

**TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
MINUTES  
MARCH 16, 2005**

The Transportation Advisory Committee met on Wednesday, March 16, 2005 at 4:00 p.m. in the Council Chamber of the Raleigh Municipal Building with the following present:

**Members**

Chairman Bryan, presiding  
Charles Meeker  
Don Bumgarner  
Sam Bridges  
Jan Faulkner  
Vivian Jones  
Nancy Kelly  
Ernie McAlister  
Dick Sears  
Nina Szlosberg

**Representing**

Wake County  
Raleigh  
Zebulon  
Garner  
Morrisville  
Wake Forest  
Rolesville  
Cary  
Holly Springs  
NCDOT

**Staff**

Chip Russell  
Ed Johnson  
Kenneth Withrow

**Representing**

TCC Chair  
CAMPO Director  
CAMPO Staff

**Others Present**

John Hodges-Copple

**Representing**

Triangle J-COG

**AGENDA ADJUSTMENTS – AGENDA APPROVED WITH ADDITIONS**

Mr. Johnson reported there were two additional items to be included in the agenda. The first item related to the Functional Classification Update Map with Mr. Johnson explaining the TCC discussed this item and took action on it at their last meeting and the TAC would need to endorse that action at this meeting. The second item related to an update on the visit with the Triangle Delegation.

Mayor Meeker moved adoption of the agenda with the two additions as noted. His motion was seconded by Mayor Sears, unanimously passed. Chairman Bryan ruled the motion adopted.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS – NONE RECEIVED**

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

**MINUTES – FEBRUARY 16, 2005 – APPROVED AS PRESENTED**

Minutes of the February 16, 2005 meeting was provided to members in their agenda packets. Mayor Sears moved approval of the minutes as presented. His motion was seconded by Mayor Meeker, unanimously passed. Chairman Bryan ruled the motion adopted.

**TRIANGLE REGION 2005 AIR QUALITY CONFORMITY DETERMINATION PROCESS – PUBLIC HEARING CONTINUATION – VARIOUS ACTIONS TAKEN**

Mr. Johnson explained the Air Quality Conformity Analysis and Determination Report applies to the 2030 Long Range Transportation Plan. An acceptable Conformity Determination finding allows transportation projects within the CAMPO to continue to receive funding for construction. John Hodges-Copple of Triangle J Council of Governments had been leading this coordination effort involving three MPOs, three RPOs, FHWA, FTA and USEPA, NCDOT and NCDENR-DAQ. Members received the current version of the Air Quality Conformity Report in the packets.

Mr. Johnson then reviewed the history of the item and steps that had been taken to date noting a 50-day public comment period began on January 20, 2005 and is to close on March 11, 2005. A public hearing was held on February 16, 2005 during the TAC meeting. The item was brought before the Technical Coordinating Committee on March 3, 2005 with the TCC recommending that the TAC approve the Capital Area 2030 Long Range Transportation Plan and make the determination that both the 2030 Long Range Transportation Plan and the current FY 2004-2010 MTIP conform to the North Carolina State Implementation plan for attaining the U.S. EPA's National Ambient Air Quality Standards, according to findings documented in the Triangle Region 2005 Air Quality Conformity Analysis and Determination Report; on the condition that all comments being received be satisfactorily addressed. At this time, comments to the Report were still being received and responses to the comments are scheduled to be available by the week of March 14, 2005. The Durham-Chapel Hill-Carrboro MPO TAC had taken no action on this item as of their March 9, 2005 meeting since responses to the comments were not available at that time. The latest copy of the report was provided to members at the meeting including a set of comments received from several agencies and comments from Tim Smelzer (Clean Air Now) and would become an appendix to the report. He noted each comment received and a response was included. Mr. Johnson indicated it would be appropriate for the TAC to consider approving this item as outlined in the agenda.

Chairman Bryan noted the hearing continued to be open and asked if anyone would like to be heard. No one asked to be heard. Chairman Bryan closed the hearing.

