

**TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE**  
**JANUARY 17, 2007**  
**MINUTES**

The Transportation Advisory Committee met on Wednesday, January 17, 2007 at 4:00 p.m. at One Exchange Plaza, Raleigh, North Carolina with the following present:

**Members**

Chairman Bryan, presiding  
Robert Ahlert  
Tony Braswell  
Lynn Buffaloe  
Don Bumgarner  
Bill Connely  
Jenny Edwards  
R. H. Ellington  
Anne Franklin  
Liz Johnson  
Vivian Jones  
Nancy Kelly  
Buck Kennedy  
Ernie McAlister  
Charles Meeker  
Darryl Moss  
Nina Szlosberg  
Keith Weatherly  
Kaye Yadusky

**Staff**

John Burris  
Ed Johnson  
Robert Sain  
Jake Petrosky  
Chip Russell  
Diane Wilson  
Kenneth Withrow

**Others Present**

Mark Ahrendsen  
Jeff Baxton  
Wally Bowman  
Gerry Cohen  
Samantha Ficzkko  
Bob Geary  
Alice Gordon

**Representing**

Wake County  
Clayton  
Johnston County  
Franklin County  
Zebulon  
Wendell  
Franklinton  
Angier  
TTA  
Morrisville  
Wake Forest  
Rolesville  
Garner  
Cary  
Raleigh  
Creedmoor  
NCDOT  
Apex  
Youngsville

**Representing**

CAMPO Staff  
CAMPO Director  
CAMPO Staff  
CAMPO Staff  
TCC Chairman  
CAMPO Staff  
CAMPO Staff

**Representing**

DCHC TCC Chair  
HNTB  
NCDOT – Div. 5  
Legislative Staff  
Harnett County  
Independent Weekly  
DCHC TAC

John Hodges-Copple  
Joe Huegy  
Denise Lavender  
Bruce Siceloff  
Jill Stark  
Russ Stephenson  
Latoya Sutton  
Scott Walston

TJCOG  
TTA  
NDCOT – PTD  
The News and Observer  
FHWA  
Raleigh City Council  
The Wake Weekly  
NCDOT – TPB

Chairman Bryan called the meeting to order. The following items were discussed with actions taken as shown.

Chairman Bryan reported a ribbon cutting was held the previous day for 9 ½ miles of I-540 between US-1 and US-64. He noted this was a significant investment of transportation dollars and would improve mobility on the eastern and northern part of the county.

**AGENDA ADJUSTMENTS – NONE RECEIVED – AGENDA APPROVED AS PRESENTED**

No changes were made to the agenda. Without objection, the agenda was approved as presented.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS – NONE RECEIVED**

Chairman Bryan noted this was an opportunity for comments by those in attendance. No one asked to be heard.

**ELECTION OF 2007 OFFICERS – JOE BRYAN ELECTED CHAIRMAN – CHARLES MEEKER ELECTED VICE-CHAIR**

Chairman Bryan turned the chair over to Mr. Johnson.

Mr. Johnson explained the by-laws specify that the Chairman and Vice-Chairman shall be elected annually at the first regularly scheduled meeting of the calendar year. The newly elected Chairman and Vice-Chairman shall take office immediately following the election.

Mr. Connely moved that Joe Bryan be appointed as chairman and Charles Meeker be appointed vice-chair. His motion was seconded by Ms. Szlosberg, unanimously passed.

Mr. Weatherly moved that nominations be closed. His motion was seconded by Ms. Kelly, unanimously passed.

Ms. Jones moved that Mayor Bryan and Mayor Meeker be appointed by acclamation. Her motion was seconded by Mr. McAlister, unanimously passed.

Mr. Johnson turned the chair over the Chairman Bryan.

### **MINUTES – NOVEMBER 15, 2006 – APPROVED AS PRESENTED**

Members had received a copy of the November 15, 2006 minutes prior to the meeting. Mayor Meeker moved approval of the minutes as presented. His motion was seconded by Ms. Jones, unanimously passed. Chairman Bryan ruled the motion adopted.

