

KERR-TAR REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLANNING ORGANIZATION (KTRPO)

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PLAN
May 2003
Updated February 2011
Reviewed for Prioritization 3.0 Methodology December 2013

Approved by the Kerr-Tar RPO Regional Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC), on May 28, 2003.

Danny W. Wright, Chairman
Kerr-Tar RPO - TAC

Kenneth M. Krulik, Secretary
Kerr-Tar RPO - TAC

Update Approved by the Kerr-Tar Regional Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC) on February 4, 2011


Mayor James P. O'Geary, Chairman, KTRPO TAC

 12/11.13
Michael Ciriello, Secretary, KTRPO TAC

renewed 12.11.13

Kerr-Tar RPO
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KTRPO / PIP Goals

- Continue to engage and strengthen contacts with interested parties and key stakeholders throughout the transportation-related planning process and staff response to citizen inquiries
- Expand the understanding of the transportation planning process throughout the Kerr-Tar RPO region by expanding engagement, information, and participation. Update RPO Presentation, schedule and meet with area Boards.
- Identify and engage the broadest range of participants in the transportation-related planning and implementation processes, including but not limited to, local and regional community and business leaders, health and human service providers, economic developers, civic groups, educators, and the general public.
- Broaden the public's understanding of the opportunities and constraints related to transportation planning and the interaction of economic development, environmental and human health, land use, and transportation. Seek engagement of local media.
- Expand outreach efforts to populations traditionally underserved by the existing transportation system, including the elderly, youth, disabled, and low-income citizens. Expand public survey exercise beyond TCC and TAC members to the general population. Set-up e-survey and publicize through local media.

Adopted February 2011

I. Purpose

The purpose of the Kerr-Tar Regional Transportation Planning Organization (RPO) Public Participation Plan (Plan) is to provide guidance and policy in engaging the public in the transportation planning process. The Plan has the following objectives:

- Create a well-informed public that contributes to transportation decision-making in a meaningful way
- Engage the public early and continuously in the transportation planning process
- Develop a public education program on Kerr-Tar RPO activities
- Assist the Kerr-Tar RPO in developing specific transportation projects that reflect the interest and needs of the community
- Gain the support and trust of the public
- Satisfy the requirements of N.C.G.S. § 136-212 regarding duties of a RPO

The Plan is not intended to preempt any public involvement activities conducted by the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) or any local governments within the Kerr-Tar RPO region.

II. Forms of Public Involvement

A. Public Outreach

Public Outreach is the process of informing the public about the transportation planning process, specific transportation projects, and activities of the Kerr-Tar RPO. Typical public outreach strategies include, but will not be limited to, the following:

Identification of Stakeholders

A stakeholder is any person or group who is affected by a transportation plan, program, or project. Stakeholders may include:

- The general public
- Business/industry organizations
- Environmental organizations
- Neighborhood organizations
- Public agencies
- Civic organizations
- Transit providers
- Motor freight carriers
- Taxicab companies

Stakeholder groups will be identified and will be included on a mailing list for notices of public hearings, workshops, etc. Appendix A contains a maintained list of stakeholders.

Press Releases

Kerr Tar RPO will periodically issue press releases detailing significant actions of the RPO. These actions may include:

- Adoption of Annual Planning Work Program
- Adoption of Comprehensive Transportation Plans
- Selection of Officers
- Adoption of Project Priority List

Open Houses

Open houses will be held to provide information on transportation projects and Kerr-Tar RPO activities to the public in an informal setting. Open houses will have no fixed agendas or formal presentations. Planning documents, project maps, and other transportation-related information will be displayed. RPO staff and committee members will be available to provide details and answer questions.

Posting of Draft and Final Planning Documents

Copies of draft and final versions of certain planning documents will be posted on the Kerr-Tar Regional Council of Governments' website, and be distributed to Kerr-Tar RPO member governments for posting on individual county and municipal websites.

Notification of Meetings

Notification of Kerr-Tar RPO meetings will be sent to news media in the region. Appendix B contains a maintained list of media contacts that will receive meeting notification.

Presentation to Civic Organizations

Presentations will be made to interested civic organizations on Kerr-Tar RPO activities, the transportation planning process in general, or specific transportation projects. Presentations will be made by Kerr-Tar RPO staff and/or NCDOT staff.

