

**JACKSONVILLE METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION
TECHNICAL COORDINATING COMMITTEE
VIRTUAL/ REGULAR - MEETING
February 11, 2021**

**CITY OF JACKSONVILLE
JOHNSON BOULEVARD CONFERENCE ROOM**

Present Mr. Wally Hansen, Mr. Ryan King, Mr. Ron Massey, Mr. Anthony Prinz, Ms. Debbie
In Person: Jefferson, Ms. Stephanie Kutz, Ms. Deanna Trebil, and Mr. Roy Bredahl

Virtually Mr. Behshad Norowzi, Lt. Sean Magill, Ms. Caitlin Marks, Mr. Chris Palsgrove, Mr. Brian
Present: Kelly, Ms. Jessica Rhue, Mr. Ray Silance, Mr. Bill Marley, Mr. BJ Eversole, Mr. Kerry
Terrell, Mr. Steve Myers, Mr. Jonathan Casey, Ms. Carol Long, Mr. Nathan Rhue, and
Mr. Dan Combo

I. [Call to Order](#)

Mr. Wally Hansen called the TCC meeting to order at 10:34am, Thursday, February 11, 2021, at Jacksonville City Hall, Johnson Boulevard Conference Room – 815 New Bridge Street., Jacksonville, NC.

II. [Welcome and Introductions](#)

Mr. Hansen welcomed everyone to the meeting, both in person and virtual. Mr. Hansen did a roll call to make sure everyone that was virtual could be heard.

III. [Public Comment](#)

No public comments were made.

Action Items

Consent

Mr. Hansen asked for a motion to approve the Consent Items as presented.

IV. [October 8, 2020 Meeting Minutes](#)

V. [Annual Self-Certification](#)

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

VII. [MTP Amendment #2](#)

Mr. Ryan King moved to approve the Consent Items on the Agenda as presented. Mr. Ron Massey seconded the motion.

The motion to approve the Consent Items on the Agenda as presented was unanimously approved by the Committee Members present.

Non Consent

VIII. [Election of Officers](#)

Mr. Massey nominated Mr. Wally Hansen to maintain his position as Chairman of the Technical Coordinating Committee (TCC). No other nominations were made. Mr. King seconded the nomination for Mr. Wally Hansen to maintain his position as Chairman of the TCC.

The nomination to approve Mr. Wally Hansen to maintain his position as Chairman of the TCC was unanimously approved by the Committee present and virtual.

Mr. King nominated Ms. Jessica Rhue as Vice-Chair of the TCC. No other nominations were made. Mr. Massey seconded the nomination for Ms. Rhue to be Vice-Chair of the TCC.

The nomination to approve Ms. Rhue as Vice-Chair of the TCC was unanimously approved by the Committee members present and virtual.

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

Ms. Deanna Trebil informed the TCC Committee 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 along this corridor.

During the P6.0 prioritization, JUMPO did submit a project to widen US 17. However, this would be a long-term solution rather than the short-term solution of possibly restriping the roadway within the existing road width. The PL104 budget remains unchanged, no additional funding is being requested at this time.

Mr. Hansen asked for an approval of the FY 2021 UPWP Amendment 4.

Ms. Rhue made a motion to approve FY 2021 UPWP Amendment 4. Mr. King seconded the motion.

The motion to approve the FY 2021 UPWP Amendment 4 was unanimously approved by the Committee members present and virtual.

Discussion Items

X. [P6.0](#)

Ms. Stephanie Kutz discussed the new 20/29 TIP Map. Everything has been updated. For P6.0 the projects are all being scored and the quantitative scores should be done by July. Additionally, staff is working on the Local Input Methodology which will be presented to the TCC in April.

Mr. Anthony Prinz went over the MTIP map explaining the construction dates and TIP numbers.

Mr. Prinz stated we are retaining the Jacksonville Parkway Extension – 5791A, will continue to move forward with the construction date of 2024. The Gum Branch project, which we were hoping to begin construction, has now been moved out to 2022.

Mr. Massey suggesting using different colors since they are hard to distinguish apart from those projects that have been identified as committed versus those that are programmed.

Mr. Hansen voiced his disappointment of the Rhodestown Intersection project being pushed so far back due to safety concerns. Mr. Prinz stated there are safety improvements happening with the signals.

XI. [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 for 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

XII. [FY 2022 UPWP](#)

Ms. Trebil discussed the proposed FY 2022 UPWP. She discussed the operating budget for PL104, Section 5303 and Section 5307. Staff assigned to the MPO also work on FTA transportation projects and, as such, can charge their time to several different funding grants.

The proposed FY 2022 UPWP has identified hiring one (1) additional person. With the expansion of the MPO, we anticipate the workload increasing as we begin to learn of the needs of our new partners. This request does not include an increase in funding. The FY 2022 PL104 allocation has increased from prior years and is similar to past allocations.

Mr. Prinz stated this helps us continue doing more work in house and to reduce the reliance on consultants as that was the goal established by the TAC several years ago. We asked for this same item last year from the TCC and TAC. Due to the coronavirus, we chose not to move forward.

XIII. [MPO Boundary Expansion](#)

Ms. Trebil stated we have some good news. All towns have approved joining the MPO and we are in the process of executing the Memorandum of Understanding. We are hopeful that we will be able to send a partially executed MOU to NCDOT by the end of February.

As a reminder, all new members are voting members on the TCC. However, new members are on the TAC Board, but do not have a vote. With new members joining both the TCC and the TAC, we are seeking guidance from the TCC on how we should onboard our new members. Staff is suggesting that we could use one of our meetings to provide an overview of the roles and responsibilities of the MPO as well as a review of current priorities and projects.

Mr. Hansen stated this would be a great idea. It would help current members along with new members as it has been quite some time since we last had an overview. This would also allow new members to identify issues or concerns that they have in their towns in order to start discussions on possible remedies.

Reports/Comments

XIV. [Report from MPO](#)

Ms. Trebil noted that Jacksonville Station is coming along very well. The estimated completion date is August - September 2021.

Members may recall that staff and NCDOT have been working on the short-term solution for The Douglass Gate. Plans are being finalized and the project will be advertised soon. Mr. Massey asked when discussions initially began to where we are now. Mr. Prinz replied that the first discussion was in October 2020. Mr. Massey stated that the reason for the question was to point out how fast this project has been able to be designed and start construction in such a short amount of time for such as large project.

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

Ms. Caitlin Marks stated some adjustments had to be made to a few let dates due to NCDOT's financial situation. The good news is the department is in a better financial position and some updates have been made.

Ms. Marks went over her spreadsheet with the current updates.

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

Mr. Behshad Norowzi 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>

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

Mr. Bill Marley gave his report. The Department of Transportation has a new Secretary, Pete Buttigieg, from Indiana.

Mr. Prinz asked Mr. Marley when we would likely see the results of the 2020 Census report. Mr. Marley stated it usually takes about a year before we know the results.

XVIII. [Questions, Closing Comments](#)

Mr. Hansen asked for an adjournment of the February 11, 2021 TCC meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:43 a.m. Mr. King made a motion and Mr. Massey seconded the motion.