

# RURAL PLANNING RURAL ORGANIZATION

## **RPO Technical Coordinating Committee**

Virtual Meeting via the Zoom Platform

May 13, 2021 – 10:00 A.M.

### **Minutes**

#### **Remote Attendance:**

Chair William High	Vicki Eastland	Troy Wilson	James Upchurch
Allen McNeil	April Alm	Stephen Sparks	Jodie Ferguson
Aaron Bland	Steve Williams	Daniel Metcalf	Chris Medlin
Lonnie Watkins	Forrest Gilliam	Hannah Cook	Erica Anderson

#### **In-Person Attendance at Land of Sky Office:**

Zia Rifkin

#### **WELCOME AND HOUSEKEEPING**

Chair High called the meeting to order at approximately 10:01 am, welcomed everyone attending remotely and in-person, and roll was called. A quorum was announced to conduct business.

#### **CONSENT AGENDA**

***Steve Williams moved to approve the consent agenda, consisting of the agenda and the March 11, 2021 TCC minutes. Aaron Bland seconded, and the motion passed upon a roll call vote, and without further discussion.***

#### **RPO BUSINESS**

##### **LOSRPO Draft FY 2022 PWP:**

LOSRPO staff presented the DRAFT LOSRPO Planning Work Program, (PWP) at the March TCC/TAC meetings. The Draft PWP was submitted to NCDOT Transportation Planning Division (TPD) for review. Due to COVID 19 and NCDOT financial uncertainty, some ongoing work products are still underway- for example, SPOT6.0.

Like most years, the PWP is a continuation of ongoing RPO projects. The FBRMPO Comprehensive Transportation Plan (CTP) update as well as the Transylvania County Comprehensive Transportation Plan (CTP) are still underway, so funding is still allocated to the CTP category. LOSRPO staff serve on a few statewide work groups and committees, as well as ones with more regional significance therefore there is a sizable percentage of the planning funds in the General Transportation category. SPOT 6.0 is ongoing so there is a significant amount of funding in Prioritization. Data Collection, Project Development and Administration make up the bulk of the remaining funding except for RPO Direct charges, travel, and indirect funds. As mentioned at the March meeting, some minor edits were made to the PWP. These edits include:

- \$500 Increase to Prioritization
- \$438 Increase to General Transportation Planning
- \$500 Increase to Administrative Activities
- \$1,000 Reduction to Lodging, Meals, Incidentals
- \$216 Increase to Registration/Training
- \$1,000 Decrease to Travel/Mileage
- \$346 Increase to Indirect costs

Land of Sky Regional Council received the Indirect Cost Negotiation Agreement from the US Department of the Interior, dated April 20, 2021. The Updated PWP and Indirect Cost agreement have been forwarded to NCDOT TPD.

[http://landofskyrpo.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/05/LOSRPO-FY2022-PWP\\_4282021.pdf](http://landofskyrpo.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/05/LOSRPO-FY2022-PWP_4282021.pdf)

Discussion occurred regarding the relationship to the US Department of Interior and Vicki Eastland explained that this is the federal agency that provided Land of Sky Regional Council with the indirect cost rate for FY 2022. The indirect cost rate for the upcoming fiscal year is 44.42%. James Upchurch shared that the indirect cost rate of the RPOs in the state is monitored by NCDOT.

***Forrest Gilliam moved to recommend the FY 2022 PWP and forward to the LOSRPO TAC for final approval at the May 27 meeting. Jodie Ferguson seconded and the motion carried upon a roll call vote and without further discussion.***

**LOSRPO Draft P6.0 Local Input Point Methodology:**

The NCDOT Strategic Planning Office of Transportation (SPOT) has been tasked with evaluating and programming transportation projects as stipulated in the Strategic Transportation Investments (STI) legislation, enacted on June 26, 2013.

As part of STI, each MPO/RPO and NCDOT Division Office may assign local points to projects in the Regional Impact and Division Needs categories, but not the Statewide Mobility category.

## P6.0 Hwy Criteria & Weights (Modernization Default)

Funding Category	QUANTITATIVE	LOCAL INPUT		
	Data	Division	MPO/RPO	
<b>Statewide Mobility</b>	Congestion = 10% Safety = 25% Freight = 25% Lane Width = 10% Shoulder Width = 20% Pavement Condition = 10%	100%	--	--
<b>Regional Impact</b>	Congestion = 5% Safety = 25% Freight = 10% Lane Width = 10% Shoulder Width = 10% Pavement Condition = 10%	70%	15%	15%
<b>Division Needs</b>	Safety = 20% Freight = 5% Lane Width = 5% Shoulder Width = 10% Pavement Condition = 10%	50%	25%	25%

Note: Area -Specific Criteria Weights allowed

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## P6.0 Hwy Criteria & Weights (Mobility Default)

Funding Category	QUANTITATIVE	LOCAL INPUT		
	Data	Division	MPO/RPO	
<b>Statewide Mobility</b>	Congestion = 30% Benefit -Cost = 25% Safety = 10% Freight = 25% Economic Comp. = 10%	100%	--	--
<b>Regional Impact</b>	Congestion = 20% Benefit -Cost = 20% Safety = 10% Freight = 10% Accessibility/Connectivity = 10%	70%	15%	15%
<b>Division Needs</b>	Congestion = 15% Benefit -Cost = 15% Safety = 10% Freight = 5% Accessibility/Connectivity = 5%	50%	25%	25%

