

RURAL PLANNING RURAL ORGANIZATION

RPO Technical Coordinating Committee

June 11th, 2020 – 10:00 A.M., Zoom Platform

Agenda

1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Welcome and Introductions
Agenda Approval/Modifications

William High
William High

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

3. ADOPTION OF PREVIOUS TCC MEETING MINUTES

A. Minutes from the RPO TCC March 12, 2020 Meeting

4. RPO BUSINESS

A. P6.0 Update
B. LOSRPO Planning Work Program PWP Amendment
C. Resolution of Support for City of Brevard Bike/Ped
Planning Grant

Vicki Eastland
Vicki Eastland
Vicki Eastland

5. REGULAR UPDATES

A. NCDOT Division 13 and 14 updates
B. Transportation Planning Division Updates
C. Staff Updates

Division Staff
Daniel Sellers
Vicki Eastland

6. PUBLIC COMMENT

7. ADJOURNMENT

Upcoming Meetings

Land of Sky RPO TAC – Thursday June 25th, 2020 - 11:30 PM Zoom Platform

Land of Sky RPO TCC- August 12th, 2020-10:00 AM Location to be Determined

3. ADOPTION OF PREVIOUS TCC MEETING MINUTES

A. Minutes from the RPO TCC March 12, 2020 TCC Meeting

RPO Technical Coordinating Committee

March 12, 2020 – 10:00 A.M., Land of Sky Regional Council

Minutes

Attendance:

William High	Vicki Eastland	Zia Rifkin	Daniel Sellers
Stephen Sparks	Steve Williams	Hannah Cook	Troy Wilson
Steve Cannon	Jodie Ferguson	Aaron Bland	Leigh Huffman
Scott Collier	Mark Pulliam	April Alm	Chris Lee

WELCOME AND HOUSEKEEPING

Chair William High called the meeting to order at approximately 10:00am, welcomed everyone in attendance, and requested introductions. He communicated that the agenda was presented for approval with no modifications requested.

Steve Williams moved to approve the agenda as presented. April Alm seconded, and the motion carried without further discussion.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comments were made.

ADOPTION OF THE PREVIOUS TCC MINUTES

Jodie Ferguson moved to approve the February 13, 2020 TCC minutes as presented. Steve Williams seconded and as all were in favor, the motion carried.

RPO BUSINESS

P6.0 Update: Vicki Eastland shared the following updated P6.0 schedule:

Prioritization Task	Estimated Date
Local Meetings to select project submittals	September 2019- January 2020
DRAFT Projects Submittal list	February, 2020
Final Project List Approved by LOS TAC	March 2020
Alternate Criteria Deadline	May 1st 2020
Project Prioritization Public Survey	Fall 2020

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DRAFT Statewide Programmed Projects and SPOT Scores Released	End of February 2021
LOSRPO Local Input Point Methodology Due	March 1st, 2021
Local Input Points for Regional Input Projects Due	May 28th, 2021
Local Input Points for Division Needs Projects Due	October 29th 2021
DRAFT 2023-2032 STIP Released	February 2022

She noted there were still some slots for alternate-mode projects if anyone has anything to submit. She also shared about alternate criteria, noting that at the Regional Impact tier, there would be no change to the criteria. For the Division Needs criteria, the following changes would be made: to allow 15% of the score determined by lane width. The deadline has been extended until August for submission of alternate criteria.

Information only. No action requested.

LOSRPO P6.0 Project List:

Vicki Eastland communicated that in this round of prioritization, Land of Sky RPO has 16 new project submittals for each mode of transportation. In addition to new submittals, Land of Sky RPO has carryover highway projects: two in Transylvania Co. and two in Madison Co.

Vicki Eastland shared about the Sharp Hollow Road project in Madison Co. that would be added to the draft project submittal list in the Division Needs Tier.