### **FY 2007-2013 METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION PLAN – VARIOUS ACTIONS TAKEN**

Mr. Johnson reviewed the history of this item noting on November 16, 2005 the Capital Area MPO Transportation Advisory Committee adopted the FY 2007-2013 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Project Priority List. This list represents the MPO's highest priorities for needed transportation improvements. The Project Priority List was then forwarded to NCDOT to assist in development of the Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP). At the September 5-6, 2006 Board of Transportation Meeting, the FY 2007- 2013 STIP was released and final adoption is expected in April of 2007. Meetings to receive comment from the public were held throughout the state during November and December of 2006, and a One-On-One meeting was held on January 11, 2007 to discuss Capital Area MPO specific projects. The purpose of the one-on-one meeting was to discuss funding availability and projects in the CAMPO area for the 2007-13 STIP. Several MPO TAC Members attended the meeting and an update on items discussed will be presented at the January 17, 2007 TAC meeting. Given the long delay between submission of the Project Priority List and development and adoption of the STIP, the Capital Area TCC MTIP Subcommittee has begun meeting to review the draft 2007-2013 STIP and how it compares to the submitted 2007-2013 Project Priority List. Attachment 7A is a table showing the 2007-2013 Project Priority List, as adopted by the Capital Area MPO and showing the status of projects as reflected in the draft 2007-2013 STIP. The MTIP Subcommittee will meet during January, February and March to review any adjustments or revisions necessary for final adoption of the 2007-2013 MTIP by the TAC in April 2007. Mr. Johnson indicated some of our peer counties have substantially higher TIP spending totals, i.e., Mecklenburg County. Average spending for Wake County for 2008-2013 is \$30 million per year where traditionally it has been \$65 million - \$80 million per year. He reported average spending for Johnston County is \$10 million per year; Granville County is \$1 million per year and Franklin County is \$2.1 million per year. Mr. Johnson indicated these are disappointing numbers and it was very informative to see this information provided by County. He reported the TIP will be printed this Friday and will be on the Board of Transportation's February agenda.

Ms. Szlosberg referred to the county-by-county chart noting it was a result of Mr. Johnson's pushing for it and would be helpful for Commissioner Bryan, Mayor Meeker and all others engaging in discussions with the Legislature. She explained included in the figures are funds made available by the Federal Government in the New Starts Program (Transit) and they are not subject to the equity formula. Any money coming to us for our rail and transit projects are outside the equity formula scope.

Mayor Meeker spoke to the dismal funding picture. He indicated the Federal money this group can spend is not committed for 2013 and some of those funds were used for the Wake Forest Bypass, Timber Drive and US-1. He explained thought should be given to what we might apply for in 2013 and would be good to put together a list of small or mid-size projects we can use STP-DA funds for in 2013. He suggested getting 4-5 of these projects together and this body could make that allocation at the next meeting. Mayor Meeker referred to the CMAQ funds noting there is funding available in 2012 and 2013 and this body should be thinking about what we will be doing there as well. He noted maybe we can get requests in and hopefully they will be honored noting the TAC has the authority to allocate those funds. Mr. Johnson indicated, in regard to the STP-DA funds, that the Wake Forest Bypass has gone up substantially in cost and the commitment we made was a fixed dollar amount and expected the increase in cost be covered with non STP-DA funds. Ms. Szlosberg noted not everything is eligible for CMAQ funds and air quality improvements must be demonstrated. Ms. Johnson noted typically NCDOT asks for CMAQ projects through a call and they have not done that lately due to restricted funding.

Mayor Meeker moved that the TIP and STIP information be received and that Mr. Johnson be requested to pull together options for STP-DA funds in 2013 and CMAQ funding for 2012 and 2013 to be received in March and that Mr. Johnson be further requested to draft a letter to the delegation for all counties represented by CAMPO providing the report by county so our representatives see first hand the funds we are receiving and how that is not meeting transportation mobility problems that exist in this region. His motion was seconded by Mayor Jones, unanimously passed. Chairman Bryan ruled the motion adopted.

