

TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE
March 11, 2021

Johnson Boulevard Conference Room
815 New Bridge Street, Jacksonville, NC

Present: Mr. Bob Warden, Mr. Paul Buchanan, and Mr. Royce Bennett

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

Via Phone: Lt. Sean Magill, Ms. Carol Long, Mr. BJ Eversole, Mr. Bill Marley, Mr. Behshad Norowzi, Mr. Ray Silance, Mr. Daniel Combo, Mr. Tony Sumter, Mr. Roy Bredahl, Ms. Jessica Rhue, Mr. Chad Kimes, Ms. Caitlin Marks, 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 3:30 pm on Thursday, March 11, 2021, at the Jacksonville City Hall – Johnson Boulevard Conference Room 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.

Mr. Paul Buchanan made a motion to accept the agenda as written. Mr. Royce Bennett seconded the motion to accept the agenda as written.

The agenda was accepted unanimously by the committee members present.

IV. [Public Comment](#)

There were no public comments in person, audio or virtual.

Action Items:

V. [November 19, 2021 Meeting Minutes](#)

Adopted by committee members present

VI. [Annual Self-Certification](#)

Adopted by committee members present.

VII. [2021 NCDOT Safety Performance Targets](#)

Adopted by committee members present

VIII. [2025 MTP Amendment](#)

Adopted by committee members present

Non-Consent

IX. [Election of Officers](#)

Chairman Warden asked for nominations of officers.

Mr. Paul Buchanan made a motion to continue with the current officers in position for the TAC Committee.

Mr. Royce Bennett seconded the motion to adopt and keep the current officers in their position for the TAC Committee.

The floor was opened for other nominations and comments. None were received.

The motion to approve the officers in their current position for the TAC Committee was accepted unanimously by the committee members present.

X. [FY 2021 UPWP Amendment 4](#)

Ms. Deanna discussed that staff is requesting to amend the FY 2021 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) to re-appropriate funds within the existing budget to increase the amount of funding shown for Special Studies. This increase would allow the MPO to hire a consultant to assist in analyzing the Marine Boulevard Corridor to determine if the travel lanes could be reconfigured in order to provide greater lane widths to address safety issues.

The PL104 budget remains unchanged at a total of \$253,907. No additional funding is being requested at this time.

Mr. Prinz stated this is a road diet option. Can we get away from some of the lanes that are narrow? While we are resurfacing is there a way to re-appropriate some of the funds.

Mr. Royce asked how much money do we spend for the study to restripe?

Chairman Warden asked for a motion to adopt the FY 2021 UPWP Amendment 4.

Mr. Paul Buchanan made a motion to approve the FY 2021 UPWP Amendment 4. Mr. Royce Bennett seconded the motion to adopt the FY 2021 UPWP Amendment 4 as presented.

The motion to approve the Resolution to expand the FY 2021 UPWP Amendment 4 as written was accepted unanimously by the committee members present.

Discussion Items

XI. [P6.0](#)

Ms. Kutz discussed the P6.0. We have slowed down a little due to the DOT financial situation. They are being scored now. The quantitative scores should be out in July.

XII. [NC First Commission Report](#)

Mr. Prinz brought the TCC Committee up to date on the NC First Commission Report. For the past two years this Commission has been working behind the scenes to identify solutions for what is perceived as a funding crisis of DOT.

[Areas of Concern](#)

- Motor fuel tax base is eroding
- Construction costs are rising
- Future federal revenues have been declining

[Investment Benefits](#)

- Adapt to changing demographics
- Improve pavement condition
- Relieve congestion
- Improve resiliency to natural disasters
- Prepare for new technologies

Recommendation: Immediate Impact

- **Highway Use Tax** – Increase the HUT by 2 percentage points – Eliminate the net-of trade exemption – Transfer proceeds from short-term vehicle rentals, vehicle subscription services, and car sharing from the General Fund to NCDOT
- **State Sales Tax** – Raise the state Sales Tax rate and reduce the Motor Fuels Tax rate – Transfer existing Sales Tax revenues from transportation-related goods and services to NCDOT – Tax Transportation Network Companies (TNCs)
- **DMV Fees** – Increase the Electric Vehicle (EV) Fee and enact a Hybrid Vehicle Fee – Amend DMV registration fees for heavy vehicles – Automatically adjust fees for inflation every two years – Authorize a Road Impact Fee for e-commerce deliveries

Options for Local Governments

- Local Sales Tax
- Local Road Impact Fee
- Local Infrastructure Banks
- Local Value Capture

Mileage-Based User Fee

- Increased fuel efficiency and changes in driving behavior impacts sustainability of Motor Fuels Tax revenue
- Driver pays a fee based on number of miles driven
- Identify equitable system to replace the Motor Fuels Tax

XIII. [FY 2022 UPWP](#)

Ms. Trebil stated we have started working on next year's budget. We are informing you how we are reorganizing, and by taking on an additional person. We are not asking for any additional money. We are able to charge our time by what we are working on. The additional person will help offset the additional demands we will be taking on.

Mr. Prinz stated we asked for this same item last year, but due Covid we did not move forward.

Mr. Warden asked what the local percentage match is. Mr. Prinz replied it would be 80% Federal, 10% City and 10% County.

XIV. [MPO Boundary Expansion](#)

Ms. Deanna stated we have some good news.

MPO Boundary Expansion

- All towns approved joining
- In process of executing MOU
- Finalized this Spring
- Onboarding

We are asking the Committee feedback on how to onboard the new members. The new members have participated in the MPO. All new members are voting members on the TCC, however with the TAC they have a seat at the table but do not have a seat to vote.

We are suggesting for one of our meetings to send a MPO one on one. This will help the onboard members.

Mr. Prinz stated we are trying to create a constructive path. What we don't want to happen with our first meeting with the TAC is to be about voting membership.

The committee had further discussion for the appropriate way to begin a future with the future boundaries.

Reports/Comments

XV. [Report from TAC Secretary](#)

Mr. Prinz spoke on the Jacksonville Station. It's a transportation building but a community asset. Also the City and the County has zero money in building this. A little money was spent in designing.

Mr. Warden inquired of the road for realignment. Ms. Deanna expounded on this. Mr. Prinz gave an update of the Western and Gum Branch project and the Douglas Road traffic signal.

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

Ms. Caitlin gave her report.

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

Mr. Behshad went over his updated report. The NCDOT Traffic Survey Group New Webpage offers the customers with access to the Traffic Count Database System (TCDS) webpage: <http://ncdot.ms2soft.com/tcds/tsearch.asp?loc=ncdot>

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

Mr. Marley stated he is happy about the Jacksonville Boundary Expansion. Nothing else to report. Mr. Prinz asked how much longer is the continuing resolution good for? Mr. Marley replied it may be extended.

XIX. [Closing Comments](#)

Mr. Warden asked for any closing remarks. Mr. Bennett made a motion to adjourn and Mr. Buchannan seconded the motion. Meeting was adjourned at 4:40pm.