

TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE
November 19, 2020

MEETING ROOM A
815 New Bridge Street, Jacksonville, NC

Present: Mr. Bob Warden, Mr. Paul Buchanan, and Mr. Randy Thomas

Others Present: Mr. Ron Massey, Ms. Deanna Trebil, Ms. Debbie Jefferson, Mr. Chad Kimes, Ms. Stephanie Kutz, and Mr. Anthony Prinz

Via Phone: Mr. Royce Bennett, Lt. Sean Magill, Ms. Carol Long, Mr. BJ Eversole, Mr. Bill Marley, Mr. Christopher Palsgrove, Mr. Behshad Norowzi, Mr. Ray Silance, Mr. Daniel Combo, Mr. Tony Sumter, Mr. John Bailey, and Mr. Chris White

I. [Call to Order](#)

Chairman Bob Warden called the Jacksonville Urban Area MPO Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC) Meeting to order at 3:31 pm on Thursday, November 19, 2020 at the Jacksonville City Hall – Meeting Room A and via Teleconference.

II. [Welcome and Introductions](#)

Chairman Warden welcomed everyone to the TAC meeting, and thanked everyone on the teleconference for calling in.

III. [Adoption of the Agenda](#)

Chairman Warden asked for a motion to adopt the agenda as written, and to adopt the Consent Items.

Mr. Paul Buchanan made a motion to accept the agenda as written along with adopting the Consent items. Mr. Randy Thomas seconded the motion to accept the agenda as written along with the Consent items.

The agenda and Consent items were accepted unanimously by the committee members present.

IV. [Public Comment](#)

There were no public comments.

Action Items:

V. [September 10, 2020 Meeting Minutes](#)

Adopted by committee members present

VI. [Draft 2021 Meeting Calendar](#)

Adopted by committee members present.

Non-Consent

VII. [2045 MTP Amendment 1](#)

Ms. Trebil stated that the Transportation Advisory Committee on the 2045 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) was adopted on March 12, 2020, which is the long range plan for our urbanized area. Staff is recommending updates and changes to Chapter 7, Performance Measures. NCDOT provided guidance recommending language be added explaining how the projects identified in the MTP would help achieve or address the performance measures identified by FHWA as well as reporting on the status if these measures have been reached.

Additionally, Jacksonville Transit is now required to report Transit Safety Performance Measures (PTASP) for both the fixed route and the demand response. This is a new section that has been added and is required by FTA to be part of JUMPO's MTP.

The Draft 2045 MTP Amendment 1 has been advertised for public comment in accordance with the public participation plan and no comments were received.

Chairman Warden asked for a motion to adopt the 2045 MTP Amendment 1 as presented.

Mr. Paul Buchanan made a motion to approve the 2045 MTP Amendment 1 as presented. Mr. Randy Thomas seconded the motion to adopt the 2045 MTP Amendment 1 as presented.

The motion to approve the 2045 MTP Amendment 1 as presented was accepted unanimously by the committee members present.

VIII. [2020-2029 MTIP Amendment 2](#)

Ms. Trebil stated that the Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC) adopted the 2020-2029 Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program (MTIP) on December 12, 2019. Amendment 1 was approved by the TAC on June 11, 2020, which included the addition of two new projects for Jacksonville Transit as a result of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act. This amendment also made other adjustments that were made by NCDOT to assist in balancing their budget as well as increase the overall project budget.

In October 2020, the State Board of Transportation (BOT) adopted a re-programmed State Transportation Improvement Plan (STIP) adjusting project schedules in order to ensure a fiscally constraint program in accordance with federal law. Projects that were committed as a result of Prioritization 5.0 remain committed even if funding is shown through FY 2027. Projects that fall in FY 2030 or later are shown for either illustrative purposes or to

show fiscal impact.

The Division allowed JUMPO to provide feedback on the proposed changes. As a result, Commerce Drive Extension (U-5878) was able to stay on schedule, while Trade Street (U-5787) was pushed out. It should be noted that the changes for U-5787 and U-5878 were not initially presented to the BOT for consideration and that the Board approved those in November.

As a result of NCDOT re-programming the STIP, JUMPO is required to update the MTIP to reflect these changes. The proposed Amendment has been uploaded to JUMPO's website for public comment, which can be viewed here: www.jumpo-nc.org.

The 2020-2029 MTIP Amendment 2 has been advertised for public comment in accordance with the public participation plan and no comments were received.

Mr. Randy Thomas made a motion to approve the 2020-2029 MTIP Amendment 2 as presented. Mr. Paul Buchanan seconded the motion to adopt the 2020-2029 MTIP Amendment 2 as presented.

The motion to approve the 2020-2029 MTIP Amendment 2 as presented was accepted unanimously by the committee members present.

