

RPO Technical Coordinating Committee

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Meeting Id: 824 6125 2058

Passcode: 158661 Call in: 646 558 8656 US

Minutes from the RPO TCC January 15th, 2026 Meeting

Remote and in Person Attendance:

Vicki Eastland	Aaron Bland
Steve Williams	Cole Sutton
Jeremy Chapman	Daniel Sellers
William High	Jacob Compher (on behalf of Transylvania County)
Doug Phillips	John Hunter
Stephen Sparks	Troy Wilson
Wesley Grindstaff	Nikki Abija
Erica Anderson	Asha Rado (minutes)
Chris Lee	Chloe Donohoe
Brendan Merithew	Chris Medlin
Sarah Tolman	

WELCOME AND HOUSEKEEPING

Aaron Bland called the meeting to order at approximately 10:02am, welcomed everyone, and roll was called. A quorum was announced to conduct business.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Aaron Bland opened the floor for public comment. No public comments were received.

CONSENT AGENDA

Joint TCC/TAC November 2025 Meeting Minutes:

https://landofskyrpo.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/01/2025_11_20_DRAFT.JointTCC-TAC.RPO_Minutes-Updated.pdf

Steve Williams moved to approve the agenda, consent agenda including the Joint TCC/TAC November 2026 Meeting Minutes. Doug Phillips seconded and the motion passed upon a unanimous roll call vote.

RPO BUSINESS**4A. LOSRPO Draft FY2027 PWP**

LOSRPO staff has developed the DRAFT LOSRPO Planning Work Program, (PWP) The PWP is a continuation of ongoing RPO projects. The Transylvania County Comprehensive Transportation Plan (CTP) has been drafted and RPO staff, along with county City of Brevard and Division 14 staff are reviewing the final DRAFT of the CTP currently. Once that review is complete the CTP will be reviewed by Transylvania Co. CTP committee and TAC and will then go to adoption. There is funding in the PWP to accommodate the adoption process and to potentially kick off the Madison County CTP update. 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 Household Survey to update the FBRMPO/LOSRPO Travel Demand Model, the Downtown Brevard Circulation study funded with SPR funds, and other general planning activities fall into. SPOT 8.0 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. The PWP will come back to the TCC in March for recommendation to the TAC for adoption. The DRAFT FY 2027 PWP is linked below.

[LOSRPO-DRAFT-FY-2027-PWP](#)

Discussion did not occur.

Steve Williams moved to approve the recommendation of the Draft LOSRPO FY 2027 PWP to the RPO Board. William High seconded and it passed unanimously upon a roll call vote.



Item 4B: LOSRPO Prioritization 8.0 Draft LIP

Local Input Point Methodology

What a Local Input Point Methodology Does

The Local Input Point (LIP) Methodology establishes how the RPO assigns its local priority

points as part of North Carolina’s Transportation Prioritization (STI/SPOT) process. The purpose of the LIP is to ensure that:

- Local priorities are reflected in a data-driven, transparent, and defensible way
- Projects are evaluated consistently across jurisdictions and modes
- The RPO meets NCDOT requirements for public involvement and objective and decision-making

The methodology does not replace SPOT scoring; it is a component of the scoring process. The LIP governs how the RPO applies its discretionary points.

The State requirement is that every local input point methodology is required to have at least one quantitative criteria and one qualitative criteria.

What Local Input Points Do

Local Input Points:

Allow RPOs and MPOs to reflect regional and community priorities; provide a mechanism to recognize: Multimodal connectivity and Local safety concerns.

In practice, Local Input Points serve as a policy balancing tool, not a technical rescoreing tool of projects.

In the prioritization process, funding is split into three different tiers. Local Input Points play a different role in generating a total score for projects evaluated in each tier:

	Quantitative Score RPO LIPs	Division LIPs	
Statewide Mobility	100%	0%	0%
Regional Impact	70%	15%	15%
Division Needs	50%	25%	25%

RPO staff is recommending a small to the local input point methodology.

Currently the Prioritization Score accounts for 50% of the total score and Local Input makes up the remaining 50%. The proposed change would be to incorporate the High Injury Network from the Safe Streets for WNC Plan to Highway and Bike/Ped Projects.

RURAL PLANNING RURAL ORGANIZATION

Make Local Input 40% of total Score and if a project is on the HIN, it receives 5 points, If the proposed project addresses the safety problem or crash risk it will receive 5 points. Final RPO Local Input Point Methodologies are due to NCDOT's SPOT office by the end of March.

The Draft RPO LIP can be viewed here: [DRAFT SPOT-8.0-LOSRPO 1132026](#) It is a marked-up version of the P7.0 methodology.

Discussion did occur around where the 10% would be coming from. Some clarification around the Safe Streets HIN points that could be awarded. Positive remarks on integrating this plan into prioritization. RPO reduced submittals RPO has more points than what they submitted.

William High moved to recommend the proposed changes to the Board. Doug Phillips seconded and it passed unanimously upon a roll call vote.

Item 4C. Prioritization 8.0 Update:

The North Carolina Board of Transportation at their July 2025 meeting adopted the 2026 - 2035 The State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP). The STIP is North Carolina's document that reflects planned transportation investments over a ten-year period. The STIP describes each project, has a schedule for implementation, funding sources, and estimated costs.

NCDOT updates the STIP on a two-year cycle based on projects selected for funding from the NCDOT Prioritization process. This is the process in North Carolina that helps determine the majority of transportation improvements across the State. The process is dictated by the [Strategic Transportation Investments Act \(STI\) 2012](#) and is generally designed to be a data-driven, transparent process to determine what transportation projects are funded or not. The adoption of the new STIP triggers the beginning to the next Prioritization cycle, **P8.0**.