In response to questioning from Chairman Bryan, Mr. Johnson reported we are 9% of the state's population and getting back less than 2% of the TIP outlay. Chairman Bryan stated we are donors for the entire state.

### **2009-2015 METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PLAN – RECEIVED AS INFORMATION**

Mr. Johnson reviewed this item noting the Capital Area MPO will begin preparation of the FY 2009-2015 Project Priority List' during the Spring of 2007. Attachment BA is the schedule of events for development of the 2009-2015 Project Priority List. During development of the MTIP member jurisdictions present lists of their top priority projects for which they are requesting funding. These projects are reviewed and ranked based on

the latest scores and user benefits derived from the User Benefit Analyses performed for each project. Further analysis of projects is performed using such factors as Gross User Benefits, Benefits Per Mile and Years for a project to pay for itself. The issue of geographic equity, given that new member counties have projects that were previously not a part of the Capital Area MPO Project Priority list, must be addressed as well. The TCC Subcommittee, working with staff, has produced a form for submittal of projects that will provide much needed information for the analysis and ranking process. Attachment 8B is a copy of the submittal, packet - available on the Capital Area MPO Website which must be submitted for each project. Local planning staff will be preparing these documents for submittal, along with each jurisdiction's priority project list. The forms are due back to Capital Area MPO staff no later than March 30, 2007. Mr. Johnson explained staff was asking everyone to submit their priorities by the end of February or mid March after which a draft priority list would be drafted in a May/June timeframe, public involvement in June/July and presented to NCDOT in August. This item is to be sure the TAC ratifies the schedule as ratified by the TCC.

This item was received as information.

**2007-2008 UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM – RECEIVED AS INFORMATION – SUBCOMMITTEE TO DEVELOP PROPOSED AGENDA FOR RETREAT**

Mr. Johnson reviewed this item noting in September of 2006, staff and TCC subcommittee members began work on the 2007-2008 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP). Study requests were solicited from member jurisdictions and subcommittee members met to discuss the submittals. No decision has been reached on which study (or studies) will be recommended for funding this fiscal year. Attachment 9A is a schedule for development and adoption of the UPWP. Mr. Johnson proposed reviewing Highway 50 between Raleigh and Creedmoor noting there is much desire to have this corridor expanded including environmental concerns about protecting the watershed. One thing discussed was the possibility of alternating passing lanes since a big problem is the inability to pass slow moving traffic. He explained the corridor studies allow us to get into real issues, i.e., land use stripping out the corridor, etc. He noted it is staff's intent to propose looking at this corridor in the coming year. Mr. Johnson indicated if there are any unmet needs from a planning perspective to be addressed they should be submitted to staff.

Mr. Moss, representing Creedmoor, reported the City of Creedmoor supports this study but they are not taking a position of the widening of Highway 50. He explained they support the study to determine the outcome but they are on opposite ends of opinion with the county. He noted they understand Granville County's position but it has serious implications for Creedmoor. He reiterated Creedmoor supports the study but does not support the widening of Highway 50.

Mr. Johnson indicated the goal is to get this study completed in that 12 month period but could possibly take 16-18 months. He stated there are concerns about water quality. This corridor at times is very congested but there are also areas that desire to keep low density and there are competing goals involved.

Mr. Johnson indicated information would be provided later in the meeting regarding the Comprehensive Transportation Plan development noting one of our opportunities is to go to the collector street level with plans and get into planning intermediate street systems to help communities get interconnected street networks, particularly in northern Harnett County and areas between Wendell and Clayton. He stated NCDOT is amenable to having collector streets level in plans. Mr. Petrosky reported staff had worked closely with Johnston County, Clayton, Wendell and Wake County and have a plan for thoroughfare structures on those borders and would have a meeting to discuss that plan. He stated work would continue on that plan to refine it and would eventually come before this body for review this spring.

Chairman Bryan indicated last year a mini retreat was held which was very helpful and questioned if there is a need to have an overall vision of connectivity of all of these plans. Mr. Johnson stated such a retreat could be done and questioned if it is the desire to focus on the work program or work products like the CTP so members can look at traffic plans.