IX. [UPWP Amendment 3](#)

Ms. Trebil stated staff is requesting to amend the FY 2021 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) to increase the amount of funding shown for the urbanized area formula program funds (commonly known as Section 5307). These funds are intended to provide operating assistance to urbanized areas for providing public transportation services related to Jacksonville Transit. The operating budget adopted by City Council for this year's appropriation has been increased to an overall budget of \$110,000 with 80% of the funding from FTA (\$88,000) and a 20% local match from the City of Jacksonville (\$22,000).

The increase in funding does not change the PL104 funding amount. However, the increase in Section 5307 funding is required to be approved in the UPWP in order for these funds to be programmed in an FTA grant.

Chairman Warden asked for a motion to adopt the UPWP Amendment 3

Mr. Paul Buchanan made a motion to approve the UPWP Amendment 3 as presented. Mr. Randy Thomas seconded the motion to adopt the UPWP Amendment 3 as presented.

The motion to approve the UPWP Amendment 3 as presented was accepted unanimously by the committee members present.

X. [JUMPO Planning Area Boundary Expansion](#)

Ms. Trebil started off by saying today is a good day in that efforts to expand the MPO Boundary Expansion are finally becoming a reality.

The planning area boundary is recommended to be expanded to include the Town of Holly Ridge, Town of Richlands, Town of Swansboro, Town of North Topsail Beach, City of Jacksonville and Onslow County. The membership of both Committees have been expanded to include representation from all members. The voting members for the TAC remains unchanged, but the voting membership for the TCC has increased. Staff has reached out to all members who are in full support of becoming members of the Jacksonville MPO.

As required by North Carolina General Statute, staff conducted a review of boundaries, structure and governance for the Jacksonville MPO. This review included documenting the need to expand the planning area boundary and changes to the existing organizational structure for both the Technical Coordinating Committee (TCC) and the Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC).

Upon approval by the TAC, each member agency will also seek approval to execute the Memorandum of Understanding and Resolution in support of joining the Jacksonville MPO.

Mr. Prinz stated he believes we are doing this because of the steady growth in Onslow County, and we are starting to see urbanized transportation issues come up at areas outside our jurisdiction. Also it is very important for us to manage transportation corridors that come in and out of our community.

Chairman Warden asked for a motion to adopt a Resolution to expand the JUMPO Planning Area Boundary.

Mr. Paul Buchanan made a motion to approve the Resolution to expand the JUMPO Planning Area Boundary as presented. Mr. Randy Thomas seconded the motion to adopt the Resolution as presented.

The motion to approve the Resolution to expand the JUMPO Planning Area Boundary as presented was accepted unanimously by the committee members present.

Discussion Items

XI. [P6.0 Update](#)

Mr. Prinz discussed there will be a pause in this process until we are ready to start working on projects again.

Mr. Prinz also talked about NCDOT's revenue balance. The latest report shows that cash balance from August 2019 to August 2020 has rebounded. The pause in project development has helped NCDOT to rebuild the fund balance. As the fund continues to grow, it is expected that NCDOT will begin to release projects.

XII. [Douglas Gate Improvements Update](#)

Mr. Prinz stated the intent is to begin a feasibility study funded through Office of Economic Adjustment (OEA) on improvements to Douglass Gate. Staff has held a preliminary scoping meeting with NCDOT and Marine Corps Air Station New River. Hopefully in the next couple of weeks, staff will be able to submit a preliminary submittal.

Reports/Comments

XIII. [Report from TAC Secretary](#)

Mr. Prinz gave an update of Jacksonville Station, and informing the Committee that work is progressing on schedule. He described recent work that had been completed to include the installation of aggregate piers and foundation. He also showed conceptual renderings of the interior of the building which is modeled after the 1940's train depot look.

Mr. Prinz briefed the Committee about the Downtown Trail, which begins where the existing trail ends near New Bridge Middle School and will extend to the train depot on Court Street. At Court Street it will turn left and then continue along Newberry Street to connect to the Thompson School Creek Boardwalk. As part of this project, the existing curb line will be moved to allow for pedestrian safety thereby reducing the road width.

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

Ms. Caitlin was not available to give her report. Mr. Prinz gave the update, with Mr. Kimes giving additional updates.

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

Mr. Behshad Norowzi gave his update on the Strategic Transportation Corridors (STC), informing us the public survey for Corridor X has been delayed due to NCDOT's current budget shortfall. We were updated on the FHWA News, Power Bill Funds, and COVID-19 Updates.

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

Mr. Bill Marley gave his updates. Nothing on the authorizations as of yet, may have a contention of resolution renewed.

XVII. [Closing Remarks](#)

Next meeting – March 11, 2021.