



Kerr-Tar RPO TAC/TCC Meeting

Kerr-Tar COG Offices Henderson

Date: Tuesday, February 20, 2018

Time: 3:00 PM- 5:00 PM

Location: 1724 Graham Avenue Henderson, NC 27536

Pursuant to NCGS 138A-15 (e): Ethics Awareness & Conflict Reminder

In accordance with the State Government Ethics Act, it is the duty of every TAC member to avoid conflicts of interest. Does any TAC member have any known conflict of interest with respect to matters coming before the TAC today? If so, please identify the conflict and refrain from any participation in the particular matter involved.

TCC Members Present:

Ms. Jessica Gladwin, Town of Butner
Mr. Leigh Woodall, Person County
Mr. Joey Hopkins, NCDOT
Ms. Diane Cox, Kerr-Tar COG
Mr. Michael Kelly, Kerr-Tar COG
Ms. Carroll Harris, Town of Macon
Mr. Barry Baker, Granville County and TCC Chair
Ms. Angie Blount, Vance County
Mr. David Keilson, NCDOT

TAC Members Present:

Commissioner Sidney Dunston, Franklin County and TAC Vice-Chair
Commissioner Walter Powell, Warren County
Councilmember Emma Ruth Stewart, Town of Louisburg
Commissioner Dan Brummitt, Vance County
Commissioner Tony Cozart, Granville County (joined via phone)
Mayor Walter Gardner, Town of Warrenton (joined via phone)

Guests:

Mr. Mark Eatman, NCDOT-TPD
Mr. Scott Walston, NCDOT

Kerr-Tar Staff Present:

Ms. Sharon Thomas
Ms. Stephanie Harmon
Mr. Alrik Lunsford

I. Welcome and Call to Order

Commissioner Dunston calls the TAC meeting to order and Barry Baker call the TCC meeting to order.

II. TCC/TAC Action Item

Barry Baker recommends the approval of TAC/TCC minutes from the last meeting on November 30, 2017. Joey Hopkins seconds the motion approval. TCC members vote in the affirmative to approve the minutes. The matter is carried to the TAC. Commissioner Dunston recommends the minutes be approved by the TAC. Councilmember Emma Ruth Stewart seconds the motion. The members of the TAC vote in the affirmative.

III. TAC/TCC Updates

Barry Baker leans on Michael to call the first order of business, being the Local Input Methodology for Prioritization 5.0. Michael points out to members that the item is located in the second insert, and states how P5.0 very much mirrors P4.0 with the exception of some stylistic changes. Michael poses to the Committees the possibility of getting this voted on and approved today at the meeting, before the March 14, 2018 deadline. Michael informs members of both Committees that the Chairman of the RPO Methodology Review Committee (MRC) internally vetted the methodology, and tentatively approved P5.0. Joey Hopkins informs members from a NCDOT standpoint, having to deal with two other MPOs methodology process. Upon further discussion, Councilmember Stewart states feeling comfortable approving the methodology since only minor changes were made. Leigh Woodall makes a motion to approve the Local Input Methodology. Joey asks for a second. A second motion is made, and Barry recognizes the motion and second to recommend to the TAC this methodology for Prioritization 5.0. TCC members vote in the affirmative. Barry carries the recommendation to Commissioner Dunston for approval. Commissioner Dunston recognizes the motion to approve the recommendation and asks for a second. The second is recognized and TAC votes on the approval of the Local Input Methodology for Prioritization 5.0.

Next order of business is Barry asking Michael about the review of comments submitted to NCDOT for Regional Projects. Michael Kelly points out the cost estimate changes on the spreadsheet relating to projects: H170618 and H172154 per NCDOT's review using the cost adjustment tool to increase the chances of projects scoring higher. The adjustments, received that day indicated for Project H170618, adjusted the number of miles to 2.3 instead of 2.66. This reduced the cost of construction by \$14.7 million, and the right of way cost to \$3.3 million, bringing the utilities cost from the feasibility study came to \$500,000. For Project H172154, the adjustment changed to 2.0 miles rather than 1.2, but there was no change in the cost. Therefore, the construction cost was not increased. Member questions spur David Keilson to give further detail of the two project submissions, one being a multi-lane for US-401 and the other a three-lane project. David points out that the submission of both projects will increase the likelihood of them receiving a high enough score for funding and coordination with point strategy.

The next item of business is the highlights from the NCARPO Quarterly Meeting Updates. Michael states the dates and location of the meeting as January 25-26 at the NC Rural Center in Raleigh.

Alrik gives a recap of the project report status updates discussed for the six transportation modes and alludes to member feedback regarding possible meeting changes moving forward.