Note: Area -Specific Criteria Weights allowed

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\*Slides provided by NCDOT SPOT Office\*

NCDOT requires that the methodology include the following components:

- At least two criteria (with at least one being qualitative)
- Public involvement (on the proposed methodology, and the preliminary assignment of local input points to projects based on the approved methodology)
- Dissemination of methodology, local points, and public input on LOSRPO's website ([www.landofskyrpo.org](http://www.landofskyrpo.org))

Land of Sky RPO's Draft Local Input Point (LIP) Assignment Methodology was sent to the NCDOT SPOT office for review and is awaiting comments at this time. Any comments received from the SPOT Office will be shared with LOSRPO TCC/TAC. After review and comments by the TCC, the Draft LIP Methodology will be reviewed by the LOSRPO TAC at their May 27 meeting, then advertised in the Mountain Express for the required public comment period, and then brought back during the June meeting cycle, to the TCC on June 10 for review and recommendation to the TAC for final approval at their June 24 meeting.

The tables below demonstrate the criteria that Land of Sky RPO proposes to use to assign Local Input Points in SPOT 6.0.

Regional Impact Scoring												
Criteria	Max. Score Possible	Scoring Methodology										
SPOT Quantitative Score	50	Actual SPOT quantitative score from NCDOT (P6.0 regional scores on a 70-point scale, final results multiplied by 0.7143 to convert them to a 50-point scale)										
County Ranking	50	<table border="0"> <tr> <td>#1 Priority = 50 points</td> <td>#2 Priority = 45 points</td> </tr> <tr> <td>#3 Priority = 40 points</td> <td>#4 Priority = 35 points</td> </tr> <tr> <td>#5 Priority = 30 points</td> <td>#6 Priority = 25 points</td> </tr> <tr> <td>#7 Priority = 20 points</td> <td>#8 Priority = 15 points</td> </tr> <tr> <td>#9 Priority = 10 points</td> <td>#10 Priority = 5 points</td> </tr> </table>	#1 Priority = 50 points	#2 Priority = 45 points	#3 Priority = 40 points	#4 Priority = 35 points	#5 Priority = 30 points	#6 Priority = 25 points	#7 Priority = 20 points	#8 Priority = 15 points	#9 Priority = 10 points	#10 Priority = 5 points
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#5 Priority = 30 points	#6 Priority = 25 points											
#7 Priority = 20 points	#8 Priority = 15 points											
#9 Priority = 10 points	#10 Priority = 5 points											
Total	100											

Division Needs Scoring		
Criteria	Max. Score Possible	Scoring Methodology
SPOT Quantitative Score	50	Actual SPOT quantitative score from NCDOT
County Ranking	50	#1 Priority = 50 points      #2 Priority = 45 points #3 Priority = 40 points      #4 Priority = 35 points #5 Priority = 30 points      #6 Priority = 25 points #7 Priority = 20 points      #8 Priority = 15 points #9 Priority = 10 points      #10 Priority = 5 points
Total	100	

[http://landofskyrpo.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/05/DRAFT\\_SPOT-6.0-LIP-Methodology-LOSRPO\\_04282021.pdf](http://landofskyrpo.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/05/DRAFT_SPOT-6.0-LIP-Methodology-LOSRPO_04282021.pdf)

Discussion occurred regarding the point allocation, after the initial top two projects were scored. Vicki Eastland communicated that whichever county has the next highest scoring project that project could receive 100 points. She shared that the maximum points a project could receive is 100 points. She also shared that potentially, the SPOT 6.0 calendar could be pushed out more, but that wouldn't be determined until July. She also requested that counties in the RPO region send her a document explaining how points were allocated on projects, in order to share that information with the public, should there be questions during the public comment period.

***Aaron Bland moved to recommend the draft P6.0 Local Input Point (LIP) Methodology to the LOSRPO TAC for review at the May 27 meeting and for them to hold a public hearing at the June 24 TAC meeting after final review and public comment. Steve Williams seconded and the motion carried upon a roll call vote and without further discussion.***

**Prioritization 6.0 (SPOT 6.0) Update:**

The TCC members were provided an update on potential changes to the Prioritization 6.0 timeline.

Prioritization Task	Estimated Date
Final Identified Needs and Complete Streets Project sheets due for all projects (Hwy and Non-Hwy)	May 28th, 2021
Quantitative Scoring completed	July, 2021
Local Input Point Assignment Methodologies Due	July 30 <sup>th</sup> , 2021
Prioritization Workgroup meeting	August, 2021
***The remaining dates are TBD pending Prioritization Workgroup meeting outcome after quantitative scoring is complete. ***	***Summer/Fall 2021***

DRAFT Programmed Statewide Mobility Projects and Quantitative Scores for all projects released	End of August 31 <sup>st</sup> , 2021
Local Input Points for Regional Impact Projects Due	November 30 <sup>th</sup> , 2022
DRAFT list of Programmed Regional Impact Projects	End of January, 2022
Local Input Points for Division Needs Projects Due	May 1 <sup>st</sup> , 2022
DRAFT 2023 – 2032 STIP Released	August 2022

***Information only, no action requested.***

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

No public comments were received.

**REGULAR UPDATES**

NCDOT Divisions 13 and 14 provided construction and project development updates. LOSRPO Staff provided an update.

**ADJOURNMENT-**

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