Chairman Bryan requested that Kaye Yadusky get a subcommittee together and develop a proposed agenda for a half day retreat to present at the next meeting.

## **LONG RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLAN AND TRANSIT INFRASTRUCTURE BLUEPRINT – VARIOUS ACTIONS TAKEN**

Mr. Johnson reviewed this item noting the most recent federal transportation reauthorization (SAFETEA-LU), passed by Congress in 2005, mandates a number of additional requirements on the MPO planning process related to LRTPs, including earlier coordination with appropriate environmental resource agency stakeholders. On August 18, 2006, the Triangle Transit Authority announced that its bid for federal New Starts Funding for Phase I of the Regional Rail project would not be pursued at this time. As discussed at the TAC's meeting on September 20, 2006, TTA's Board of Trustees requested that the MPOs (Capital Area and Durham-Chapel Hill-Carrboro) take the lead, through their respective LRTP processes, in setting regional priorities for public transit in the Triangle. The Board has also indicated a need for expanded public involvement in setting regional transit priorities. As a step toward developing more consistency between the two MPOs' LRTPs as they relate to transit through a joint effort known as the Regional Transit Infrastructure Blueprint Study was planned. The focus of this study, using in-house staff resources from the two MPO's, TJCOG and TTA, was to develop analyses of land use, travel markets and preliminary estimated costs for various types of possible transit system improvements within potential major transit regional corridors in the Triangle.

Mr. Johnson explained this “blueprint” study was intended to provide consistent analytical data that will serve to provide the region’s leaders with a solid foundation for discussions on developing more harmony between the MPOs on transit-related transportation investment priorities that are to be determined within each MPO’s respective LRTP update process. It is very important to note that this transit “blueprint” study was not intended to decide what those regional transit priorities should be, only to help better inform that decision-making process. Several meetings with representatives including the TAC chairs/vice-chairs of both MPOs were held to develop a list of as many as 25 people from throughout the Triangle region who would be recommended candidates who might be asked to serve on a potential “Blue-Ribbon” Commission to utilize the findings of the transit blueprint analysis study as a basis for crafting a recommended plan for a long-range regional transit system. Initial discussions between the two MPO’s TAC officers on collaboration, possible commission membership and funding for this project revealed differences in views that appeared to be irreconcilable. Attachment 1 OA is a copy of informal minutes from the December 18, 2006 meeting. A suggestion was subsequently made that this project be started, for the Capital Area MPO planning area only, with a possible funding source being the 2007-2008 Unified Planning Work Program. If this project is agreed upon by TAC members, a committee of approximately 12 to 15 persons would be selected, two co-chairs would be selected and work would begin in the near future. The DCHC MPO TAC met on January 10, 2007 and had an extensive discussion of this matter and subsequently agreed to modify certain previously held positions in hopes of seeking consensus on a single regional effort.

Mayor Meeker reported the idea of a citizens group is to work with staffs to come back with recommendations of transit plans going ahead and not to look at old plans. This involves a fresh look of where we are and might do in regard to transit. All options should be reviewed. He indicated the citizens group is to get together and set out guiding principles, use data and have public input and in November/December report to CAMPO and DCHC. Mayor Meeker indicated he met with DCHC representatives relating to the size of this group and would come back at the next meeting to determine who would be on the committee. He reported it had been agreed to have 14 CAMPO appointments and 10 DCHC appointments. There would be a co-chair from each MPO. Bill Cavanaugh of Progress Energy has expressed a willingness to serve in this role from CAMPO. A mixture of community people should be appointed including members from the environmental community, outlying areas and business people. Mayor Meeker noted it would not be possible to include everyone on the committee desired. In summary, Mayor Meeker the recommendation is that the overall group have 24 people (14 from CAMPO and 10 from DCHC) and Bill Cavanaugh serve as a co-chair. A report would be made at the next meeting on recommendations for other members at the next meeting. Chairman Bryan thanked Mayor Meeker for taking a lead on this item noting this would involve 6-7 months of work with multiple meetings. He requested that members provide their nominees to Mr. Johnson. Ms. Franklin noted the transit patrons includes a number of riders who are sophisticated about how transit and our region works and indicated she would pull together a list of people and hoped there would be one or more users on this group. Mayor Meeker requested that resumes be submitted on all nominees.

