

LAND OF SKY

RURAL PLANNING RURAL ORGANIZATION

Technical Advisory Committee
Hybrid Meeting with the Zoom Platform
March 21st, 2024 – 11:30 A.M.
Minutes

Attendance in Person:

Chair Matt Wechtel (Madison Commission) Vicki Eastland (RPO Coordinator)
Steve Williams(NCDOT Div 14) Asha Rado (LOSRC Minutes)
Tristan Winkler (FBRMPO)

Attendance Remote via Zoom:

Kevin Ensley (Haywood Commission) Hannah Smith (NCDOT Div13)
Stephan Sparks (NCDOT Div 13) Daniel Sellers(NCDOT, TPD)
Mac Morrow (City of Brevard) Michelle Christian(TNDOT)
Wanda Payne(NCDOT) Troy Wilson (NCDOT)

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Chair Matt Wechtel called the meeting to order at 11:31 AM 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.

Chair Matt Wechtel called the roll and quorum was announced.

PUBLIC COMMENT

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

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

Chair Matt Wechtel requested approval of the agenda and the consent agenda, which included the January 2024 minutes, and the TAC agenda.

Mac Morrow moved to approve the agenda and the consent agenda, which included the January 2024 minutes and the TAC agenda. Kevin Ensley seconded the motion which passed unanimously upon a roll call vote.

LAND OF SKY RPO TAC BUSINESS

Item 4A: LOSRPO DRAFT FY 2025 PWP

LOSRPO staff has developed the DRAFT LOSRPO Planning Work Program, (PWP) and submitted the FY 2025 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 being drafted and will be adopted in FY 2025 if it has not been by the end of 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, potential SPR project, Regional Transit Plan and other general planning activities fall into. SPOT 7.0 will account for much funding this calendar year and requires a significant amount of funding. Data Collection, Project Development and Admin make up the bulk of the remaining funding except for RPO Direct charges, Travel, and indirect funds.

[Land of Sky RPO Draft FY2025 PWP](#)

Matt Wechtel moved to approve Draft FY2025 PWP for public comment period and then approval at the May 16th 2024 meeting . Kevin Ensley seconded the motion which passed unanimously upon a roll call vote.

Item 4B: LOSRPO DRAFT Prioritization 7.0 Local Input Point Methodology

The NCDOT Strategic Planning Office of Transportation (SPOT) has been tasked with evaluating and programing 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.

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)

Land of Sky RPO’s Draft Local Input Point (LIP) Assignment Methodology has been sent to the NCDOT SPOT office for review. On March 7, 2024, I received an email from the manager of the NCDOT SPOT office stating that Because the LOSRPO DRAFT (LIP) Methodology is effectively unchanged from P6.0, the SPOT office approves the Methodology for P7.0.

LOSRPO’s Public Involvement Plan (PIP) requires a twenty-eight-day public comment period before adoption. After review and comments by the LOSRPO TAC, the Draft LIP Methodology will be advertised in the Mountain Express for the required public comment period, then brought back during the May meeting cycle, to the TCC on May 9 for review and recommendation to the TAC for final approval at their May 16 meeting.

The tables below demonstrate the criteria that Land of Sky RPO proposes to use to assign Local Input Points in SPOT 7.0.

Regional Impact Scoring												
Criteria	Max. Score Possible	Scoring Methodology										
SPOT Quantitative Score	50	Actual SPOT quantitative score from NCDOT (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	

Mac Morrow moved to approve the DRAFT Prioritization 7.0 Local Input Point Methodology for public comment period. Kevin Ensley seconded the motion which passed upon a roll call vote.

Item 4C: LOSRPO TAC Election of Officers

Because LOSRPO TAC Chair Commissioner Matt Wechtel and Vice Chair Commissioner Kevin Ensley have served their full terms. The TAC needs to hold an election of officers. The RPO Bylaws state that officers can serve consecutive terms if they wish. Both current officers have served two consecutive terms, therefore we need to elect both a new Chair and Vice Chair for the TAC.

Matt Wechtel called for a motion to nominate Kevin Ensley for Chair, no argument was heard so then it went to nominations for Vice Chair and when none were heard, Matt Wechtel volunteered. No discussion or arguments against these two nominations were had and it was put to a roll call vote which passed unanimously.

Item 4D: LOSRPO TAC Bylaws Amendments

Land of Sky RPO TAC Bylaws first adopted 2006, first amendment 2009, need a refresh. Due to technological advancements, we are now capable of holding hybrid meetings that are inclusive of TAC members attending both in person and virtually. The Bylaws do not reference attendance options so I thought that in an abundance of

caution we should include language that references virtual attendance. The TAC Bylaws state that notification and meeting materials will be mailed to members. I would like to change that to emailed. There is also a minor change in the language of municipal members. The only major change is in the Election of TAC officers section. The current Bylaws state annual terms with (2) consecutive terms. I miss read this and have been holding elections every two years, which I think works better given the limited number of RPO meetings each year.

The Bylaws are on the Land of Sky RPO website for public review, the Land of Sky RPO Public Involvement Plan requires a 28-day public comment period for Bylaws amendments. If the TAC votes to approve the amendment, this item will come back at the May 9, 2024, TAC meeting for your approval.

TAC Bylaws are available on the LOSRPO website: [DRAFT LOSRPO Tac Bylaws 2024](#)

Matt Wechtel motioned to approve the LOSRPO Bylaws amendment for public input and that we adopt it at the May 2024 meeting. Mac Morrow seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT

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

REGULAR UPDATES

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|---|----------------|
| • NCDOT Division 13 and 14 updates
Most Recent Updates
https://landofskyrpo.org/division-13-updates/
https://landofskyrpo.org/division-14-updates/ | NCDOT Staff |
| • Transportation Planning Division updates | Daniel Sellers |
| • NCDOT Integrated mobility Division | Alexius Farris |
| • Staff Updates | Vicki Eastland |

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Matt Wechtel called for a motion to adjourn the meeting at 12:15PM.
Matt Wechtel moved to adjourn. Mac Morrow seconded the motion which passed unanimously.