

Meeting Agenda

RPO Technical Advisory Committee

September 26rd, 2019 – 11:30 French Broad Room (Large) Conference Room

Land of Sky Regional Council

Vicki Eastland
Steve Williams
Charlie Landreth (phone)
Hannah Cook
Nick Kronke
Emily Scott-Cruz
Tristan Winkler
Brownie Newman
Matt Wechtel
Kevin Ensley
Mike Hawkins
Ritchie Rozelle
Wanda Austin

1. **WELCOME AND HOUSEKEEPING**

Meeting opened by going over Division 13 & 14 brief updates while waiting for an attendee to arrive and chair the meeting.

A. Welcome and Introductions

Charlie Landreth

Charlie (on phone) gave permission for Matt Wechtel to run the meeting.

Matt W. called the meeting to order, welcomed attendees and requested introductions. He read the Ethics Statement, and requested, if there were any conflicts, which would preclude TAC members from voting on business items, to state such for the record, and to refrain from participating in the matter.

B. Ethics Statement & Agenda Approval/Modifications

Charlie Landreth

ETHICS AWARENESS & CONFLICT OF INTEREST REMINDER

(To be read by the Chair or his or her designee at the beginning of each meeting)

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

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Brownie moved to approve the agenda as presented. Keven Ensley seconded and the motion carried without further discussion.

APPROVAL OF TAC MINUTES

Brownie moved to approve the minutes from the February 28, 2019 LOSRPO TAC meeting. Keven Ensley seconded and the motion carried without further discussion.

2. APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS TCC MEETING MINUTES

Minutes from the RPO TAC February 28th, 2019 Meeting

Charlie Landreth

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

No members of the public present for comment.

4. LAND OF SKY RPO TAC BUSINESS Items

A. LOSRPO Letters of Support for Rural Transit Providers FTA
5310 Elderly and Persons Living w/ Disabilities Applications
NCDOT PTD

Vicki Eastland

Vicki Eastland requested that the RPO TAC vote to approve three letters of support for funding.

This year, there were three applicants—Haywood County to continue program, Transylvania County to continue current voucher program that contracts with local providers that allows people to transport individuals qualifying for funds out of the county for medical appointments, LOS Senior Companion Program to continue program that provides senior companion volunteers that provide individual transportation by giving fuel money to volunteers.

Kevin Ensley motioned to approve and Mike Hawkins seconded the motion to approve. Motion passed without discussion.

B. Regional Trail Work Group Update

Tristan Winkler

MPO and RPO has been working at creating a high-level vision of what a regional trail could look like without imagining new greenways, but by combining existing plans and improve regional connectivity. Work group encouraged the trails that ended up in the plan should be

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ones that connect to more than one county. There is approximately 150 miles of proposed trails and greenways, of which only 12 are currently built. Many don't have alignments yet. For a lot of the sections, we have proposed straight lines (Mills River to Brevard for example). Again, all of these are based either on existing trails or existing local plans. Some are not included in local plans such as the Weaverville to Mars Hill stretch. This was proposed because of the more reasonable connection from Weaverville to Mars Hill as opposed to Weaverville to Marshall. Town of Canton is having discussions about a path not yet written in a plan too. Work group asked to be shown future connections, especially Fonta Flora Trail—a planned greenway that would connect to East Asheville, and to be shown natural assets existing. Another facet of the work group was branding. It was recommended that the name Hellbender WNC Trail Network be the name for the plan to pay homage to the native salamander, sound tough, be marketable for tourism, while simultaneously reflecting local character. We will be coming out with a draft of the plan later this year.

No action by the board needed on this item.

C. NCDOT I-26 Communications Plan

David Uchiyama

Wanda Austin providing update via phone because David Uchiyama is not present.

We held a media day on 11/25, officially kicking off the i-26 project. From that, we had radio stations and TV stations present. We just wanted to get across the message that over the next 4 years, there will be a lot going on and that the traveling public knows not to “be the rubbernecker” and look back at construction activities going on. There should be a social media campaign starting today with regular updates along with regular updates in news outlets.

Ritchie R. asked what social media accounts would have updates.

Wanda Austin said it will be updated through Twitter, Facebook, and news media. It will be updated in the Interstate Corridors account, NCDOT, and Division account (?)

No action by the board needed on this item.

D. Complete Streets Policy Update

Vicki Eastland

On August 8th Board Meeting with NCDOT, a new Complete Streets Policy was printed out. The most important aspects of the policy being the cost share and the construction of bicycle, pedestrian, and transit facilities in conjunction with highway projects. If your jurisdiction has locally, county, RPO, or state adopted plan that identifies bike/ped/transit project and falls on funded highway corridor, it will be constructed and paid for in full by NCDOT. If it is not in a plan but is deemed necessary, then it can be constructed in that process but will have a local cost share. This is important because CTPs can be amended so amend plans so that there is greater chance of funding for bike/ped/transit projects. This also applies for any project in STIP

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that does not have an environmental document complete. In Madison County, US 2570, we can get pedestrian accommodations included in project. For Transylvania County, R-5800 does not have a document so ped/bike/transit accommodations will be constructed by NCDOT. Get your plans in order and adopted.