Mayor Meeker moved accepting the proposal for a 24 person citizen advisory committee with 14 members appointed by CAMPO and 10 appointed by DCHC, including 2 co-chairs with Bill Cavanaugh serving as the co-chair representing CAMPO. His motion was seconded by Mayor Weatherly, unanimously passed. Chairman Bryan ruled the motion adopted.

### **CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION TO REQUEST AUDIT OF NCDOT FUNDING OF PROJECTS – RESOLUTION ADOPTED**

The agenda explained the State Equity Formula for funding distribution has come under scrutiny as it fails to address congestion related needs, particularly in our state's metropolitan areas. The draft 2007-2013 STIP, released in August 2006, reflects little change from the adopted 2006-2012 STIP with the exception that projects have been further delayed or revised in scope due to permitting and budgetary issues. The City of Raleigh discussed this issue during its November 21, 2006, City Council meeting and directed the City Attorneys to draft a resolution requesting the State Auditor to perform an Audit of the current funding sources and distribution of funds by NCDOT. The agenda packet included a copy of the resolution as adopted at the December 5, 2006 Raleigh City Council Meeting and a draft resolution on behalf of the MPO to request that this audit be performed.

Mayor Meeker stated CAMPO is receiving very little funding from the equity formula and the formula is unfair and questioned this area receiving 30-40 cents on the dollar back. He stated the City Council asked for this audit and request from NCDOT that they provide computation on how the equity formula is funding. This information has not yet been received. He explained the Auditor should look into this and determine how much money has been collected from CAMPO residents in the last 7 years, how much was spent and how much should have been spent in the last 7 years. He noted it is hard to imagine the formula is that unfair; however, the only major project that has been funded under the equity formula is Highway 64 East. He noted this is an aggressive step but the citizens must be represented. He noted the only real money we have is federal money that they can't take from us. If it is this unfair, that is further evidence to take to the General Assembly and demand action.

Mayor Meeker moved that Mr. Johnson request an audit about how NCDOT has done calculations to date. His motion was seconded by Mr. Moss, unanimously passed. Chairman Bryan ruled the motion adopted.

Chairman Bryan noted he met the previous day with Senator Clark Jenkins noting this information had been requested for years. He indicated DOT does not have a method of providing this data due to the way the gas tax is done at the wholesale level. Mr. Johnson came up with a method and came up at the TIP meeting requested they agree or disagree with it. He noted Senator Jenkins and Representative Cole wanted to see this and are very unaware, when you see county by county, what is occurring. This has not been done

in the past and the more we can push this and request information, the more the legislators are educated.

