

**JACKSONVILLE METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION
TECHNICAL COORDINATING COMMITTEE
VIRTUAL/ REGULAR - MEETING
August 10, 2023**

**JACKSONVILLE STATION
1300 N MARINE BLVD
JACKSONVILLE, NC 28540**

Present Mr. Wally Hansen, Mr. Ronald Massey, Mr. Chris White, Ms. Michelle Howes,
In Person: Mr. Anthony Prinz, Ms. Stephanie Kutz, Mr. Stephen Adams, Lt. Philip
 Williams, Ms. Kirsten Spirakis, Mr. Tim McCurry, Ms. Amy Procopio, Mr. Phil
 Jones, and Mr. Brendan Gartner

Virtually Mr. Gregg Whitehead, Ms. Andrea Correll, Ms. Michelle Howes, Ms. Kirsten
Present: Spirakis, Mr. Jeremy Smith, Mr. Behshad Norowzi, Ms. Nazia Sarder, Mr. Bill
 Marley, and Ms. Heather Reynolds

I. Call to Order

Mr. Hansen called the TCC meeting to order at 10:37 am, Thursday, August 10, 2023, at Jacksonville Station, 1300 N Marine Blvd, Jacksonville, NC.

II. Welcome and Introductions

Mr. Hansen welcomed members to the TCC meeting and asked all present to introduced themselves. Those members attending the meeting online were stated for the recorded.

III. Public Comment

No one signed up for public comment and no requests were received.

Action Items

IV. June 8, 2023, Meeting Minutes

Mr. Hansen asked for a motion to approve the June 8, 2023, Meeting Minutes as presented. Mr. White made a motion; Mr. Massey seconded the motion.

The motion to approve the June 8, 2023, Meeting Minutes as presented was approved unanimously by the committee members present both in person and virtual.

V. Draft 2020-2029 MTIP Amendment 10

Ms. Kutz explained that staff is requesting to amend the 2020-2029 MTIP to maintain with the state's State Transportation Improvement Plan. This 10th amendment is to

program around \$7 million statewide for Vulnerable User Funds. A couple projects on Marine Blvd were awarded under vulnerable user category. This would also provide the Carbon Reduction funding change to design sidewalks on Gum Branch Rd.

Mr. Hansen asked if there were any questions on the action item; none were received. He asked for a motion to recommend Amendment 10 adoption to the TAC. Mr. White made a motion; Mr. Whitehead seconded the motion.

The motion was approved unanimously by the committee members present both in person and virtual.

VI. Draft 2024-2033 MTIP

Ms. Kutz began by explaining JUMPO is working on adoption of the next MTIP. timeline In May, the finalized STIP (for Prioritization 6.0) was present to the Board of Transportation (BOT). In June, the STIP was adopted by the BOT. The MTIP will be presented to the TAC in September for approval.

Mr. Prinz brought up that this TIP has more realistic cost estimates for projects which leads to being more consistent with programming and delivery. Previous TIPs were not as accurate in cost which has led to delays in execution.

Mr. Hansen asked if there were any questions on the action item; none were received. He asked for a motion to recommend the 2024-2033 STIP to the TAC. Mr. White made a motion; Mr. Massey seconded the motion.

The motion was approved unanimously by the committee members present both in person and virtual.

VII. Prioritization 7.0 New Projects Recommended to TAC

(This item was brought for action after the Prioritization 7.0 (P7) new project submittals were discussed.)

Mr. Hansen asked for a motion to recommend the P7 new projects to the TAC. Mr. White made a motion; Mr. Massey seconded the motion.

The motion was approved unanimously by the committee members present both in person and virtual.

Discussion Items

VIII. Prioritization 7.0

Mr. Adams spent a few minutes talking about the Prioritization 7.0 (P7) cycle. He went through the work plan schedule and the reviewed the new projects which were selected by the P7 subcommittee (19 Highway, 5 Aviation, 11 Bike/Ped).

