

**TECHNICAL COORDINATING COMMITTEE
OCTOBER 6, 2005
MINUTES**

The Technical Coordinating Committee met on Thursday, October 6, 2005 at 10:00 a.m. in Room 110, 301 Hillsborough Street, Raleigh, N.C. The following were present:

Member

Chairman Russell, presiding
Juliet Andes
Wally Bowman
Ray Boylston
Skip Browder
Scottie Cornett
Russell Dalton
Carl Dawson
Katie Ertmer
Michele Hane
Howard Harrell
Tom Kendig
Mike Kennon
Dianne Khin
Mike Morton
Teresa Piner
Tammy Ray
Liz Rooks
Tamra Shaw
Sarah Smith
Mike Sorenson
Kendra Stephenson
Don Willis

Representing

Wake Forest
Cary
NCDOT
Cary
Clayton
Granville County
Apex
Raleigh
Franklin County
Raleigh
NCSU
NCSU
Raleigh
Apex
Franklinton
Wendell
Franklinton
RTF
NCDOT
NCDOT
Fuquay-Varina
Holly Springs
Wake County

Lead Planning Agency Staff

John Burris
Ed Johnson
Jake Petrosky
Diane Wilson
Kenneth Withrow

Representing

CAMPO Staff
CAMPO Director
CAMPO Staff
CAMPO Staff
CAMPO Staff

Others Present

Julie Hunt
Scott Lane
Joe Milazzo
Keith Robins

Representing

Moffett & Nichol
Mercury Development/Pulte Homes
Regional Transportation Alliance
Withers & Ravenell

Chairman Russell called the meeting to order with discussion and actions taken as follows:

AGENDA ADJUSTMENT – AGENDA APPROVED WITH AMENDMENTS

Chairman Russell reported there would be two add on items relating to the TAC Retreat and an update on the US 1 Corridor Study. It was also agreed to move Item 10 (Project Spotlight – Wendell) to follow item 6. Without objection, the agenda was approved with the amendments as noted.

PUBLIC COMMENTS – RECEIVED

Chairman Russell invited comments from those in attendance.

Joe Milazzo, Director of Regional Transportation Alliance, reported the Alliance had reviewed the priority list and expressed support for the top three priority projects (Signal System Upgrade, Western Wake Freeway and I-40 Widening). He indicated his group appreciated the work being done.

ACTION ITEMS

MINUTES – SEPTEMBER 1, 2005 – APPROVED AS SUBMITTED

Members received copies of the September 1, 2005 minutes in their agenda packets. Ms. Andes moved approval of the minutes as presented. Her motion, seconded by Mr. Harrell, unanimously passed. Chairman Russell ruled the motion adopted.

CAPITAL AREA MPO 2007-2013 PROJECT PRIORITY LIST – RECEIVED AS INFORMATION

Mr. Johnson reviewed this item, reporting that TCC and TAC members had previously agreed on a schedule for development of the 2007-2013 Project Priority list. Members received the list in their agenda packets. Mr. Johnson further reviewed the history of this item and the procedure involved as outlined in the agenda. He explained that staff and members of the TIP/Project Priority Subcommittee had met on three occasions prior to the August 17 TAC meeting to address the presentation of the priority lists and technical data. The Subcommittee determined the best course of action would be to show the existing top twenty priority projects based on the FY 2006-2012 Priority List and the subsequent scores and user benefits for all projects based on staff-generated user benefits analyses. Further analysis of projects has been performed taking into consideration Total User Benefits, Benefits per Mile and Years for a project to pay for itself in terms of user benefits. This information was included in the agenda packets. He noted the issue of geographic equity, given that new member counties have projects which were previously not a part of the CAMPO Project Priority list development process, had been addressed by a reordering of project priorities as shown in a table provided to members. The subcommittee met on September 13, 2005 to review the list as proposed and endorsed it for recommendation of approval by the TCC and TAC. Members also received Attachment 5C reflecting the latest FY 2007-2013 Priority List for roadway improvements in priority order in their packets. The summary included all Advanced Planning, Bicycle and Pedestrian, Enhancement, ITS and

Roadway project requests. The TAC authorized a 30-day public comment period on the FY 2007-2013 Project Priority List beginning August 17, 2005. During the public comment period, the TIP/Project Priority Subcommittee reviewed the FY 2007-2013 Project Priority List Summary which was provided to the committee at this meeting for recommendation to the TAC. The TAC at its September 21 meeting received the list provided by the TCC subcommittee, held a public hearing and extended the public comment period to conclude with a public hearing and consideration of final approval at its meeting on November 16, 2005. The item was on this agenda for final review and to provide a recommendation to the TAC.