RPO's, MPO's and NCDOT Divisions work with local partners to select projects to be submitted for consideration for funding, (inclusion in the next STIP). Projects from all modes are submitted and will be scored based on the mode, facility type, proposed improvements, and compete for any available funding.

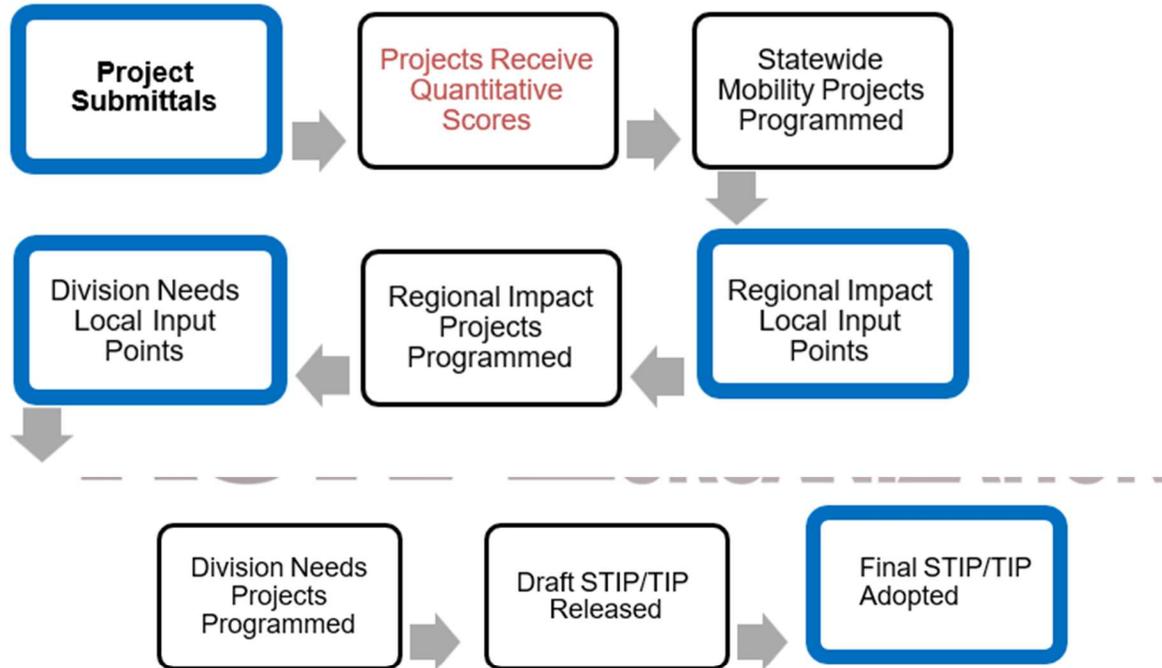
The outcome of Prioritization 8.0, P8.0 will be the 2028 – 2037 State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP).

Projects submitted in the Land of Sky RPO planning area can be RPO submittals, LOSRPO has 11 submittal slots for each mode in P 8.0. Division 13 or 14 submittals, each division get 10 submittal slots for each mode in P8.0. And carryover projects, LOSRPO has no carryover projects in P8.0.

RURAL PLANNING ORGANIZATION

There are several steps in the prioritization process. See the illustration below with RPO tasks circled in **BLUE**: We are currently in Step 2, NCDOT SPOT Office is reviewing and preparing to score projects.

LOSRPO P8.0 Submitted Project list is available at [LOSRPO-DRAFT-P8.0-Project-List-09032025](https://www.landofskyrpo.org/LOSRPO-DRAFT-P8.0-Project-List-09032025)



Current timeline for P8.0.

Prioritization Task	Estimated Date
Prioritization Workgroup meets	October 2024 - June, 2025
NC Board of Transportation Adopts Methodology	July, 2025
SPOT Online Go-live Project submittal window opens	July 2025 – September, 2025
NCDOT Data Review and Scoring CURRENTLY HERE	October 2025 – April, 2026
Project Prioritization Public Survey (TPD)	Winter - Spring 2026
DRAFT Statewide Programmed Projects and SPOT Scores Released	End of May 2026
Regional Impact Local Input Points Window	June - August, 2026
DRAFT Regional Impact Programmed Projects Released	Sept, 2026
Division Needs Local Input Points Window	October – December, 2026
Program Division Needs Projects	January 2027 – March, 2027
DRAFT 2028-2037 STIP Released	March, 2027



Information Only.

Discussion did not occur.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Aaron Bland opened the floor a second time for public comment. No public comments were received.

REGULAR UPDATES

- | | |
|---|----------------------------|
| A. NCDOT Division 13 and 14 updates
https://landofskyrpo.org/division-13-updates/
https://landofskyrpo.org/division-14-updates/ | Division Staff |
| B. NCDOT Transportation Planning Division Updates
https://landofskyrpo.org/ncdot-tpd-news/ | Daniel Sellers/John Hunter |
| C. IMD | Nikki Abijah |
| D. Staff Updates | Vicki Eastland |

ADJOURNMENT

Aaron Bland adjourned the meeting at 10:36AM as there was no further business.

Next LOSRPO Board Meeting is on Thursday January 22nd, 2026 in person and via zoom.

Next LOSRPO TCC Meeting is on March 12th, 2026 in person and via zoom.