Mr. Prinz followed up with explaining the additional slots which we are given to highway projects due to dropping two carryover projects which were cancelled.

Mr. Adams then showed a series of maps with the projects inlayed for Richlands, Swansboro, Holly Ridge & North Topsail Beach, and Jacksonville areas. Thru each slide critical projects were pointed out and how the improvements assigned to these submittals will reduced congestion and traffic efficiency. Various projects and locations were discussed; several were talked about including their history during past prioritization cycles.

Mr. McCurry asked if the TCC has seen plans on Green-T intersections, specifically for real estate acquisition information. Mr. Prinz clarified that the TCC committee had not seen but that express design plans will be provided to Mr. McCurry and the rest of the Committee.

Ms. Spirakis brought up the US 258 – Chaney Ave project and recommended that it be changed to an access management instead of widening. Clarification was given that once projects are submitted there would be ability to change project scopes as they are tabulated and scored before official submission. There will be a Prioritization workshop held by NCDOT Spot Team which Ms. Kutz and Mr. Adams will be attending in September where scope can be changed depending on test scoring results.

Ms. Kutz then explained that these projects will be brought to the TAC for approval in September. The submittal list has been posted on the JUMPO website for public comment and input. No comments had yet been received at that time. It was then asked that these projects be recommend for adoption to the TAC.

Mr. Hansen stated that the Prioritization 7.0 discussion item would then be moved to an action item for recommendation to the TAC. (*See Action Item VII. on Page 2.*)

Reports/Comments

IX. Report from MPO Secretary

Ms. Kutz gave status updates on the Downtown Trails project, the Commerce Road extension, and announced additional funding from NCDOT for Henderson Drive curb replacements. She also gave an update on various resurfacing projects throughout the city's downtown area.

The Western Blvd and Henderson Drive intersection improvements was awarded to Barnhill and will include dual left turn in addition to a median on Henderson.

X. Report from NCDOT Division 3

Ms. Howes briefly spoke on the handout which covers August projects in development, projects under construction, and undergoing maintenance. Ms. Kutz had covered some prior in the MPO report. She also pointed out that the dates on the "In Development" page with "2040.01.01" is a place holder only and not specifically dated for 2040.

Mr. Prinz pointed out the important of the link on the "Under Maintenance" page. This weblink provides the schedule and area where resurfacing projects will be executed. This link is also linked directly on the JUMPO home page.

Discussion lead into the Northeast Creek Bridge project. Mr. Prinz requested that updates for this bridge project be brought at the next TCC meeting.

XI. Report from NCDOT Transportation Planning Division

Ms. Sarder gave a quick update from TPD. She explained that there is a regional model currently being developed which JUMPO falls under. Region 16. Links were provided to this map in the meeting notes and updates can be found there also.

Question were brought up about Region 16 and it being unfamiliar with some committee members. Ms. Sarder showed the model on screen and explained this is the region NCDOT assigned to the Jacksonville MPO, the Down East RPO and the surrounding area for this travel demand model.

XII. Report from FHWA Field Officer

Mr. Marley did not have anything to share at the meeting but explained that they are currently working on re-staffing in some areas after recent transitions.

XIII. Questions, Closing Comments

Mr. Hansen brought to the staff's attention a recent budget meeting during a city council retreat. A councilmember requested that staff look at rapid chargers for wheelchairs at key locations along sidewalks and trails. He offered to share some literature with Ms. Kutz.

He further explained that recently, the Fire Dept had reported to him that they had responded to a call where a citizen had been stranded because their wheelchair had died. It was recommended if feasible then bus stop locations may be the ideal location to house these chargers.

Mr. Massey brought to attention it may require additional infrastructure to install said chargers at bus stop locations. Currently solar power is only available at bus stops and is powered only to provide lighting.

Mr. Hansen thanked everyone for attending in person, and virtually, and asked for an adjournment of the August 10, 2023, TCC meeting. Mr. White made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Massey seconded the motion.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:42 am.

Next meeting is scheduled for November 9, 2023.