Division 5 Bridge Reports is the next item of business. Michael highlights that at the NCARPO Quarterly Meeting, RPOs were asked to make more of a concerted effort to reach out to the Bridge Superintendents in their respective regions. The purpose was to keep the lines of communication open so that when comments need to be received from the bridges department, bridge projects updates will be brought to the committees. The Bridge Superintendent for our region in Reese Briley.

CMAQ applications is the next item of business. Michael reminds the committee members that CMAQ applications are in their packets, that the due date is March 15, 2018 and reiterates that if any County or Municipality would like to apply, the COG will be glad to offer assistance with the application process. Barry asked if any of our jurisdictions expressed an interest in doing that? Joey responds that he thinks Louisburg may be looking at something on Main Street, particularly on the bridge. Councilmember Stewart gives history about their originally being lights on the South Main Street bridge. Councilmember Stewart gives the DOT statistics from the Town of Louisburg Transit System Study where only 53% of the residents were able to drive their own cars and says the removal of the lights have caused have posed a public safety issue to pedestrians and traffic. The topic of rail projects is brought up next, and Joey provides a Tier 2 Environmental Impact Study done a few years ago from Raleigh to Richmond as an example for the high-speed rail corridor. Joey says that a similar project could be done in the region by piggy backing off that model. He gives another example by referencing grade separations for bridge and the roads over the rails, bridge and the rails over the road, its something that can be submitted into the P5.0 process submittal. Joey reminds everyone that there is between 17-19 current RPO submittals, and that they can be used per mode.

Barry asks Michael about the Title VI updates for the next business item. Michael tells the members that there was a big emphasis for RPOs to become compliant with Title VI at the quarterly meeting. Michael says currently, DOT has to get there information from the Federal Government. Once that is in place, there's going to be a training, and assurances for members of the TAC/ to sign, so just be on the lookout for that when it becomes available. When DOT knows more from the Federal Highways Division, they will then distribute, disseminate that to you.

Barry ask Michael for the State Ethics update. Michael reminds members of the passing of Peggy Malpass last year, our ethics liaison to the TAC. Michael tells members that the new ethics liaison is Tamara Cappelson. Michael tells members that their Statements of Economic Interest (SEI) and Real Estate Disclosure (RED) Forms are due April 16, 2018. Michael tells members, if there's no change, it's simply just a matter of filling out a No Change Form. If there's a significant change, you will have to fill out another form, but just know that if you do need assistance with that, let the COG know and we will help submission to ensure that everyone meets the deadline on April 16. Barry asks for a reminder update on that to the TAC so they will remember and reaffirms getting status updates out to make sure everyone is current. The two new members of the TAC are Tom Lane and Reggie Horton. Councilmember Stewart suggested having SEI and RED Forms sent to her.

V. NCDOT Reports

For status updates, Joey discusses the road construction on the middle portions of I-85 southbound and northbound for a 10-12 miles stretch. However, the project is ahead of schedule and projected to finish one year earlier. On the downside, the project caused a Vance County business of 43 employees to shut down, because it could not sustain the road closings and re-route detours of their tractor-trailers to back roads.

Other Projects

Joey states that other projects include:

- 1) the US401 C project the piece from 96 up to Flat Rock church road scheduled to open bids in July of this year;
- 2) D project getting funded through SPOT 4.0 for 2023 not having to be rescored; and
- 3) bids becoming open on two separate resurfacing contracts. Joey also states that next month, in March, Vance-Granville combined will have a combined project of 35 miles, and Franklin and Warren will have a combined project of 53 miles so those contracts will open bids and you will see work occurring in the spring, summer, and fall.

Joey discusses bids opening in May for a new bridge on Enon Road in Granville County along the Tar River. Joey also states that major maintenance will occur in Eden Ferry on Norman Bridge. Maintenance will include overlay on bridge deck, replacing joints on the bridge, painting the bridge, doing some work on the sub structure and also on the causeway, leading up to the bridge some of that started sluffing off into the lakes. This project is scheduled to finish in November 2018.

VI. Other Business

Michael informs members of new DOT survey that is due March 31, 2018. This survey will allow the public can make comments on how the DOT is doing. Michael asks for the survey to be passed along to residents and constituents so that they can assess how the DOT is doing.

Updates

Michael poses question to members about changing the times of the TAC/TCC meeting to earlier in the afternoon. He also tells members to be on the lookout for a Doodle poll that will be designed to glean what transportation related issues they want to hear presented in the meetings allowing the RPO to invite subject matter experts to speak to the Committees on specific topics.

Last Item

Scott Walston introduces to the Committee Mark Eatman as the Kerr-Tar RPO Coordinator for the NCDOT Transportation Planning Division.

VII. Public Comments

Michael recognizes comments from the public, there being none, Michael moves to adjourn the meeting. The adjourning motion is made by the TCC and seconded. The same adjourning motion is made by the TAC and seconded.