



**Minutes of October 30, 2015**  
 10:00 AM, Greensboro, NC  
 Greensboro MPO Offices – Melvin Municipal Building  
 300 West Washington Street, Greensboro, NC 27402-3136

Name (In Attendance)	Organization	Name (In Attendance)	Organization
Chris Lukasina	CAMPO	Maurizia Chapman	NBMPO
David Wasserman	NCDOT	Majed Al-Ghandour	NCDOT
Felix Nwoko	DCHCMPO	Tyler Meyer	GUAMPO
Neil Burke	CRTPO	Craig McKinney	GUAMPO
Tristan Winkler	FBRMPO	Joel Strickland	FAMPO
Greg Venable	HPMPO	Fredrick Haith	WSMPO
Greg Errett	WSMPO	Sarah Lee	NCDOT
Hank Graham	GCLMPO	Wendy Miller	WSMPO
George Hoops	FHWA	Mike Kozlosky	WMPO
Peggy Holland	JUMPO	Phil Conrad	Cabarrus Rowan MPO
Alex Rickard	CAMPO	Alena Cook	NCDOT
Lyuba Zuyeva	FBRMPO	Lindsay Smart	DCHC MPO
Paul Black	CAMPO	Kristy Jackson	ITRE-NCSU
John Marshall	GHMPO	Julie White	NC Metropolitan Mayors Coalition
Suraiya Rashid	WMPO	Navtej Mann	IT-BA
Loretta Barren	FHWA	Eddie Dancausse	FHWA
Rick Lakata	NCDOT		
		Name (Attendance via Phone)	Organization
		Kim Maxey	NBMPO
		Bob League	Rocky Mount MPO
		Daryl Vreeland	Greenville MPO

**Open Meeting/Welcome/Introductions** – Tyler Meyer opened the meeting by welcoming all present in person and via phone. He asked that introductions be made.

1. **Minutes** – Maurizia Chapman made a motion to adopt the minutes from the July 31, 2015 meeting with an addition of Kim Maxey in attendance by phone. Peggy Holland seconded the motion which passed unanimously.
2. **Treasurers' Report** - Wendy Miller gave the Treasurers' report:  
 NCAMPO Fiscal Year – April 1, 2015 – March 31, 2016
  - Checking Balance as of July 29, 2015 \$32,121.31
  - Checking Balance as of October 29, 2015 \$31,131.45
  - Share Account as of October 29, 2015 \$ 26.29

Fiscal Year ended on March 31, 2015

- Financial information transmitted to Butler and Stowe on July 9, 2015
- Butler and Stowe prepared and filed the NCAMPO taxes by August 14, 2015
- The NCAMPO federal exempt organization return was filed electronically with the IRS on August 14th 2015, 1:38pm CT and accepted on August 14th 2015
- The IRS assigned tracking number for this return is 56857620152260012802
- A check for \$800 was written and sent to Butler and Stowe for tax preparation and filing
- An outstanding payment for the 2014 NCAMPO conference in Wilmington
- An affidavit was sent to NCDOT and \$90 from an outstanding check for the 2014 NCAMPO conference was deposited in the NCAMPO account on September 18, 2015
- Moonray payments - \$24/month for website hosting
- Cybersource charges - \$34.95/month
- Authorize.net charges - \$39.95/month

**3. Conference Update** - Craig McKinney gave a conference update.

- Craig McKinney said he had executed a contract with downtown Greensboro Marriott for the 2016 NCAMPO Conference
- Had met with the caterer and had seen the conference room layout and vendor space
- Date of conference is May 10-13, 2016. Lyuba requested that save the date be sent out soon
- Tyler requested suggestions for conference topics
- Paul and Hanna Cockburn will coordinate AICP credits for the conference

**4. SPOT Update** – Sarah Lee gave a SPOT update:

- Sarah mentioned the SPOT discussion board and its importance to make the SPOT process better
- For SPOT 4.0 to work correctly make sure to clear the cache in Chrome to clear out any residual issues with SPOT 3.0
- Alex asked about when requirement to meet with Divisions about Bike/Ped projects came about. Sarah said Bike/Ped Division required it
- TOPs - New application spanning Planning to Prioritization to Programming
  - One Stop Shop for a Project Repository (from project conception to STIP)
  - Creates a seamless system that allows users to select projects from CTPs and other planning sources to evaluate through the Prioritization Process. Data from the highest scoring projects is used in the development of the STIP. Funding information is then entered into the system, along with project description/scope updates.

