

TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

FAYETTEVILLE AREA METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

COMMISSIONER TIM MCNEILL
CHAIR

COMMISSIONER JEAN POWELL
VICE-CHAIR

Agenda

October 26, 2011

8:30 a.m. – Hearing Room No. 3

Historic Courthouse – 130 Gillespie Street

1. Roll Call
2. Approval of today's agenda
 - **ACTION: Approval**
3. Approval of the minutes of the April 20, 2011 and July 27, 2011 regular meetings
 - **ACTION: Approval**
4. Public Hearing for the FY 2012-2018 Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program: Mike Rutan
 - **ACTION: Approve MTIP by Resolution – CAC and TCC recommend Approval**
5. Amendment No. 1 to the FY 2012-2018 MTIP: Randy Hume / Mike Rutan
 - **ACTION: Approve Amend. No. 1 by Resolution – CAC and TCC recommend Approval**
6. 2011 Vehicle Occupancy Rate Report (VOR) Approval: Bobby McCormick
 - **ACTION: Approve 2011 VOR report – CAC and TCC recommend Approval**
7. Little Cross Creek/Big Cross Creek Greenways Update and Selection: Rick Heicksen
 - **ACTION: Approve the selection of preferred greenway – CAC and TCC recommend approval**
8. Amendment No 1 to the FY 2012 UPWP: Maurizia Chapman
 - **ACTION: Approve Amendment No 1 By Resolution – CAC and TCC recommend approval**
9. SPOT 2.0 Projects Prioritization and Scoring: Mike Rutan
 - **ACTION: Approve Projects Prioritization and scoring – TCC recommends Approval**
10. Citizen Advisory Committee Membership/Appointments: Maurizia Chapman
 - **ACTION: Appoint/Reappoint members until December 31, 2013**
11. **Updates/Informational Items:**
 - a. North Carolina 2040 Plan Update: Darius Sturdivant, NCDOT
 - b. Cumberland County Draft Comprehensive Transportation Plan: Darius Sturdivant
 - c. FAMPO's Public Involvement Plan (PIP) Administrative Changes: Maurizia Chapman
 - d. Memorandum Of Agreement between NCDOT and Cumberland County for STP-DA funds: Rick Heicksen
 - e. Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) Scope and MOA Update: Mark Nottingham
 - f. Southwestern FAMPO Multi-Modal Congestion Management Study Update: Will Linville
12. Discussion
13. Adjournment

Mr. Rick Heicksen, Executive Director
130 Gillespie St.
Fayetteville, NC 28301
Telephone (910) 678-7622
FAX (910) 678-7638
E-MAIL: rheicksen@co.cumberland.nc.us

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FAYETTEVILLE AREA METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

COMMISSIONER TIM MCNEILL
CHAIR

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Minutes
October 26, 2011
8:30 am

Members Present

Mr. Tim McNeill, TAC Chair, Commissioner, Harnett County
Ms. Jean Powell, TAC Vice-Chair, Commissioner, Hoke County
Ms. Valencia Applewhite, Council Member, City of Fayetteville
Mr. Ed Grannis, NC Board of Transportation
Mr. Richard Higgins, Alderman, Town of Spring Lake
Mr. Terry W. Smith, Commissioner, Town of Hope Mills
Ms. Jill Stark, Federal Highway Administration

Others Present

Mr. Rick Heicksen, FAMPO Executive Director
Mr. Andrew Barksdale, Fayetteville Observer
Mr. Greg Burns, P.E. NCDOT Division 6 Engineer
Ms. Maurizia Chapman, AICP, FAMPO Staff

Mr. Randy Hume, Director, F.A.S.T.
Mr. Lee Jernigan, P.E., NCDOT, Division 6 Traffic Engineer
Mr. Will Linville, FAMPO Staff
Mr. Bobby McCormick, FAMPO Staff
Mr. Mark Nottingham, FAMPO Staff
Mr. Michael Rutan, FAMPO Staff
Mr. Darius Sturdivant, MPO Coordinator, NCDOT Transportation Planning Branch

1. Roll Call

TAC Chair McNeill called the meeting to order at 8:34 a.m.

2. Approval of Agenda

Chairman McNeill requested a motion to approve the agenda. A motion to approve the agenda as written was made by Vice-Chair Powell, and seconded by Mr. Smith. The motion passed unanimously.