Public Outreach activities will include efforts to involve traditionally underserved groups (i.e., minorities, elderly, low-income persons) in the transportation planning process. These efforts may include, but not be limited to, the following:

- Identifying areas in the Kerr-Tar RPO region with concentrations of minority, elderly, and low-income populations
- Including organizations that deal directly with minority groups on the Stakeholder list
- Posting notification of meetings, public hearings, and open houses in County Health Departments and Senior Centers
- Publishing notification of meetings, public hearings, and open houses in Spanish

B. Public Input

Public Input is the process of gathering the views, opinions, and ideas of interested individuals and groups in the transportation planning process. Opportunities for public input provided by the Kerr-Tar RPO include, but are not limited to, the following:

Public Comment at Kerr-Tar RPO Meetings

Kerr-Tar RPO meetings are open to the public and provide opportunity for public comment.

Public Hearings

Public hearings will be held as necessary by the Kerr-Tar RPO's Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC) prior to taking formal action on specific planning documents. These actions may include:

- Adoption of annual Planning Work Program
- Adoption of Long-Range Transportation Plan
- Amendment to Long-Range Transportation Plan
- Adoption of Highway Project Priority List

Open Houses

Open houses will be held to provide information on transportation projects and Kerr-Tar RPO activities to the public in an informal setting. The open houses also provide the public an opportunity to provide comments. Open houses will have no fixed agendas or formal presentations. Planning documents, project maps, and other transportation-related information will be displayed. RPO staff and committee members will be available to provide details and answer questions.

Surveys

Surveys will be developed to gauge citizen opinion on specific transportation planning issues and/or projects. Survey content, method of distribution, and geographic target area will be dependent on the specific transportation planning issue or project.

Workshops

Workshops will be in the form of small group discussions used to gather views and opinions on a single transportation topic or project. The workshops will provide detailed information on the specific issue, and will allow for in-depth discussion by invited stakeholders, local government officials, and citizens.

III. Schedule of Public Involvement

A. Regular Public Involvement Opportunities

- Planning Documents - All documents, resolutions, meeting minutes, etc. adopted by the Kerr-Tar RPO are kept at the Kerr-Tar Regional Council of Governments (LPA) offices at 1724 Graham Street, Henderson, NC. These documents will be made available for public review upon request.
- Meetings - Regular meetings of the Kerr-Tar RPO's Transportation Coordinating Committee (TCC) and Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC) are open to the public, and will include opportunity for public comment. Notification of the meetings will be sent to news media in the region.
- Public Hearings - Notification of all public hearings held by the Kerr-Tar RPO will be sent to news media in the region.
- Press Releases - All press releases issued by Kerr-Tar RPO will be sent to news media in the region.

B. Public Involvement for Specific Activities

Public involvement strategies will vary depending on the particular issue or project for which public comment is desired. Typical actions for specific activities of the Kerr-Tar RPO may include, but are not limited to:

1. Long-Range Transportation Plan

- Workshops
- Regular Meetings of TCC and TAC
- Public Hearing
- Posting of Draft and Final Document
- Presentations to Civic Organizations

2. Prioritization of Projects for Recommendation to State's TIP

- Regular Meetings of TCC and TAC
- Public Hearing
- Posting of Draft and Final Document

3. Specific Projects/Issues

- Press Releases
- Workshops
- Regular Meetings of TCC and TAC
- Presentations to Civic Organizations
- Surveys

IV. Response to Public Input

Public involvement may be documented in a variety of ways. Any comments received during a meeting of the Kerr-Tar RPO's TCC or TAC will be included in the meeting minutes. Also, any comments received during a public hearing held by the Kerr-Tar RPO's TAC will be included in the meeting minutes. Comments received during workshops, open houses, or presentations to civic organizations will be summarized, presented to the TCC and TAC, and kept on file. Results of surveys will be compiled, summarized, presented to the TCC and TAC, and kept on file.

Public comments may be included as appendices in formal documents or plans for which they were made.

The TCC or TAC may direct Kerr-Tar RPO staff to respond directly to public comments via letter.