Mr. Johnson reported the addition of the new CAMPO members had been finalized two days prior to this meeting noting everyone would be getting original copies of the signed Memorandum of Understanding documents in the next week. He welcomed all the new partners. Mr. Johnson indicated he would be contacting each area to obtain a list of their TCC and TAC members and alternates. He noted that the expansion included two additional highway divisions and staff would be working with NCDOT to determine who the representatives would be.

At this point Mr. Johnson reviewed the handout provided to members relating to the priority projects. He directed attention to the NC 50 project noting that this is a request from Granville County running from Creedmoor Road to the Wake County line. No one in Wake County has requested adding the remainder of the corridor. He indicated that due to the concerns, expressed by Wake County, about the watershed, staff feels it would be better to do an advance planning study to determine whether there are phasing possibilities, etc. Mr. Johnson referred to the Gorman Street Extension and reviewed the project. He noted staff's approach is to do more upfront study before a TIP commitment is decided upon. He spoke to projects in Wake County that benefit neighboring counties as well, i.e., US 401 which would have benefits for Franklin County as well as Wake County. He noted Wake County is already experiencing severe congestion problems and that in neighboring counties this is a problem that is emerging. He commented on the need to fairly distribute available funds geographically noting that the upcoming TAC retreat would focus on this. He referred to the Timber Drive project noting that as Mayor Meeker had pointed out, this is staff's recommendation No. 33 but it has been Garner's priority for a number of years and has commitment in the TIP. This project should have been included in the top 10 and staff will move that around. Chairman Russell urged members to attend the committee meeting the following week.

Mr. Johnson referred to the maps prepared by Mr. Petrosky. He further reviewed the various projects and explained their rankings, indicating that staff would appreciate suggestions or recommendations and noting that the subcommittee would be working on this list the following week.

Ms. Hane asked about the Durham County TIP conformity lapse and what impact this might have on CAMPO. Mr. Johnson noted that a number of members had called about this issue.. NCDOT staff looked at the DCHC TIP and thought that there were enough differences between their document and the State document that they were uncomfortable approving it. Because of that and the fact that DCHC is a part of our non-attainment area which is a 7 ¼ county area affected by this lapse. The DCHC lapse affects federal funding of anything adding capacity. He explained that CAMPO does not have any projects subject to federal action for the next few

months and it did not look like this lapse would be a problem. He noted that in talking to Calvin Leggett, most of the items have been worked out. He indicated that their big issue is getting their loop, promised in the Highway Trust Fund of 1989, going. Mr. Johnson feels this will all work out noting the Durham TAC will adopt something next Wednesday that will be acceptable to NCDOT and this issue will be resolved in the next two weeks. Mr. Johnson then spoke to action taken at the last TAC meeting relating to T. W. Alexander Drive.

Chairman Russell indicated this item would be received as information and would be discussed again in November. He suggested any comments be forwarded to CAMPO staff.

2006 STP-DA CALL FOR BICYCLE, PEDESTRIAN AND TRANSIT PROJECTS – RECEIVED AS INFORMATION – SUBCOMMITTEE APPOINTED

Mr. Petrosky reviewed this item. The CAMPO TAC approved a funding allocation plan for STP-DA funds that included reservation of \$750,000 annually, beginning in 2006, for bicycle, pedestrian and transit improvements. In order to fund projects that enhance the inter-regional connectivity of the aforementioned alternative modes of transportation, a process and schedule for selection and award of these funds to members of the MPO needs to be established. The item was placed on the agenda for discussion on next steps in development of a schedule and process for utilization of the \$750,000 annual allocation for bicycle, pedestrian and transit improvements. Mr. Petrosky requested that members advise staff if they would like to make application for these funds and indicated staff would assist with the application process.

Mr. Johnson explained that in December, 2004, the TAC set aside STP-DA funds in the amount of \$750,000 per year for the next 7 years for transit, bike and pedestrian improvements and noted that this money is set aside in the TIP to be spent as CAMPO sees fit. He noted that we now have an opportunity to have the MPO call for projects and should determine how to do this. He suggested a subcommittee to work through this in order to develop a schedule. Each fiscal year runs from October 1 through September 30 and we are currently already into the first year. He noted there are several hundred thousand dollars worth of special studies going on this year, travel behavior survey, etc., and we may have to dip into the first \$750,000 just to get these funded. He indicated there would definitely be \$750,000 from 2007-2012 and there would be an annual call for projects. Staff will bring these back and have the TCC make recommendations for TAC action. He explained the idea is that this is money for the MPO to spend largely on alternatives to the automobile. He suggested appointing a subcommittee to meet over the next month to hammer out the proposals. Chairman Russell indicated the Project Priority Subcommittee could do this, or the Bike/Ped Stakeholders Group. Mr. Petrosky indicated this committee could be a combination of TCC and the Bike/Ped group.