Mayor Meeker moved approval of the Capital Area 2030 Long Range Transportation Plan and making the determination that both the 2030 Long Range Transportation Plan and the current FY 2004-2010 Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program

conform to the North Carolina State Implementation Plan for attaining the U. S. EPA's National Ambient Air Quality Standards according to findings documented in the Triangle Region 2005 Air Quality Conformity Analysis and Determination Report. His motion was seconded by Mayor Sears, unanimously passed. Chairman Bryan ruled the motion adopted.

Mr. Johnson reported DCHC would be taking this same action at the April 13, 2005 meeting and Burlington/Graham TAC would approve it at their April 13, 2005 meeting which would conclude all requirements.

Chairman Bryan referred to the Eisenhower Fellowship Program for anyone between 32 and 45 years of age. Individuals chosen can study issues anywhere in the world for 6-8 weeks noting John-Hodges Copple did this 5 years ago. Mr. Hodges-Copple indicated Nina Szlosberg was also chosen for this program and indicated if there is an issue an individual can go anywhere in the world where that item is being tackled. He noted it is an amazing program.

**FEDERAL MPO PLANNING PROCESS CERTIFICATION REVIEW – FOLLOW-UP – RECEIVED AS INFORMATION**

Mr. Johnson reviewed this item and explained CAMPO staff and officials from FHWA, FTA and state and local officials participated in a two-day federal certification review of CAMPO on February 16 and 17, 2005. The certification review is conducted by the federal government with the transportation maintenance areas (TMAs) of over 200,000 in population every three years to review the transportation planning process. Since the findings of the review were not available in writing for 60-90 days, a review would be made of findings and recommendations at a future meeting.

Mr. Johnson reported a brief overview of findings were provided at the end of the certification process and CAMPO staff was advised it has one of the best planning offices in the state; however, there were two items that could be done better. The first item was to clarify the plans for providing feeder bus service to the TTA regional rail program. For it to be successful, it is felt the feeder system must work well and there is a challenge between various municipal bus systems and TTA to work out something. Mr. Johnson indicated additional information was sent to the federal representatives subsequent to that he hoped would satisfy their concerns. Mayor Meeker indicated the Raleigh City Council is moving towards consolidation of TTA and the Durham system. Mr. Johnson then spoke to the second item noting a civil rights officer came in and gave a stern review relating to outreaching to minorities and low income populations. He indicated staff had thought about this and indicated the next item on the agenda would be recommending an annual review of public involvement. He noted the City of Raleigh has a strong MWBE program and the proposal would take advantage of the City of Raleigh's already well established list and involve mailings two times per year to get information out to more people. This will be in addition to legal ads, etc. He noted staff is taking action on this item.

Mr. Johnson indicated a written report would be received in 60-90 days going into greater detail on positive and negative items. He stated the representatives present recognized for a small staff representing large areas, a lot of work was done.

Chairman Bryan requested an update at the next meeting about the major items that have been accomplished. In response to questioning, Mr. Johnson noted the term used by the federal representatives was corrective action and they want to see improvement in three years. Discussion followed regarding the two items of concern. Mr. Johnson indicated, in regard to reaching out to more citizens, that San Francisco has their documents available in several languages.

This report was received as information.

### **PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT AND SELF-CERTIFICATION – RECEIVED AS INFORMATION**

This item was reviewed along with the previous item. Mr. Johnson explained CAMPO annually conducts a self-certification review as part of the Unified Planning Work program for the next fiscal year. The process takes the form of the CAMPO TAC adopting a resolution that self-certifies that the MPO is fulfilling all federal requirements for the transportation planning processes. The concluding comments arising from the February 16 and 17 federal MPO certification review indicated that our MPO should evaluate its current public involvement process with more frequent subsequent reviews, for the purpose of improving public outreach particularly to minority and low-income (MLI) communities. As a result of these review recommendations, CAMPO staff recommends that the MPO begin incorporating a review of its public involvement processes as a part of the annual UPWP development effort. If agreed upon, the MPO self-certification process would note as a part of the certification checklist that the CAMPO has evaluated its public involvement process to ensure public participation in the transportation planning process. The proposed revisions to the public involvement process for 2005 were included in the agenda packet along with the proposed revision to the MPO's self-certification checklist.