Vicki Eastland shared a brief overview of the prioritization process in the LOSRPO region. She noted that RPOs, MPOs and the Divisions work together to submit projects in the SPOT Online Tool. Projects come from comprehensive transportation plans, which include all modes of transportation. Projects are selected from CTPs; but could also be submitted from other sources if there is an extenuating reason. LOSRPO receives 16 submittals for each transportation mode. This round LOSRPO will have 1200 points at the Regional Impact tier and another 1200 points at the Division Needs tier. Once projects are submitted those are scored through the SPOT Office in Raleigh based on established criteria.

Both the TCC and TAC approved the DRAFT Highway Projects list during the February meeting cycle. There was an ad in the March 4 Mountain Express announcing the public comment period. RPO staff continues to enter projects into the SPOT Online tool working with NCDOT Division 13/14 staff as well as SPOT office staff to improve submitted projects. View the project list at <http://landofskyrpo.org/prioritization/>

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Steve Williams moved to recommend the Draft Project list submittal to the LOSRPO TAC for consideration of approval. Mark Pullium seconded, and the motion carried without further discussion.

Traffic Safety Presentation: Scott Collier provided a Traffic Safety presentation on NCDOT safety and mobility funding programs and the roles of the regional traffic office. Three Regional Traffic Offices exist, which work with the divisions in the state. Roles include speed ordinances, school zones, work zones, they also review plans.

Discussion occurred regarding bundling of funds, known as companion funding, which could help a project get funded.

The development of safety projects begins with an initial request or a traffic/collision notice from an HSIP office. Three funding sources are utilized to fund projects and there are various levels of SPOT safety costs. HSIP (federal funds), SPOT Safety funds, SPOT Mobility funds. Projects are chosen and funded based on a benefit to cost ratio.

Scott Collier shared about the SPOT Mobility Program, which is a way of treating locations that have congestion and delay. A new part of this mobility program allows migration to congestion from school ingress/egress traffic flow. These projects do not have to go through the same evaluation process as other projects. Typical mobility projects include traffic signals, roundabouts, auxiliary turn lanes, directional crossovers/superstreet designs, multilane short segments and implement or improve signal systems.

Information item. No action requested.

REGULAR UPDATES

NCDOT Division 13 and Division 14 Updates
TPB Updates
Legislative Updates
Staff Updates

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comments.

ADJOURNMENT-

William High adjourned the meeting, as there was no further business.

Staff Recommendations:

Review the DRAFT TCC minutes and adopt with requested edits.



4. RPO Business

Item 4A Prioritization 6.0 Update

SPOT6.0 Updates

Prioritization Task	Estimated Date
Final Project List Approved by LOS TAC	March 2020
SPOT OnLine Closes for submitting projects	July 31st
DRAFT Identified Needs Due for Hwy Projects	September 11, 2020
Area Specific Weights due	October 23rd
Final Identified Needs and Complete Streets Project sheets due for all projects (Hwy and Non-Hwy)	April 23 rd , 2021
DRAFT Programmed Statewide Mobility Projects and Quantitative Scores for all projects released	End of May, 2021
Local Input Point Assignment Methodologies Due	June 1, 2021
Local Input Points for Regional Impact Projects Due	August 27 th , 2021
DRAFT list of Programmed Regional Impact Projects	End of October, 2021
Local Input Points for Division Needs Projects Due	January 28 th , 2022
DRAFT 2023 – 2032 STIP Released	May 2022

Project List

Both the TCC and TAC approved the final project at their March meetings. RPO staff continues to enter projects into the SPOT Online tool working with NCDOT Division 13/14 staff as well as SPOT office staff to improve submitted projects.

<http://landofskyrpo.org/prioritization/>

Staff Recommendations:

No action required, information only.

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Item 4B LOSRPO PWP Amendment

The Land of Sky Rural Planning Organization (LOSRPO) is seeking Transportation Planning Branch approval for the amended FY 2020 Planning Work Program. RPO staff, who reviewed the current fiscal year planning work program and budget, identified shifts of funding that are necessary to reflect actual work demands through the last three months of the fiscal year; deemed this amendment necessary. The Technical Coordinating Committee will recommend the changes on **June 11, 2020** and the Technical Advisory Committee will endorsed these on **June 25, 2020**. There is no change to the RPO's overall budget and RPO members will not be requested to provide money.