Functions

- Ability to generate prioritization scores during the CTP process
- Ability to generate project costs during the CTP process
- Uses GIS data from Roads and Highways (ROME project)
- Customized reports via a reporting tool (ability to share reports)
- Incorporates functionality from SPOT Online
- Lots of other functions to be determined

**5. Powell Bill Update** – Dr. Majed Al-Ghandour

- The NCDOT has begun distributing more than \$147.7 million in State Street Aid, also known as the Powell Bill fund, to 507 municipalities across the state
- The initial allocation (\$73,879,982.04 ), half of the overall total, was sent and the rest will be paid by Jan. 1, 2016
- 22 cities are receiving at least \$1 million
- Charlotte at \$20.4 million, based on its population of 803,392 and 2,455 miles of maintained roads
- Raleigh will receive \$10.6 million
- Greensboro (\$7.4 million), Winston-Salem (\$6.5 million), Durham (\$6.2 million) and Fayetteville (\$5.5 million)

### Eligible Activities

- Construction, planning and maintenance on streets, sidewalks, bikeways, and greenways
- Curb and gutter, storm drainage, patching, resurfacing, widening, snow removal, sand and debris removal resulting from natural causes, street sweeping, purchase or rental of equipment
- Purchase and maintenance of traffic control devices, traffic signs for proper traffic control, speed bumps, traffic paint for on-street parking or crosswalks, traffic cones
- Current payment of principal or interest due on bonds outstanding issued exclusively for streets and sidewalks

#### **6. TPB Update** – Alena Cook gave an update on Interagency Coordination Protocol:

- Identified agencies & representatives (contact list)
- Gathered information by telephone interviews, etc.
- Used Informational Webinar, Workshop, Meetings to determine data sharing and coordination
- Drafted Interagency Coordination Protocol document & associated tools based on input received
- Reviewed, Finalized Protocol recommendations
- Share, Educate staff about best practices in Protocol

#### **7. NC Pedestrian and Bicycle Infrastructure Network Update** – Kristy Jackson gave a Pedestrian and Bicycle Infrastructure Network update:

- The Pedestrian and Bicycle Infrastructure Network (PBIN) is a geodatabase that includes data on existing and proposed bicycle and pedestrian facilities throughout North Carolina. The initial data was collected by NCDOT partners at the North Carolina State University- Institute for Transportation Research and Education (ITRE). The PBIN data is not comprehensive, however, and updates to the geodatabase are ongoing. Municipalities are encouraged to submit their data, in a standardized format compatible with NCDOT's existing geodatabase
- NCDOT depends on local government submittals to keep the geodatabase current. Information received from local partners will be added to the geodatabase and available for download on an annual basis. To be considered for incorporation, the data must use a standardized geodatabase template
- Agencies uploading data must also follow standardized terminology related to facility types. A glossary of facility types and dictionary have been developed to aid understanding facility definitions, as well as a step-by-step manual outlining the process of adding data to the blank database in a way that is compatible with the existing geodatabase

#### **8. FHWA Update** – George Hoops gave a FHWA update:

- George wants to have one-on-one meetings to see how FHWA can serve the MPOs better
- FHWA will attend more MPO meetings
- Passed out a state map of FHWA staff assignments
- Assignments are no longer temporary

#### **9. Organizational Appointments/NCAMPO Business** – Tyler discussed organizational appointments:

- Alex gave an update that he, Suraiya and Peggy are serving on a CTP committee to improve the CTP development process – majority of the group decided they wanted CTPs and MTPs kept as separate plans
- NC Executive Committee for Highway Safety – Suraiya
- Lindsay, Bjorn and Alex – TOP's Committee
- Local Input Methodology – Mike Kozolsky
- Wendy made an announcement about her retirement. Hank moved from Vice-Chair to Treasurer
- Chris voted in as Vice-Chair
- Chris (CAMPO) will remain NCAMPO rep for RPOs

