

LAND OF SKY

# RURAL PLANNING RURAL ORGANIZATION

## Technical Advisory Committee

Hybrid Meeting with the Zoom Platform

March 16, 2023 – 11:30 A.M.

### Minutes

#### **Attendance:**

Chair Matt Wechtel (Madison Commission)  
Wanda Austin (NCDOT Division 14)  
Troy Wilson (NCDOT Division 14)  
Steve Williams (NCDOT Division 14)  
Hannah Cook (NCDOT Division 13)  
Mac Morrow (Brevard Council)  
Larry Chapman (Transylvania Commission)

Vicki Eastland (RPO Coordinator)  
Daniel Sellers (NCDOT, TPD)  
Alexius Farris (NCDOT, IMD)  
Kevin Ensley (Haywood Commission)  
Stephan Sparks (NCDOT Division 13)  
Brendan Merithew (NCDOT Division 13)

#### **WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS**

Chair, Matt Wechtel called the meeting to order at 11:30 and welcomed attendees. He read the Ethics Statement, and inquired if there were any conflicts, which could preclude TAC members from participating in and voting on any business items, to state such for the record, and to refrain from participation in the matter. No conflicts were heard from the TAC members.

Vicki Eastland called the roll and quorum was announced.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Chair Wechtel opened the floor for public comment. No public comments were received.

#### **APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA**

Chair Wechtel requested approval of the agenda and the consent agenda, which included the February 2023 minutes, and the Resolution of Support for LOSRPO CMAQ Funds. ***Larry Chapman moved to approve the agenda. Kevin Ensley seconded the motion which passed unanimously upon a roll call vote.***

**LAND OF SKY RPO TAC BUSINESS**  
**LOSRPO CPR Project List**

NCDOT Transportation Planning Division, (TPD) is the division that is administering the Rural Carbon Reduction Program (CRP) call for projects. Applications are due March 17<sup>th</sup>. Applications are submitted by LOSRPO on behalf of the local entity applying. TPD has requested a prioritized list from each RPO. LOSRPO currently has three CRP projects. One of which has design and engineering complete and up to date cost estimates and has local matching funds. There are two additional projects in different phases of design.

<b>RPO Priority</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Submitter</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Costs</b>
1	Tannery Park Greenway	Brevard	Construction Ready	\$660,000.00
2	TIMS Transit Shelters 2 shelters	Transylvania County	In development	Unknown
3	US 64 Ped crossing and sidewalks	Brevard	In development	Unknown

Future CRP funds will be programed on a rolling call. RPO staff will continue to work with members to develop projects for submission. The priority list is subject to change based on project readiness and the constructability of new projects added to the list.

Vicki Eastland presented.

***Larry Chapman moved to approve Tannery Park Greenway as Priority 1 due to constructability status on the Carbon Reduction Program list. Kevin Ensley seconded the motion which passed upon a roll call vote.***

**LOSRPO DRAFT FY 2024 PWP**

LOSRPO staff has developed the DRAFT LOSRPO Planning Work Program, (PWP) and submitted the FY 2024 Draft PWP to NCDOT TPD for review. Like most years, the PWP is a continuation of ongoing RPO projects. The Transylvania County Comprehensive Transportation Plan (CTP) is nearing completion and should be adopted in FY 2024.

There is a sizable percentage of the planning funds in the General Transportation category, LOSRPO staff serve on a few statewide work groups and committees, as well as ones with more regional significance, this is also the category that special studies such as the upcoming Safe Streets 4 All Regional Action Plan and other general planning activities fall into. SPOT 7.0 will account for much funding this

calendar year and next requires a significant amount of funding in Prioritization. Data Collection, Project Development and Admin make up the bulk of the remaining funding except for RPO Direct charges, Travel, and indirect funds.

**Information only. No action required until the May meeting.**

### **Prioritization 7.0 Carryover Projects**

Because Prioritization 6.0 (SPOT6.0) was cancelled, and because it has been such a long gap for submitting projects for consideration for funding. Each Submitter, MPO's, RPO's and Division's will be able to designate 2 additional projects for CARRYOVER in Prioritization 7.0. Below is additional information from the SPOT Office on guidance for this.

Based on Workgroup consensus on February 14<sup>th</sup>, all organizations may designate 2 projects as Carryovers for P7 that were **newly** submitted in P6.

Each submitting organization is free to designate 2 alternative projects from **within their area** as the Carryovers for their organization (regardless of the submitter), if the projects are in the "**P6 New Submittals**" tab. This means that organizations may designate a variety of projects as their 2 Carryovers, including:

- The initially designated projects (highlighted in yellow)
- A lower scoring Highway project that they submitted
- A Non-Highway project that they submitted
- A project of any mode that is in their area but submitted in P6 by a different organization

Based on the list, the two projects NEW to SPOT6.0 are

- H192420, US 276/US 64 (Asheville Hwy) at SR 1512 (Ecusta Road) Upgrade Intersection, remove full access to and from Ecusta Road, make Ecusta Road right in right out only. Submitted by Division 14.
- H191972. US 25/70 as NC 213 Convert intersection of US 25/70 and NC 213 to a roundabout or convert interchange to a quadrant w/grade separation (eliminating ramp (s) south of US 25/70. Submitted by Division 13.

***Mac Morrow moved to designate H192420 and H191972 as LOSRPO's two additional Carryover Projects in SPOT7.0. Larry Chapman seconded the motion which passed upon a roll call vote.***

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

No public comments were received.

## **REGULAR UPDATES**

NCDOT Divisions 13 and 14 updates were presented and at [www.landofskyrpo.org](http://www.landofskyrpo.org)  
NCDOT Transportation Planning Division updates were given  
NCDOT Integrated Mobility Division updates were given  
LOSRPO Staff provided updates

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Matt Wechtel called for a motion to adjourn the meeting at 12:16PM. **Larry Chapman moved to adjourn. Mac Morrow seconded the motion which passed unanimously.**