Hannah Cook, NCDOT, received citizen of Mars Hill call this week with requests for sidewalks. If that is not in portion of plan though, how do we respond to interest?

Vicki refers citizens back to Madison County or Town of Mars Hill not NCDOT so that the local governments can amend plans as needed.

Steve Williams NCDOT Div. 14 added that NCDOT paying full amount would mean that they pay what the typical amount is—5 ft sidewalk. Even if plan has 7ft requirements for sidewalks, NCDOT will cover the 5 ft but the rest will be cost share for betterment of the additional 2 feet.

No action by the board needed on this item.

E. 2020 – 2029 STIP and SPOT6.0 Timeline updates

Vicki Eastland

Draft STIP is an adopted document with no significant changes except some date shifting. The RPO's portion of STIP is available on RPO website. This STIP is a product of SPOT 5.0 process and we are entering into SPOT 6.0 process now. The Federal Transportation Bill does not go beyond 2020, so the process has been slowed due to funding challenges in Raleigh due to the MAP Act that has resulted in a high cost for payments for ROW. MAP Act declared unconstitutional which resulted in lawsuits that are being paid by NCDOT now. This slows the prioritization process. Now, we will vote in February for draft list for RPO and final list in March. Projects must be submitted by end of April. We'll do public survey summer/fall of 2020 and it'll be February 2021 before we get scores back and state funded projects and it'll be February 2022 when the Draft STIP is released.

No action by the board needed on this item.

F. NCDOT Preliminary Engineering Project Suspension List

Steve Williams

Steve Williams, NCDOT Div. 14, provided updates on project suspension. Also informed group that there as of this week, only a few projects are one hold due to second year bond money that has been released. Previously, projects were on hold because of NCDOT cash flow, MAP act, and emergency fund issues.

Wanda added that projects to petition for restarting are being looked at to see which ones can/need to be restarted.

No action by the board needed on this item.

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5. PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment at this time.

6. REGULAR UPDATES

A. NCDOT Division 13 and 14 updates

Mark Gibbs/Brian Burch

Hannah Cook, NCDOT Div 13, provided updates on Madison and Buncombe Counties. There is an effort to map active STIP projects with information including contact details, completion date, etc.

Steve Williams, NCDOT Div 14, updated group on Haywood and Transylvania Counties and reminded that the funding suspended for projects was changing.

B. Staff Updates and Housekeeping

Vicki Eastland

Vicki added discussion point. In November, it will be Commissioner Landreth's last meeting. The meeting will be joint TCC, TAC, and RPO meeting in order to use it as an orientation/training opportunity.

BikeWalk NC is happening on November 8-9 in Winston-Salem. (Ritchie)

7. ADJOURN LOSRPO MEETING

Charlie Landreth

Matt W. entertained motion to adjourn. Daniel Sellers objected.

Three things (Daniel):

1. The project suspensions affects ability to forecast out of his branch, so currently suspending forecasting work at this point.
2. Transylvania County CTP has had a luxurious summer, but because of staff turnover, we are delaying it
3. NC Moves 2050 plan has been a huge outreach effort. NCDOT is doing more public outreach and seeks input and advice for ideas for where NCDOT can go pitch their NC Moves efforts.

Matt W. entertained motion to adjourn. Brownie moved to adjourn. Kevin E. seconded.

Upcoming Meeting

Land of Sky RPO TAC & TCC – Combined Meeting on November 21, 2019

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Complete Street Cost Share

The table below illustrates the funding responsibilities for Complete Streets incorporating bicycle and pedestrian and roadway public transportation facilities.

Complete Streets Cost Share			
Facility Type	In Plan	Not in Plan, but Need Identified	Betterment
Pedestrian Facility	NCDOT pays full	Cost Share	Local
Bicycle Facility	NCDOT pays full	NCDOT pays full	Local
Side Path	NCDOT pays full	Cost Share	Local
Greenway Crossing	NCDOT pays full	Cost Share	Local
Bus Pull Out	NCDOT pays full	Cost Share	Local
Bus Stop (pad only)	NCDOT pays full	Cost Share	Local

Bicycle and pedestrian and public transportation facilities that appear in a state, regional or locally Adopted transportation plan will be included as part of the proposed roadway project. NCDOT will fully Fund the cost of designing, acquiring right of way, and constructing the identified facilities.

