

TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE
June 11, 2020

JACKSONVILLE CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS,
815 New Bridge Street, Jacksonville, NC

Present: Mr. Bob Warden, Mr. Randy Thomas, Mr. Paul Buchanan, Mr. Mike Alford, and Mr. Royce Bennett

Others Present: Mr. Ron Massey, Mr. Anthony Prinz, Ms. Deanna Trebil, Ms. Debbie Jefferson, Mr. Chad Kimes, Lt. Sean Magill, Ms. Carol Long, Mr. BJ Eversole, Mr. Bill Marley, Mr. Christopher Palsgrove, Mr. Behshad Norowzi, Ms. Caitlin Marks, Mr. Trevor Carroll, Mr. Chris White, and Mr. Thomas Bradshaw

I. [Call to Order](#)

Mr. Bob Warden called the Jacksonville Urban Area MPO Transportation Advisory Committee Meeting to order at 3:30 pm on Thursday, June 11, 2020 at the Jacksonville City Hall – Council Chambers and via Teleconference.

II. [Welcome and Introductions](#)

Mr. Warden welcomed everyone to the TAC meeting, and asked everyone on the teleconference call to introduce themselves.

III. [Adoption of the Agenda](#)

Mr. Warden asked for a motion to adopt the agenda as written.

Mr. Royce Bennett made a motion to accept the agenda as written. Mr. Randy Thomas seconded the motion to accept the agenda as written.

The agenda was accepted unanimously as written by the committee members present.

IV. [Public Comment](#)

There were no public comments.

Action Items:

V. [March 12, 2020 and April 9, 2020 Meeting Minutes](#)

Mr. Warden asked for a motion to approve the March 12, 2020 and April 9, 2020 Meeting Minutes.

Mr. Paul Buchanan made a motion to approve the March 12, 2020 and April 9,

2020 Meeting Minutes. Mr. Mike Alford seconded the motion.

The committee members present unanimously accepted the motion and second to approve the March 12, 2020 and April 9, 2020 Meeting Minutes.

VI. [TAC Bylaws Revision](#)

Ms. Deanna Trebil explained to the Committee that due to the ever changing environment as a result of COVID, staff is recommending changes to the TAC Bylaws to add language to allow for a procedure for virtual meetings.

Ms. Trebil reminded the Committee that the Bylaws stipulate that amendments can be considered so long as the proposed changes are presented in writing to the voting members at least seven (7) days prior to the meeting at which time it will be considered.

Mr. Warden asked the Committee if any discussion was needed. No discussion was needed.

Mr. Warden asked for a motion to adopt the proposed amendment to the Bylaws as presented.

Mr. Randy Thomas made a motion to approve the proposed amendment of the Bylaws as presented. Mr. Royce Bennett seconded the motion.

The committee members present unanimously accepted the motion and second to approve the proposed amendment to the Bylaws as presented.

VII. [Public Participation Plan Revision](#)

Ms. Trebil stated that the Jacksonville Urban Area MPO strives to ensure an open transportation planning process where the free exchange of ideas of information and the opportunity for input from interested parties at all stages of the transportation planning process can take place in an effective manner. The Public Participation Plan (PPP) defines the process for providing individuals, affected public agencies, representatives of public transportation employees, etc with reasonable opportunities to be involved in the metropolitan planning process for all modes of transportation.

The PPP was recently adopted in September 2019 and is required to be adopted every three years. The proposal clarifies statements that appear to conflict with each other regarding how and when public comments should be solicited. Changes were made to clarify the intent of these sections which did not reduce the number of days to seek public comment nor did it eliminate the requirement for public comment periods during the TCC and TAC meetings. Ms. Trebil also informed the committee present and via teleconference that the proposed revision can be viewed on JUMPO's website.

There were no discussions and Mr. Warden asked for a motion and a second to approve the Revised Public Participation Plan.

Mr. Royce Bennet made a motion to approve the Revised Public Participation Plan, and Mr. Paul Buchanan seconded the motion.

The committee members present unanimously accepted the motion and second to approve the Revised Public Participation Plan as presented.

VIII. [MTIP Amendment #1](#)

Ms. Trebil reminded the TAC Committee that the 2020-2029 Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program (MTIP) was adopted on December 12, 2019. Staff is now recommending an amendment to the MTIP to add two new projects as a result of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act and to make other adjustments that were made by NCDOT to assist in balancing their budget as well as increase the overall project budget.

The CARES Act provides emergency assistance and health care response for individuals, families and businesses affected by the COVID-19 pandemic, in addition to supplemental appropriations for Federally-supported agencies. She further stated that this funding does not require a local or state match and can be used for any capital, operating, or preventive maintenance expense eligible under the FTA urban transit program.