This item was received as information.

### **STP-DA FUNDS – USE FOR TRANSIT IMPROVEMENTS – RESOLUTION ADOPTED**

CAMPO staff presented to TAC members during their December 15 and 20 meetings a chart showing proposed STP-DA and CMAQ appropriations included in the agenda packets. Also included with the proposed STP-DA appropriations was a line item labeled "Regional Transit/Bike/Ped (Reserve Funds)", with \$750,000 appropriated each year for seven years. The TAC adopted the STP-DA appropriations at their December 20, 2004 meeting. CAMPO will develop a list of transit projects to which STP-DA funds can be

appropriated pending NCDOT's acceptance of CAMPO's funding appropriation, as indicated in the FY 2006-2012 Transportation Improvement Program scheduled to be released on April 6, 2005. Mayor Meeker indicated he had checked with Ms. Szlosberg and the Wake Forest Bypass is set to be let in the Spring of 2007 and the Timber Drive right-of-way acquisition is to be done in 2008 with construction in 2009. Falls of Neuse is scheduled for 2011. He noted the signal system synchronization using CMAQ funds is on track to be designated as requested and noted all seems positive. Mr. Johnson explained the state is to fund  $\frac{3}{4}$  for the signalization program and the city is to fund  $\frac{1}{4}$  noting the City agreed to fund \$7 million and NCDOT has not been willing to make that commitment. He noted the TIP is to be published on April 6 and staff will receive a copy at the same time as the Council members.

Mr. Meeker moved adoption of a Resolution requesting the 20% State match on CMAQ funding for the Raleigh signal synchronization system and that our representative be requested to report back to this body. His motion was seconded by Mr. Sears, unanimously passed. Chairman Bryan ruled the motion adopted.

#### **CENTER OF THE REGION ENTERPRISE (CORE) PEDESTRIAN BICYCLE-GREEN SPACE PLAN – RECEIVED AS INFORMATION**

Jake Petrosky reviewed this item noting CORE has developed a Pedestrian-Bicycle-Green Space Plan for the center of the Triangle. This linked network of pedestrian, bicycle and green space facilities is compiled information on existing and planned facilities; and identifies additional opportunities to connect these networks over time. The plan also includes an initial staff-level prioritization of the proposed facilities and planning-level cost estimates of the resources that would be needed to complete these projects. Mr. Petrosky indicated this report is a follow-up from several months' worth of work. He reviewed the plan in detail. He explained CAMPO resources used, members of the group working on the plan and noted this involved cooperation from all jurisdictions. He noted this plan is important since all jurisdictions represented by this body are growing together. He reviewed the planning partners, benefits of the plan, a map of the CORE area, importance of pedestrian/bicycle/green space networks, pedestrian facilities, CORE area final products, etc. The final product would identify existing and planned trails and opportunities and barriers. The CORE wide priority corridors were identified with Mr. Petrosky noting there are 90,000 jobs in this area. Additional analyses in the plan were reviewed. He noted the full plan could be viewed on the website.

Ms. Szlosberg questioned if rail was included in the study with Mr. Petrosky noting rail was not included. Mr. Johnson explained when this originally began, there was a great deal of attention given to rail station locations. When we did the overall comprehensive planning, it was high in our minds and when we came up with the transit loop, that was one thing that created this need and hopefully identified the missing links. Ms. Szlosberg requested an overlay layer of rail to get a sense of walkability around the stations. In response the questioning, Mr. Petrosky noted this was to facilitate coordination between

municipalities and MPOs. Ms. Faulkner indicated this is a good plan and Morrisville intends to cooperate with other municipalities surrounding them and felt this is definite regionalism. She noted Morrisville is running this through their advisory board so it can eventually come back for final approval. She noted Morrisville representatives felt this was an excellent plan. Mr. Petrosky noted there have been other components of CORE, i.e., land uses and collector street inventories and this is the last portion.