3. Approval of the Minutes of the April 20, 2011 and July 27, 2011 regular meetings

Chairman McNeill requested a motion to approve the April 20, 2011 and July 27, 2011 minutes. Ms. Applewhite made the motion to approve the minutes as written. The motion was seconded by Mr. Smith and passed unanimously.

4. Public Hearing for the FY 2012-2018 Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program: Mike Rutan

Mr. Rutan stated that the public hearing for the FY 2012-2018 MTIP was advertised twice in the newspaper. Chairman McNeill then opened the public hearing.

Mr. Mike Mitchell expressed his concerns regarding TIP projects U-4706 and U-2809 A, specifically a proposed median on Cameron Road which would make it difficult to get around. Mr. Mitchell stated that the traffic does not appear to be high enough to warrant this type of treatment.

Ms. Brenda Cameron stated that she has a record of 476 citizens who oppose the widening of Cameron Rd. from Legion to Main St. and the project on the southern portion of Legion Rd. Ms. Cameron is in the process of updating this petition to reflect which citizens no longer reside in the area and those who have moved into the area since the petition was first started in 2002. Ms. Cameron provided some background information on the development of these two corridors and stated that Legion and Cameron roads are the only remaining aesthetically pleasing gateways to Hope Mills left. If Cameron Rd was widened from Elk to NC 59, it would ruin the aesthetics and tree canopy of the corridor. Ms. Cameron referenced a 2002 study completed by the North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources that focused on the rare wildlife and plants that inhabit Rockfish and Little Rockfish Creeks which are in the vicinity of the proposed road projects. Ms. Cameron has spoken to school personnel and parents who are concerned about widening Cameron Rd as well. Ms. Cameron stated that she has read the 2010 Land Use Plan, the 2030 Land Use Policies Plan and been to a workshop for the 2040 plan and they all reference protecting neighborhoods. Ms. Cameron advocated the completion of the Elk Rd extension to Hwy 301 and encouraged the installation of signage to direct traffic off of Cameron Rd onto alternative routes which can better handle the traffic. Ms. Cameron requested that the funds for Cameron Rd between Legion and Main be diverted elsewhere, although she fully supports sidewalks on both sides of Cameron Rd.

Ms. Tara Haskins stated that she purchased a home on Legion Rd seven years ago and recently came back after three years away and did not anticipate that a super highway would be built in front of her home. Ms. Haskins stated that she is worried about having to drive over a median if she needs to take a left to get her son to the hospital if he starts to have an asthma attack. Ms. Haskins does recommend sidewalks on both sides of the road but does not want the road to be built so close to her house. Ms. Haskins stated she is opposed to the widening and median and is anticipating that a lot of time will be lost waiting to make a u-turn.

TAC Member Smith stated that he has looked at the plans and that he is in favor of sidewalks being added but did not want to see Legion Rd widened because that would force him to make a u-turn to go left as well. Mr. Smith said that the same scenario exists on Cameron Rd. if it were widened and that he has written a letter to NCDOT and been in contact with different representatives from the NCDOT about these two projects. Mr. Smith acknowledged that some safety issues need to be addressed, but that the widening to four lanes with a median is overkill.

Mr. Smith suggested that funding for this project be deferred or removed for further study. Mr. Smith stated that the citizens informed him that this project is not needed.

Mr. Burns stated that the Cameron Road project is still in the planning phase. Mr. Heicksen stated that the Cameron Rd and the southern portion Legion Rd projects do not have final designs. Mr. Heicksen stated that Legion Rd, from Elk Rd down to Cameron Rd, does not need improvements immediately. Elk Rd will take pressure off downtown Hope Mills, but it is extremely difficult to make improvements in the historic areas of downtown Hope Mills. Approval of the MTIP now keeps funding from disappearing for improvements to these two roads in the future. The final design is not set. Mr. Smith expressed concern that continued support of a project now will make it hard to disallow it in the future. Mr. Heicksen stated that the committee could direct FAMPO and NCDOT to further analyze the section of Legion from Elk down to Cameron and a more detailed analysis of improvements needed could be provided at the January meeting. Ms. Applewhite asked if an environmental analysis would be done as part of these two projects. Ms. Stark confirmed that impacts to the environment would be studied. Ms. Applewhite asked if impacts of raised medians on emergency vehicles have been analyzed in our area. Mr. Burns stated that it has been found that making a u-turn is often faster than waiting for all the lanes to clear to make a left. Mr. Heicksen informed the committee that many of the curbs and medians are mountable, which means the emergency vehicles can drive over them when needed. Mr. Smith stated that he is concerned about the maintenance and potential litter removal involved with grass medians. After some discussion on how to phrase the motion, Mr. Smith made the motion to adopt the MTIP by resolution and request that FAMPO and NCDOT reevaluate the needs and alternatives for U-2809 section A and U-4706. Mr. Higgins seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