The following members were appointed to the subcommittee: Juliet Andes, Michele Hane, Tamra Shaw, Dianne Khin, Skip Browder and Katie Ertmer.

Mr. Johnson indicated that NCDOT has issued a call for projects and that applications are due by December 2, 200. Since it would not be practical for the MPO to receive the applications, applications should be sent directly to NCDOT and a copy should be provided to CAMPO staff for a blanket endorsement by the TAC. No priority ranking of these projects will be done. He

noted DOT wants to know the MPO is in general agreement with the applications. Mr. Browder indicated Clayton received a bikeway grant and had to have endorsement from the MPO and RPO.

PROJECT SPOTLIGHT – WENDELL – INFORMATION RECEIVED – MEETING TO BE HELD

Mr. Johnson reported the recent completion of US 64/264 (Knightdale) Bypass and improved travel service/regional access has spurred interest in residential and commercial development in eastern Wake County.. Mercury Development and Pulte Homes have recently proposed a large-scale development, currently in the planning and design phase, that is expected to include 450,000 square feet of commercial space and 4,000 new homes. The proposed development will be located east of Lake Myra and north of Poole Road in western Wendell. This project lies in the path of the proposed Southern Wendell Bypass shown on CAMPO's LRTP as a future roadway. This would be an extension of Knightdale-Eagle Rock Road in a southeastward direction to Poole Road at Martin Pond Road and from there potentially continuing further eastward on new location to NC 231 creating a bypass south of Wendell for commuter traffic. Mr. Johnson explained the current draft site plan of the Pulte development proposed to shift the alignment of this planned future roadway northward to connect with Richardson Road, an existing unpaved secondary road. If constructed as proposed, the northward shift of this portion of the Southern Wendell Bypass may require the relocation or abandonment of the eastern portion of this proposed east-west arterial thoroughfare. As a result, this roadway alignment shift could significantly alter the impacts, both positive and negative, associated with improving the overall future roadway network serving this part of Wake County and northern Johnston County. Staff had been studying the impacts. Mr. Johnson reiterated that this was placed on the agenda to bring up an issue that has implications affecting the entire eastern side of our MPO.

Ms. Piner indicated she had been working with Ray Boylston, chairman of the Wendell Planning Commission; Scott Lane, representing Mercury Development and Pulte Homes and Keith Robin, representing Withers & Ravenel and many others. She indicated this was a very detailed project from the beginning and is in Wake County's jurisdiction and not Wendell's. She noted this project involves a multi-purpose design and Wendell is looking at transportation improvements for now and in the future and that this plan is environmentally sensitive as well. She noted that changes have occurred since the time they began looking at the southern route and now Johnston County is part of CAMPO.

Mr. Lane explained this type of development is new to eastern Wake County and would contain residential, a middle school, a medical center, wetlands, etc. He pointed out he was the instigator of the dashed line (shown on the map available at the meeting). He pointed out the new road location through the area that contains wetlands, etc. There are some considerations about the alignment and feasibility of continuing some connection from Wake to Johnston County that will affect CAMPO's 20th Priority project. This plan was kept inside Wake County because that is what the MPO was at that time and therefore they did not consider Johnston County as much as they should have noting now Johnston County should be considered. Mr. Lane spoke to the need to consider if the proposal is the correct connection and whether another high-speed road cutting a bypass into a sparsely developed part of Johnston County is desired. Integrating these projects

with the comprehensive planning process is a big consideration. Mr. Lane felt it is time to talk about this. He noted there are things Pulte would like to see but they are constrained on the interchange that was part of the original permit. He stated there are many things to consider and wanted to see CAMPO as a real partner and that the connection with Johnston County must be considered. He explained this throws the Triangle Regional Model out of whack noting when it was developed this kind of development was not expected in this area.

Keith Robins indicated he has been working with Mercury Development and Pulte Homes and explained this is really a new town or new suburb of Wendell involving 1,300 acres on the east side of Marks Creek Road and Lake Myra Road and 2,000 acres if the shopping area is considered. He reviewed planning efforts that had occurred in trying to determine the best route for property under the control of Mercury Development and Pulte Homes. He pointed out the lower road (the planned bypass) on the map crosses a significant amount of wetlands and the pond area. He pointed out the proposed relocation of the road up hill and away from that area. He reviewed the road network in the area and how the proposal would affect them and the benefits including allowing better school and home sites and better development of the area. He explained Pulte Homes will close on their land at Christmas and will start development in late 2006 or early 2007. They are currently meeting with Wake County to identify a school site. They have identified 3 elementary and 2 middle school sites and are also discussing with Wake County the creation of a district park near Lake Myra (70 acres) which is why they desire to move the road further north. He pointed out the two historic properties. Mr. Browder questioned if there was any reason why Pulte's property doesn't extend to Eagle Rock Road. Mr. Robins stated that Mercury Development does not have that land under contract. Ms. Piner noted improvements are to be made to Richardson Road which is currently partly paved and partly dirt. Mr. Robins felt 1300 acres demands an interchange and would work with DOT to assure standards are met. Ms. Piner referred to the proposed 70 acre park noting it would be a public part and there would be a private park on the site. Mr. Boylston spoke to the need to going further south noting the current alignment of the Wendell Bypass is 1.3 miles from Main Street and felt there would be a better alignment further south.