- Maurizia brought up possibility of changing by-laws to move terms to two-years – maybe at conference meeting
- Mike wanted to bring up to the governor/legislators that the MPOs should be programming money and developing the process instead of the state

**10. Legislative Update** – Julie White gave a Legislative update:

- S20 added \$450 million in additional transportation revenues by cutting the gas tax to 36 cents and bring a new funding formula online by 2017 as the gas tax gradually falls to 34 cents. Of course the gas tax would have fallen to about 29 cents in July had they not passed the new formula. The new gas tax will be tied to growth, 75% change in population and 25% change in CPI
- The NCGA raised more money overall for transportation by ending the transfers from the Highway Trust Fund (\$216m annually) and raising DMV fees (\$153m annually)
- Calvin Leggett told the NCBOT the money would be distributed to the State, regional and division "pots" by legislative formula. He mentioned that over the 10 year period the total added revenue would be \$1.6b with added funding to the statewide category of \$685m and \$514m to the regional and division categories (each). He talked about the technical process for changing the STIP. He did not mention any MPO/RPO involvement in determining how the STIP would be adjusted other potential air quality analysis. He did indicate the Board would act on STIP amendments in January 2016
- On page 351, Sec. 29.5a you will see the language that requires NCDOT to charge locals for changes that you request that are not safety related to a project.
- On page 360, Sec. 29.17D you will see they went with the Senate provision to remove the percentage of the gas tax that paid Powell Bill and move to an appropriation of \$147.5m a year. This was done in recognition that the gas tax was a falling revenue source and therefore Powell Bill was a falling revenue. There is also language, which says NCDOT will report how each city spends its Powell Bill money.
- On page 386, Sec. 29.41 you will see a new provision that limits the Strategic Transportation Investments spending on light rail to \$500k which, I am told, is effectively a light rail killer. The House subsequently passed S605 to remove cap, but it has not passed the Senate and remains alive for the short session.
- The NCGA did include the language that gives each city the ability to levy up to a \$30 municipal vehicle fee and requires you spent no more than \$5 on public transit, \$5 on any other lawful purpose, and the remainder on public streets. See page 365, Sec. 29.27A.
- There is language to raise the cap on the number of turnpike projects in the State, which can be found on page 359, Sec. 29.15A.
- The language that the House amended out of the budget on the House floor to split \$89m equally among each county for road maintenance is back on page 359, Sec. 29.16m.
- The language to give cities help with utility relocation costs is on page 363, Sec. 29.20a. This help is tiered.
- Senator Brown's remarks became heated as the debate wore on. From WRAL: "But Republicans and Democrats representing rural areas pushed back – hard. Brown called it "the biggest fight I've ever seen," blasting urban counties whose lobbyists have been leaning heavily on lawmakers on both sides of the aisle. "They act like the world is ending, and they're getting all the money" from economic incentives and transportation, Brown said. "These small counties don't get any of that money. None." "Gosh, guys, don't be so greedy! Give some. Give these counties some. Why do you want it all? Just give them something!" Brown exclaimed. "That's what this bill does. I've never see anything like this in my life up here."
- Due to a request from the NCBOT Economic Development Committee, staff presented information to the Board regarding how NCDOT ED money has been distributed (about \$31 m total). A chart indicated the STIP includes 61% of ED money to Tier 3 areas (population and tourism centers like Durham, New Hanover, Buncombe), 25% to tier 2 and 14% to tier 3. There was a lot of committee discussion about the role of NCDOT and board members in the ED process. They feel the NCDOT needs to publicize it's availability of ED funds more and particularly, who their lead contact person is