5. Amendment No. 1 to the FY 2012-2018 MTIP: Randy Hume/Mike Rutan

Mr. Rutan informed the committee that this amendment is needed to add additional projects to the MTIP. The additions include bridge projects, work on the Cape Fear River Trail, and a statewide traffic separation study that involves rail lines. Mr. Hume also informed the committee that when the State adopted the STIP, they omitted transit projects and this amendment will include the omitted projects and allow for FAST to apply for some grant funds related to these projects. Chairman McNeill requested a motion to approve amendment no. 1 to the FY 2012-2018 MTIP by resolution. Ms. Applewhite made the motion to approve and Vice-Chair Powell seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

6. 2011 Vehicle Occupancy Rate Report (VOR) Approval: Bobby McCormick

Mr. McCormick informed the committee that the study was done over a two week period and that the report indicated no significant change in the percentage of carpoolers. Ms. Applewhite asked what efforts have been made to increase carpooling. Mr. McCormick stated that the VOR is used as part of the congestion management program. Mr. Heicksen stated that we have no active program that specifically targets carpooling. Chairman McNeill informed the committee that Ft. Bragg has established a system of vanpools. Mr. Heicksen also pointed out that Triangle Transit has a vanpool site on Eastern Blvd for people who commute to Raleigh daily. Chairman McNeill requested a motion to approve the Vehicle Occupancy Rate Report. Vice-Chair Powell made the motion and Mr. Smith seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

7. Little Cross Creek/Big Cross Creek Greenways Update and Selection: Rick Heicksen

Mr. Heicksen informed the committee that after meeting with representatives from PWC and the Parks and Recreation department, it was suggested that Big Cross Creek be considered as an alternative for a greenway. After reviewing both alternatives the group decided to proceed with Big Cross Creek and only get construction plans for Little Cross Creek from Mazarick Park south to the Veterans Park downtown. Mr. Heicksen stated that a greenway on Big Cross Creek would connect the Smith Lake Recreation Area on Fort Bragg to downtown. Mr. Heicksen stated that the CAC and TCC have approved this selection and that FAMPO will get new bids for the completion of construction plans for a Big Cross Creek Greenway. Ms. Stark stated that FAMPO and the other agencies working on this effort should also partner with the Army Corp of Engineers and US Fish and Wildlife to pool resources together for this project. Chairman McNeil requested a motion to approve the selection of Big Cross Creek as the preferred alternative. Mr. Higgins made the motion and Vice-Chair Powell seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

8. Amendment No. 1 to the FY 2012 UPWP: Maurizia Chapman

Ms. Chapman reviewed the amendment which covers changes in 104(f), 5303, and 5307 funds. She also stated that \$500k in STP-DA funds will be encumbered for construction plans for the Cross Creek Greenways, as 104(f) funds can only be used for planning, not detailed environmental and construction plans. Funds for the ITS, Southwest, and Big Cross Creek Greenway will be covered with this amendment. Chairman McNeill requested a motion to approve the Amendment No 1 by resolution. Ms. Applewhite made the motion and Vice-Chair Powell seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

9. SPOT 2.0 Projects Prioritization and Scoring: Mike Rutan

Mr. Rutan informed the committee that we had the opportunity to rank 35 highway projects that are currently unfunded or in years 6&7 of the TIP. We also ranked the top five bicycle and top five pedestrian projects. He stated that NCDOT has a formula that scored each of the projects and that this process will be used in the development of the next TIP. Mr. Smith asked how the scoring works. Mr. Rutan stated that NCDOT develops the weighted quantitative score and FAMPO can distribute 1300 points amongst the highway projects as well. Ms. Applewhite got clarification that project U-2710 was the portion of Reilly Rd from Cliffdale Rd to Old Raeford Rd. Mr. Heicksen stated that it has been tough to get some of the Hope Mill's projects funded. Chairman McNeill requested a motion to approve the scoring. Mr. Higgins made the motion and Mr. Smith seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