The following changes are recommended:

IV-3 Lodging, Meals, Incidentals

- IV-3 Lodging Meals, Incidentals: Because of the impacts of COVID-19, LOSRPO staff did not undertake the types of travel as staff would normally. For this reason, LOSRPO staff requests to shift funding to programs with ongoing work tasks. There are no changes to the specified deliverables, but the amount of money allocated for Lodging, Meals, Incidentals is **reduced** by \$1,744.68.
- Total for IV-3 (Lodging, Meals, Incidentals) – **reduced** by \$1,744.68.
- Funds shifted will be re-allocated over several funding categories with ongoing work tasks.

IV-5 Registration / Training

- IV-5 Registration / Training: Because of the impacts of COVID-19, LOSRPO staff did not attend anticipated Conferences. For this reason, LOSRPO staff requests to shift funding to programs with ongoing work tasks. There are no changes to the specified deliverables, but the amount of money allocated for Registration / Travel is **reduced** by \$3,591.28.

IV-6 Travel

- IV-6 Travel: Because of the impacts of COVID-19, LOSRPO staff did not undertake the types of travel as staff would normally. For this reason, LOSRPO staff requests to shift funding to programs with ongoing work tasks. There are no changes to the specified deliverables, but the amount of money allocated for Travel is **reduced** by \$735.00.

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II-4 General Transportation Planning

- Additional work in NCARPO items and Western RPO Meetings.
- Total for II-4 (General Transportation Planning) – **increased** by \$1,163.07.

II-2 Prioritization and Program Development

- Additional work demands for SPOT6.0.
- Total for II-2 Prioritization and Program Development – **increased** by \$4,907.89.

Staff Recommendations:

Review and vote to recommend PWP amendment approval to TAC at their June 25th Meeting.

Item 4C Resolution of Support, City of Brevard Bike/Ped Planning Grant

City of Brevard staff are submitting for an NCDOT Bicycle/Pedestrian Planning Grant. A resolution of support is required from the RTAC. The deadline for application is June 30, 2020.

RESOLUTION ENDORSING THE APPLICATION FOR PEDESTRIAN PLANNING FUNDS BY THE CITY OF BREVARD, NC

WHEREAS, North Carolina General Statutes 136-211 enacted July 6, 2000, provides for the establishment of Rural Transportation Planning Organizations (RPOs) to provide rural entities a cooperative and unified voice in project selection and funding, and enhance their involvement in integrated multi-model transportation planning; and

WHEREAS, the Transportation Advisory Committee is the duly recognized transportation decision-making body of the Land-of-Sky Rural Planning Organization; and

WHEREAS, the North Carolina Department of Transportation Division of Bicycle and Pedestrian Transportation has established a Bicycle and Pedestrian Planning Grant which provides funding to projects that will result in comprehensive local bicycle and pedestrian transportation plans; and

WHEREAS, the City of Brevard, North Carolina has decided to apply for funding from the Department of Transportation for a comprehensive bicycle and pedestrian plan for the application cycle that ends June 30, 2020; and

WHEREAS, the Transportation Advisory Committee finds it in the best interest of the Land of Sky Rural Planning Organization to endorse the City of Brevard's application.

NOW THEREFORE, be it resolved that the Land of Sky Rural Planning Organization Transportation Advisory Committee hereby endorses the application by the City of Brevard and, if the project is selected, will provide technical assistance for the duration of the project.

ADOPTED: This the 25th Day of June 2020.

Staff Recommendations:

Vote to Recommend LOSRPO TAC support the Resolution at their June 25th Meeting.

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5. REGULAR UPDATES

- D. NCDOT Division 13 and 14 updates
- E. Transportation Planning Division Updates
- F. Staff Updates

Division Staff
Daniel Sellers
Vicki Eastland

ADJOURNMENT

Upcoming Meetings

Land of Sky RPO TAC – June 25, 2020 – Virtual Meeting via Zoom Platform

Land of Sky RPO ICC- August 12th, 2020-10:00 AM Location to be Determined