- House budget chairs wanted higher DMV fees, changes to STI, equal division of resurfacing funds among counties (amended out on floor, but put back in conference), Senate prevailed on DMV fees and STI, House on other
- Rep. Bumgardner unsuccessfully ran an amendment to the House budget to remove the changes inserted into the budget to the NCDOT Strategic Transportation Investment program (H817) on a 53-62 vote. The budget bill proposes to require the STI use peak average daily traffic counts in place of actual average daily traffic counts and require that hurricane evacuation routes in the formula. The bill also would require that the MPO/RPO voice in local point assignment be weighted more heavily than the division engineer. The amendment would have deleted those new requirements. House Transportation co-chairs said NCDOT Sec. Tata had requested the changes related to peak ADT and hurricane evacuation routes, which was the first time we were hearing that. Rep. Bumgardner said the NCDOT wanted to leave the STI as it was for now. From my conversations with the Senate it does not seem likely at this time that they are inclined to make changes to the STI until it has had more time to take effect
- Three of the four House Transportation budget chairs hail from the coast so there are many provisions in the budget that are beneficial to the coast. Among them are a \$2.1 million recurring fund for operating a new ferry route and spill response training and \$700k non recurring to ferry related equipment. The budget also moves ferry vessel replacement out of the STI where they had to compete for dollars and into the Highway Fund as a maintenance expense. The House budget chairs included other provisions from H927 including specifying that the MPO should have greater say in point assignment at the regional and division levels than the division engineer. They go on to remove the NC Board of Transportation from overruling the decisions of the workgroup tasked with developing the formulas that underpin the STI
- Improvements at the ports have been funded in the past with \$70m General Fund dollars. For the first time, the ports construction dollars will come from the Highway Fund.
- The Shallow Draft Navigation Channel Dredging and Lake Maintenance Fund will see an increase a full 1 percent of the gas tax proceeds will be dedicated to shallow-draft dredging, compared with one-sixth of a percent previously. In addition to a share of the gas tax, a small percentage of boat license and certification fees go into the fund. All together, the fund will grow to about \$18 million from the current allocation of a little over \$6 million. With the new formula in place, the gas tax will contribute about \$14.2 million annually
- H232 Study Bike Safety – NCDOT to study statutory revisions, report by Dec 2015
- H74 to study MPOs didn't pass
- S581 Study Subdivision Streets/Traffic Calming Devices passed – DOT to study requirements for DOT to accept subdivision streets into highway system and report by Feb 2016 – HOAs need 60% of property owners rather than 70% for traffic calming
- Road Diets in H44 not gone for good
- S396 Limit number of studies MPOs – didn't pass – Tarte
- H836 authorizes cities to reserve certain easements when permanently closing streets and alleys
- S119 – Study of unpaved state roads – NCDOT to conduct survey of paved and unpaved roads that are open to the public but not current a part of the state system. Report June 2016. \$1m NR to improve them. State doesn't have to continue to improve them in the future

## 11. Programing Group Projects - Rick Lakata gave an update on Programming Group Projects

### Steps

- Division, Branch or MPO sends request to "Division of Planning & Programming"
- STIP Unit performs review, initiates edits, and processes request:
- Check if work is eligible; funding source(s) eligible?/available?
- Place on Board Agenda Item N "Handout" (30 day review)
- Board Approves Amendment, adding the Group project to the STIP
- Project entered into "Current" STIP database; online PDF updated

### Eligible Sub-projects

- Characteristics and requirements
  - Not STIP visible (different from Stand-alone projects w/ "Breaks")
  - NCDOT maintains project management information within the Dept. financial DB system
  - Sponsor (e.g., MPO) uses supplemental tracking tool to monitor the sub-projects implemented under the Group
  - All of Sub-project work must be consistent w/ Group project description
  - Typically identified with a single or double-letter suffix (e.g., U-5532A)
  - Could be administered by an Entity different from Group Project Sponsor
  - If Locally Administered ("LA"), then it involves a Municipal Agreement with NCDOT (example below\*). If "LA", then must meet requirements of NCDOT LPM Office.
  - Come with multiple NCDOT WBS numbers (if "LA" see Municipal Agreement)

**12. PTD Topics** – Debbie Collins was going to give a PTD update but since the NCAMPO meeting ran long she will present at a future meeting

**13. Next Meeting**

- Greensboro – February 5, 2016

**14. Adjournment** – Consensus was that the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

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John Marshall, Secretary