it was necessary. Possible topics for next meeting include out of county medical transit, the Division office's role in NCDOT, the PWP review from the past year, TIP project ranking – how it all ended up, and long range transportation planning. D. Eggert stated that the Executive Committee would meet and hammer out an agenda and notify members of dates and times of next meeting.
7. **Adjournment:** There being no further discussion, D. Eggert adjourned meeting at 1:25 PM.