The item was received as information.

#### **APRIL 20 TAC MEETING – INFORMATION RECEIVED**

Mr. Johnson indicated at the February 16 meeting it was decided to invite representatives from soon-to be new MPO member areas to a dinner meeting on April 20. The Regional Transportation Alliance has just announced it will be hosting a reception for elected officials in our region on that evening from our region on that evening from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. at the Raleigh City Museum. It will be necessary to hold a short TAC business meeting that day as well. He suggested a business meeting at 4:00 p.m. and then go to the museum and meet with new members and have the overall reception shortly after that.

This item was received as information.

#### **PENDING ITEMS – INFORMATION RECEIVED**

Mr. Russell indicated at the last TCC meeting more follow-up work was done from the TCC retreat and continued work on prioritizing strategies and goals. These will be written up and provided in the future. Discussion also took place relating to how often they should do exercises like that since it had been several years since the last one and discussed the possibility of having a retreat every 2-3 years. Also, at the conclusion of every year time should be spent reviewing goals and review progress made. Discussion also took place relating to standing committees. He reported the Joint DCHC/CAMPO meeting would be held on March 30 from 1:30 – 3:30 p.m. at Longistics.

The report was received as information.

#### **FUNCTIONAL CLASSIFICATION MAP - CHANGES ENDORSED**

Mr. Johnson explained each State is to develop a Functional Classification Map. The North Carolina map was available at the meeting. He noted staff was asked in December to review the proposed update and took this very seriously. There were 130 recommended changes made to the State. NCDOT reviewed those and indicated they would not object to any of them but only wanted to do 38 out of the 130 at this time and agreed to making additional changes in the near future. The TCC passed a recommendation that the TAC endorse the changes with the understanding that NCDOT will follow through on the remainder of the revisions before the end of this calendar year.

Mr. Johnson reviewed the types of changes recommended and pointed them out on the map. He indicated the TCC recommended approval of the changes as outlined.

Mayor Meeker moved approval of the changes with the understanding that NCDOT will follow through on the remainder of the revisions before the end of this calendar year. His motion was seconded by Mayor Sears, unanimously passed. Chairman Bryan ruled the motion adopted.

#### **LEGISLATIVE VISIT – INFORMATION RECEIVED**

A handout was provided to members entitled “Transportation Challenges in the Research Triangle Region”. Mr. Johnson reviewed the information in detail which is a needs analysis of our area and growth trends. The presentation included key roles of MPOs in transportation, Triangle demographic trends, travel trends, traffic volumes, Regional Long Range Transportation Plans overall summary, short term funding shortfall for Division 5, funded regional long range plans – long term funding shortfall, regional funding summary, Triangle congestion trends and funding options. Mr. Johnson indicated to compete in global economy growth, one of the chief assets is mobility and it is important to do everything possible to maintain the quality of mobility we have and improve upon it. He then presented a chart indicating NCDOT per capita transportation spending between 1990-2004 by county. Chairman Bryan spoke to the necessity to stay in contact with the Legislature noting there is a significant amount of work to be done and we should talk with our delegation to unite them in trying to find a solution to the disparity in funding. He spoke to the possibility of a Highway Use Tax which would be something that would be more doable than looking at increased sales tax. He felt the case was made very strongly to our delegation of the need for more funding for transportation and hoped something positive would come from the meeting. He stressed the need to stay at the Legislature and constantly be in front of them with this issue noting it is economically important.

#### **DIVISION 5 COORDINATOR – KENNETH SPAULDING INTRODUCED**

Mr. Johnson introduced the new NCDOT Division 5 coordinator Kenneth Spaulding.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

Brenda Hunt