## **BICYCLE/PEDESTRIAN TRANSPORTATION PLANNING UPDATE – INFORMATION RECEIVED**

Mr. Petrosky reviewed this item. He explained on November 29th the Capital Area Bicycle and Pedestrian Stakeholders Group (BPSG), members of the Capital Area TCC, members of the Durham Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Commission (BPAC), the Chapel Hill Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Board (BPAB), and the Carrboro Transportation Advisory Board (TAB), participated in a joint meeting to discuss bicycle and pedestrian issues in the Triangle. Tom Norman, the Director of the NCDOT Division of Bicycle and Pedestrian Transportation, gave an update on statewide initiatives to improve conditions for bicycle and pedestrian transportation. Capital Area MPO staff met recently with Julie Woosley, the chair of the Capital Area BPSG, and staff from the Division of Public Health to discuss statewide initiatives meant to create healthier communities by shaping policy and, inherently, the “built environment”. The agenda packet provided a summary of these meetings, an update on regional bicycle and pedestrian planning efforts and priorities, a description of how the TAC can effectively participate in statewide initiatives for bicycle and pedestrian planning. Mr. Petrosky spoke to the fact that decisions made regarding funding of transportation facilities including bike facilities, greenways and sidewalks has an affect on the overall health of the community. The Division of Public Health is also interested in working with officials on this issue. He noted the N. C. Executive Committee on Highway Safety has created a bicycle/pedestrian safety working group and reviewed recommendations from the group. He explained this item was placed on the agenda to review the opportunities for this body to be involved in local and statewide issues to improve safety. Mr. Petrosky explained there are not enough funds to go around noting the current system doles out \$6 million to the Bike/Ped Division and \$6 million divided by 100 counties is why many of our priorities are not funded. He indicated if the TAC desires more funding for this purpose in the TIP, it should make senior management at NCDOT aware that these projects are a priority and more funding should be allotted. He stressed the need for all members to get their communities thinking about these facilities. Mayor Meeker stated if this money is not allocated thought should be given to a policy where CAMPO allocations are matched 1 to 1 by local governments and receive applications and spread the money around. He requested that staff bring a report back in March on what we want to do in the next couple of years in this area. Mr. Johnson spoke to the necessity of giving people enough time to submit applications if we are going to do a call. Mr. Petrosky indicated a decision must also be made on what the match would be noting the TCC was shooting for having a certain portion of money allotted to each municipality and that must be evaluated. Mr. Johnson reviewed the issues involved noting the competitive process is another way of doing this but this must be formulated.

Following discussion, Mayor Meeker recommended that a recommendation be available at the next meeting and include a schedule for submitting projects.

## **REPORT FROM TCC CHAIR – RECEIVED**

Chairman Russell indicated a final report was received on the US-1 Study and participating jurisdictions would be included in a memorandum of understanding. This document will be distributed for those members to review.

## **MPO STAFF REPORTS – RECEIVED**

Mr. Johnson indicated he and Mark Erinson went to Greensboro and hoped to explore if there is a common agenda in moving forward with a transit for the next legislative agenda. He noted many feel the process now is not open and hard to understand how you can take in \$3.5 billion a year and not have any money. He indicated there seems to be a consensus that local options are in our future and have to determine how to implement them. It was felt a range of options should be developed and possibly some local options being levied by the voters and funds being decided upon by MPOs and RPOs with implementation coming from NCDOT or larger municipalities that can handle extra construction projects. Mr. Johnson indicated what was done earlier in the meeting with the bike/ped item could be expanded to the larger concept where each MPO may have local option revenue sources that could be allocated toward lower ordered items. He felt this would be a good opportunity because raising other resources going through the same formula does not appear to be what we want to do. He noted this is just a work in progress and an opportunity to get the legislature to do things this session that will not be present next year which is an election year. Charlotte has an aggressive agenda in this effort. He noted Wilmington is agreeing to manage construction projects in their entire county. Mr. Johnson stated this is an important issue and there is desire to get the entire state to work together on it.

## **NCDOT REPORTS – RECEIVED**

Wally Bowman reported on various Division 5 projects. He reported US-1/64 in Cary has opened since the last meeting and the contractor on that project did an outstanding job. NC-55 has all lanes open to Durham from US-64. I-540 from US-1 to 64 has now opened. Davis Drive from Morrisville Carpenter Road to 54 will begin in another month with completion in December, 2009.

## **OTHER BUSINESS**

Mr. Johnson reported Mayor Sears has indicated Holly Springs has indicated they would spend \$5.3 million to build Green Oaks Parkway and had asked NCDOT to consider paying for that by reimbursing one half of the funding in 2012. DOT has stated they are amenable to doing that using Economic Development funds and placing it in the TIP. Mr. Bowman stated NCDOT would like to have a letter of support from CAMPO for that concept. Mr. Johnson reported the TCC unanimously endorsed this proposal. Mayor

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Meeker moved approval of the request from Holly Springs. His motion was seconded by Mr. McAlister, unanimously passed. Chairman Bryan ruled the motion adopted.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda Hunt