Mr. Johnson spoke to the desire to have the process move with dispatch noting the plan is the plan until it is changed and the proposal is in conflict with the current plan noting if we are going to put a dashed line into Johnston County, he wanted to be sure it gets built and that this should be looked at as an opportunity. Ms. Piner agreed this is an opportunity for everybody to come out with a win/win situation and hopefully all parties would be working together.

Chairman Russell questioned if Pulte is locked in with their proposed location. Ms. Piner indicated this is currently in Wake County's jurisdiction and everyone is working together. Mr. Lane noted there would be bike/ped access as well and offering neighborhood school opportunities.

Mr. Robins noted the first criterion is staying away from critical wetlands areas and creating vital neighborhoods and schools. Mr. Johnson indicated the line drawn was drawn on purpose and should determine which alignment is better noting if you have creeks, there should be one good crossover rather than several smaller crossings. Ms. Piner noted this is in the planning process and all parties should sit down with CAMPO staff and DOT.

Mr. Robins indicated they have had a survey crew and DENR out there and they also desire to have minimum crossings in the creek areas and wanted them to remain natural amenities. Mr. Johnson indicated the idea is if you do good research at the systems level planning, when the TIP project comes along it is much simpler.

Ms. Piner requested a meeting in order to look at where we are now. Mr. Johnson indicated he would like to have Mr. Browder at the table also. He noted this should be considered an opportunity. Mr. Bowman indicated he was not opposed to the north route and understood from an economic standpoint it is cheaper than building a bridge. He noted however that consideration should be given to the southern extension getting to 231 and who would be responsible for looking at the entire system.

It was agreed there would be a meeting of all parties involved to review this item.

TAC RETREAT – INFORMATION RECEIVED

Mr. Johnson provided members with information relating to the upcoming TAC Retreat to be held on October 19. He noted there would be maps available at the meeting showing members things they would want to know and explaining each item and that this would give everyone in the TAC an opportunity to see all parts of the region and learn more about them. He indicated discussion would also take place regarding whether to start formalizing the process of having meetings at the district level. Chairman Russell indicated in some discussions it had been felt it may not be necessary to have full group meetings monthly and could have district meetings. Mr. Johnson indicated at the TCC retreat, discussion took place relating to the possibility of district meetings and spoke to the challenges to the current staff of adding meetings. Mr. Browder stated he very much supports the idea of district meetings.

This report was received as information.

US 1 CORRIDOR STUDY – UPDATE RECEIVED

Mr. Withrow reviewed this item. He stated that the initial stakeholders group included the City of Raleigh, Wake Forest, Wake County, Franklin County, Youngsville and NCDOT. He explained staff was looking having a smaller subcommittee overseeing a larger committee as we go through the study. He indicated this is a harbinger of future region-wide studies and that there is a need to improve the process as we get ready to do future corridor studies. Mr. Russell suggested adding representatives from CAT and Shaw. Ms. Hane asked to be notified when meetings are held. Mr. Johnson suggested adding someone from CARTS. Mr. Johnson explained a subcommittee would be a large group consisting of 30-35 representatives that would meet 4 times over the next 8 months. He noted everyone interested would be able to attend all meetings but there could be a core group.

The update was received as information.

COMPREHENSIVE TRANSPORTATION PLAN – STATUS REPORT – RECEIVED AS INFORMATION

Mr. Petrosky requested that members turn in their changes by October 7 and Sarah Smith would set up district meetings. Ms. Smith indicated members received emails this week in an effort to set up meetings in November.

MPO/RPO MEETINGS WITH NCDOT FOR INTEGRATION OF CTP AND NEPA PROCESS – RECEIVED AS INFORMATION

Mr. Johnson explained that meetings have been held recently between the MPOs, RPOs and NCDOT to develop a process for integration of the CTP and NEPA process. Mr. Johnson reported that meetings are being held three times per month to review extremely detailed information on how to have the NEPA process pushed into systems planning. There have been 6 meetings. He felt a few years from now there will be a GIS system for the State showing all CTPs. He noted discussions started out referring to maps and reports and it is really data that is digital and available. He noted the outcome would result in being able to make better decisions in the future.

This item was received as information.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 12:00 Noon.

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda Hunt