V. Appendices

Appendix A: Stakeholders

Appendix B: Media Contacts

Appendix A: Stakeholders

Local Governments

Vance County
City of Henderson
Town of Middleburg
Town of Butner
Town of Kittrell
Warren County
Town of Norlina
Town of Warrenton
Town of Macon
Franklin County
City of Louisburg
Town of Franklinton
Town of Youngsville
Granville County
City of Oxford
Town of Stem
Town of Stovall
Person County

Other Governmental

North Carolina Department of Transportation
Vance-Granville Community College
Piedmont Community College
County Boards of Education (Franklin, Granville, Person, Vance, Warren)

Chambers of Commerce

Henderson-Vance County Chamber of Commerce
Granville County Chamber of Commerce
Franklin County Chamber of Commerce
Warren County Chamber of Commerce
Person County Chamber of Commerce
Lake Gaston Chamber of Commerce

Economic Development Commissions

Franklin County Economic Development Commission
Warren County Economic Development Commission
Vance County Economic Development Commission
Granville County Economic Development Commission
Person County Economic Development Commission

Regional Organizations

Kerr-Tar Regional Council of Governments
Area Mental Health for Franklin, Vance, Warren County
Orange, Person, Chatham Mental Health
Franklin-Vance-Granville Partnership (FVG)

Public Transportation Providers

Kerr Area Rural Transit Service (KARTS)
Person Area Transit Service (PATS)

Taxicab Companies

Bullock Cab Company (Henderson)
Downey Clarence Cab Company (Oxford)
Earlybird Cabs (Henderson)
Louisburg Taxi Service (Louisburg)
Mitz Taxi (Oxford)
Poole's Cabs (Henderson)
24 Prayer Taxi & Limousine Service (Henderson)

Motor Freight Carriers

Eastern Motor Lines (Warrenton)
Green Joe Trucking (Oxford)
Perry Logistics, Inc. (Henderson)
Rogers J L Trucking Company (Youngsville)
S D R Trucking, Inc. (Oxford)
Sherman & Boddie, Inc. (Oxford)
Vance Trucking Co. (Henderson)

Appendix B: Media Contacts

Radio Stations

WHLQ 102.5 FM
227 Highway 561 East
P.O. 463
Louisburg, NC 27549
BUS PHONE: (919) 496-3105
FAX NUMBER: (919) 496-5864

WICE-Cool Oldies 98.3
615 Lewis St.
Oxford, NC 27565
BUS PHONE: (919) 693-7900
FAX NUMBER: (919) 693-9585

WYRN 1480 AM
227 Highway 561 East
P.O. Box 463
Louisburg, NC 27549
BUS PHONE: (919) 496-3105
FAX NUMBER: (919) 496-5864

WYFL FM 92.5
120 East Belle Street
Henderson, NC 27536
BUS PHONE: (252) 492-9511
FAX NUMBER: (252) 492-9511 (when phone rings press start button)
E-MAIL: wyfl@bbnradio.org

WIZS AM 1450
535 Radio Lane
Henderson, NC 27536
BUS PHONE: (252) 492-3001
FAX NUMBER: (252) 492-5594
E-MAIL: wizs@vance.net

WARR Radio Station
P.O. Box 611
109 North Main St.
Warrenton, NC 27589
BUS PHONE: (252) 257-5557
FAX NUMBER: (252) 257-5988

Newspapers

The Daily Dispatch

P.O. Box 908
304 South Chestnut St.
Henderson, NC 27536
BUS PHONE: (252) 436-2700
FAX NUMBER: (252) 430-0125
E-MAIL: news@hendersondispatch.com

Franklin Times

109 South Bickett Blvd.
Louisburg, NC 27549
BUS PHONE: (919) 496-6503
FAX NUMBER: (919) 496-1689
E-MAIL: news@thefranklintimes.com

Oxford Public Ledger

200 West Spring St.
Oxford, NC 27565
BUS PHONE: (919) 693-2646
FAX NUMBER: (919) 693-3704
E-MAIL: opl@starband.net

The Warren Record

112 North Main St.
Warrenton, NC 27589
(252) 257-3341
(252) 257-1413 FAX
E-MAIL: warrenrecord@vance.net

The Courier-Times

P.O. Box 311
109 Clayton Ave.
Roxboro, NC 27573
(336) 599-0162
(336) 597-2773 FAX
E-MAIL: ctimes@roxborocourier.com

Butner-Creedmoor News

418 N. Main St.
P.O. Box 726
Creedmoor, NC 27522
BUS PHONE: (919) 528-2393
FAX NUMBER: (919) 528-0288

The Littleton Observer

101 East S. Main St.

P.O. Box 100

Littleton, NC 27580

BUS PHONE (252) 586-6397

FAX NUMBER:

E-MAIL: lgaston@3rdoor.com