In order for Jacksonville Transit to utilize this funding for capital projects, the MTIP needs to be amended. Jacksonville Transit is interested in adding two projects: a Satellite Transfer Facility and Pedestrian Access/Walkways.

Additionally, the NCDOT Board of Transportation adopted an amendment to the STIP which also requires our MTIP to be amended. These changes include the delay in construction for several projects as well as project budget increases for others.

There was no further discussion and Mr. Warden asked for a motion and a second to approve the MTIP Amendment#1.

Mr. Paul Buchanan made a motion to approve the MTIP Amendment #1, and Mr. Randy Thomas seconded the motion.

The committee members present unanimously accepted the motion and second to approve the MTIP Amendment #1 as presented.

Discussion Items

IX. [TRAC Update](#)

Ms. Trebil stated that Kimley-Horn has been making progress on developing the scenario based model to help identify points of vulnerability on road infrastructure

regarding flooding. The four key questions that the model is trying to answer is: where does the water overtop the roadway; how critical is that road; what is the duration of flooding; and who is responsible for making improvements.

As part of this predictive model, Ms. Trebil showed an example of what we would expect as a result with the model. The area in question was Ellis Pump Station. This area typically floods with large rain events. Through their modeling effort, the consultant was able to show the impact of the flooding for the existing 100-year flood elevation and the reduced flooding that would occur if improvements were made downstream by adding one, two or even three additional 60” culverts.

Additionally, Ms. Trebil showed an interactive map identifying the FEMA crossings and at what storm event (25 yr, 50 yr, 100 yr or 500 yr) the road would flood. The consultant is still working on the model which has yet to be verified and calibrated. A stakeholder meeting will occur soon for interested parties to learn more of what has been accomplished to date and the next steps on this initiative.

No further discussion or approval needed.

X. [P6.0 Update](#)

Mr. Prinz stated that each meeting we discuss the Draft Prioritization 6.0 Work Program. Important upcoming dates include:

- Project submission – July 31
- Draft scores – May 2021
- Point assignment – May – December 2021
- TIP adoption – December 2022

Mr. Prinz reiterated his concerns regarding proceeding forward with P6.0 knowing that NCDOT does not have funding to undertake the approved projects in the current STIP. He reminded Committee Members that this Board sent a letter to then Secretary Trodgon expressing this same concern. Secretary Trodgon responded that while he understood our concern, he felt that the projects that were suspended at that time would resume work which we know did not happen.

After some discussion, Mr. Prinz stated that he would draft a message to send to the new Secretary Boyette emphasizing our same concern and a request to consider increasing the funding window such that existing projects would not fall off the STIP requiring them to go through the prioritization process.

Reports/Comments

XI. [Report from TAC Secretary](#)

Mr. Prinz shared the Investing in a New Vision for the Environment and Surface Transportation in America (INVEST in America) Act which is a 5-year, \$494 billion

investment to get our existing infrastructure working again and fund new, transformative projects that will create millions of jobs and support American manufacturing and ingenuity while reducing carbon pollution, dramatically improving safety, and spurring economic activity. Funding has been identified for highways, transit, rail and passenger vehicle and commercial motor vehicle safety.

XII. [Report from NCDOT Division 3](#)

Ms. Caitlin joined us via teleconference and gave her report stating nothing much has changed due to all construction being on hold.

XIII. [Report from NCDOT Transportation Planning Division](#)

Mr. Behshad joined us via teleconference and went over his report talking about how to find the latest information on COVID-19 by visiting the NC Department of Health and Human Services website. He gave a brief update on NC VMT and NCDOT Budget Update which shows a reduction in travel resulting in an a decrease in revenue of \$300 million dollars this fiscal year.

He reminded everyone to complete the Census as it brings financial resources for committed health, schools, transportation and more.

XIV. [Report from FHWA Field Officer](#)

Mr. Bill Marley joined us via teleconference. He had no updates at this time.

XV. [Closing Remarks](#)

Mr. Prinz asked if Mr. Chris White, Albert J. Ellis Airport, who joined us via teleconference could give an update. Mr. White reported that since the pandemic, national flights have dropped 96%. He also stated that he is concerned regarding NCDOT's funding as he has agreements in place where NCDOT either requested reimbursement be delayed and/or they have cancelled the agreement.

Mr. Warden thanked everyone for attending either in person or via teleconference. Next meeting is scheduled for August 13, 2020. Meeting adjourned at 4:36pm.