The NCDOT Complete Streets Policy can be viewed on the LOSRPO website
http://www.landofsky.org/pdf/LGS/RPO/Complete_Streets_Policy.pdf

SPOT6.0 Updates

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
Project Prioritization Public Survey	Summer – Fall 2020
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

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Div	County	Project ID	Description
13	BUNCOMBE	A-0010AA	I-26 (US 19-23)FROM SR 1781 (BROADWAY STREET) - EXIT 25
13	BUNCOMBE	A-0010AB	I-26 (US 19/23)FROM US 25 TO SR 2007 (MARS HILL HIGHWAY)
13	BUNCOMBE	A-0010AC	I-26(US 19/23)FROM SR 2207 (MARS HILL HIGHWAY) TO SOUTH OF S
13	BUNCOMBE	U-6173	US 25/US 70 FROM NORTH OF SR 1584 (TILLERY BRANCH ROAD) TO S
13	BUNCOMBE	I-4759	Convert grade separation to an interchange and construct two lane roadway on I-40 at SR 1228 (Liberty Road) from US 19-23/NC 151 to SR 1224 with part on new location
13	BUNCOMBE	I-6054A	I-40 BUNCOMBE & HAYWOOD COUNTIES FROM US 74(SMOKY MOUNTAIN E
13	BUNCOMBE	I-6054B	I-40 BUNCOMBE & HAYWOOD COUNTIES FROM NC 215 (CHAMPION DRIVE
13	BUNCOMBE	I-5889B	I-40 BUNCOMBE COUNTY Roadway Rehabilitation I-40 from MP 46
13	BUNCOMBE	U-5973	US 19 BUSINES AND SR 1740 (NEWSTOCK ROAD) CONSTRUCT INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS
13	BUNCOMBE	U-5972	NC 63 (NEW LEICESTER HWY)NC 63 (NEW LEICESTER HIGHWAY) FRM N
13	MADISON	B-5895	REPLACE BRIDGE 67 OVER FRENCH BROAD RIVER ON US 25/US 70
13	MADISON	BR-0089	Replace Bridge 560015 on NC212 over Shelton Laurel Creek
13	MADISON	R-5837	US 25, FROM US 25/70 BUSINESS (NORTH MAIN STREET) TO SR 1143
13	MADISON	R-5924	US 25/ 70 FROM EAST OF SR 1392 (SKYWAY DRIVE) TO US 25/70 BU
14	HAYWOOD	B-3186	REPLACE BRIDGE 155 & 158 OVER RICHLAND CREEK ON US 23-74 NBL
14	HAYWOOD	B-5541	REPLACE BRIDGE 236 OVER SR 1513 ON I-40
14	HAYWOOD	B-5898	REPLACE BRIDGE 168 OVER US 19 AND US 23 ON US 23/US 74
14	HAYWOOD	B-5982	US 74 REPLACE BRIDGE 430095 OVER SOUTHERN RAILROAD.
14	HAYWOOD	BR-0022	Bridge 430122 on US 19,23,74 SBL over NC 209
14	HAYWOOD	I-5834	I-40 FROM MILE MARKER 27 TO MILE MARKER 34. PAVEMENT REHABIL
14	HAYWOOD	I-5924	I-40 - HAYWOOD COUNTY FROM MILEMARKER 15 TO MILEMARKER 20.5.

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14	HAYWOOD	I-5928	I-40 - HAYWOOD COUNTY FROM MILEMARKER 34 TO BUNCOMBE COUNTY
14	HAYWOOD	I-6051	I-40 HAYWOOD COUNTY FROM MILEMARKER 20 TO MILEMARKER 27. PAV
14	HAYWOOD	R-5921	RUS 276 (JONATHAN CREEK) FROM US 19 TO I-40 UPGRADE. MODERNI
14	HAYWOOD	U-6159	US 276 (RUSS AVENUE) FROM US 23-74 (GREAT SMOKEY MOUNTAIN EX
14	HAYWOOD	U-6160	US 19 (SOCO ROAD) FROM SR 1304 (FIE TOP ROAD AT GHOST TOWN I
14	HAYWOOD	U-6172	US 23/US 74 GREAT SMOKEY MOUNTAINS EXPRESSWAY FROM SR 1777 (
14	TRANSYLVANIA	R-2409D	US 64 FROM NC 107 AT CASHIERS TO US 178 AT ROSMAN
14	TRANSYLVANIA	R-5763	SR 1540 (WILSON ROAD) FROM SR 1504 (OLD US 64) TO US 276 UPGRADE
14	TRANSYLVANIA	R-5799	INTERSECTIONS OF US 64, US 276 and NC 280 CONSTRUCT
14	TRANSYLVANIA	R-5800	US 64 FROM US 276, FORTUNE COVE ROAD TO US 64 BUSINESS
14	TRANSYLVANIA	R-5882	US 64 (SOUTH BROAD STREET) TRANSYLVANIA COUNTY AT US 64 BUSINESS
14	TRANSYLVANIA	R-5919	US 178 (EAST MAIN STREET) AT SR 1156 (MAIN STREET) IN ROSMAN