10. Citizen Advisory Committee Membership/Appointments: Maurizia Chapman

Ms. Chapman informed the committee that the CAC Chair had to step down and that FAMPO is now trying to find a representative from the bicycling community. Ms. Chapman stated that the CAC members appointed and reappointed today will have terms that expire in December 2013. Chairman McNeill requested a motion to approve the CAC Committee Membership/Appointments. Vice-Chair Powell made the motion and Mr. Smith seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

11. Updates/Informational Items:

a. North Carolina 2040 Plan Update: Darius Sturdivant, NCDOT

Mr. Sturdivant gave a presentation on the 2040 plan and stated that this plan will cover long term modal needs for the State. The plan will provide funding source suggestions, policy adjustments to improve project delivery, and look at revenue options. Mr. Sturdivant stated that plan is in its second public survey phase and that to date there have been many regional workshops and meetings to gather input on this plan. A draft plan should be complete during winter 2011 and the plan will presented to the Board of Transportation for adoption in June 2012.

b. Cumberland County Draft Comprehensive Transportation Plan: Darius Sturdivant, NCDOT

Mr. Sturdivant stated that the highway portion of the CTP is near completion and a draft of the entire CTP should be available in early 2012. The CTP will mirror the projects that are in the current LRTP.

c. FAMPO's Public Involvement Plan (PIP) Administrative Changes: Maurizia Chapman

Ms. Chapman informed the committee that the Fayetteville Area System of Transit (F.A.S.T.) goes through a triennial review and, that during the last review, FAMPO was required to add a sentence to all of the public notice ads. The sentence was added and used when ads were published, however during the most recent review it was stated that FAMPO needed to include this change in our PIP document.

d. Memorandum Of Agreement between NCDOT and Cumberland County for STP-DA funds: Rick Heicksen

Mr. Heicksen informed the committee that a contract providing STP-DA funds from NCDOT will be approved at an upcoming Board of Commissioners meeting since the County is our host agency and is used for financial services.

e. Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) Scope and MOA Update: Mark Nottingham

Mr. Nottingham informed the committee that a request for proposals had been issued to update our ITS Strategic Deployment Plan and that the proposals would be due Nov 1st, 2011. He reviewed an example of an ITS project and stated that many different agencies would be involved in the development of this plan and its implementation. Mr. Nottingham stated that the plan is needed because there have been many significant advances in technology related to ITS and that all ITS projects must be in this plan to be eligible for federal funding. He informed the committee that a major element of this plan will be the implementation of IDAS (ITS-Deployment Analysis System), which can be used to estimate the impacts, benefits, and costs resulting from the deployment of ITS components. He stated that FAMPO and the NCDOT are working out details on a memorandum of agreement that would put in writing, NCDOT's willingness to contribute up to \$200,000 with FAMPO contributing up to \$50,000 for this plan update. Mr. Nottingham stated that the triangle region completed this plan in one year and FAMPO expects for this update to take the same amount of time.

f. Southwestern FAMPO Multi-Modal Congestion Management Study Update: Will Linville

Mr. Linville informed the committee that an RFP was issued and that a consultant may be selected in December. Mr. Linville also stated that the study area has been divided into two sections and that the study will be a two phase approach with the first phase covering the geographic area that is within the FAMPO boundary. Mr. Linville stated that the Fort Bragg

Regional Alliance will be a partner in this effort. The study area grew from its original size to include some redeveloping areas off of Cliffdale Rd.

12. Discussion

Mr. Heicksen informed the committee that the City of Fayetteville Traffic Engineering staff and FAMPO staff had been taking a closer look at some traffic management measures that could be deployed around the intersection of Cliffdale and Skibo Roads. They have submitted their ideas and data to the NCDOT Congestion Management Office and should hear something back in January. Ms. Applewhite got confirmation that recently approved developments would be taken into consideration as well.

Ms. Chapman informed the committee that President Obama made the announcement that the 2008 EPA ozone standards would remain in effect until 2014 when a new standard may be set. The Fayetteville MSA, which includes Hoke County will remain in Attainment with a three year average of 0.071 ppm. The new standard may be between 0.070 and 0.060ppm.

13. Adjournment

With there being no further discussion, Chairman McNeill requested a motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:00am. The motion was made by Ms. Applewhite, and seconded by Mr. Smith. The motion passed unanimously.