

**JACKSONVILLE METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION
TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE (TAC)
SPECIAL CALLED MEETING
March 14, 2024**

**Jacksonville Station, Onslow Room
1300 N Marine Blvd
Jacksonville, NC 28540**

Present Mr. Bob Warden, Mr. Paul Buchanan, Ms. Cindy Edwards, Mr. Royce Bennett,
In Person: Mr. Bill Justice, Mr. Phil Misciagno, Mr. Ron Massey, Mr. Chad Kimes, Ms.
 Caitlin Melvin, Ms. Kirsten Spirakis, Ms. Michelle Howes, Mr. Danny Ferruci,
 Mr. Anthony Prinz, Ms. Stephanie Kutz, Mr. Stephen Adams

Virtually Mr. Mitch Sprunger, Mr. Wongoo Lee, Mr. Behshad Norowzi, Mr. Bill Marley
Present:

I. Call to Order

The TAC Meeting was called to order at 3:32pm at Jacksonville Station.

II. Welcome and Introductions

Chairman Warden greeted everyone and expressed his gratitude for their attendance, both those who were present and those who joined virtually.

III. Public Comment

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

Consent Items

IV. Adoption of the Agenda

Chairman Warden asked for a motion to adopt the agenda as written. Mr. Bennett made a motion; Mr. Buchanan seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

V. Approval of January 30, 2024, Meeting Minutes

Chairman Warden asked for a motion to approve the January 30th Meeting Minutes. Mr. Bennett made a motion to approve; Mr. Buchanan seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

VI. Annual Self-Certification

Chairman Warden asked for a motion to approve the JUMPO self-certification.

Mr. Buchanan made a motion to approve; Ms. Edwards seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

Action Items

VII. Approval of FY24 UPWP Amendment 1

Ms. Kutz asked for approval of Amendment 1 to the FY24 UPWP. This would be to re-appropriate funds within the budget for Phase II of the 2050 MTP. Additionally, this adjustment will allow for funds to update the Camp Davis TIA and procure services to update the JUMPO website.

Chairman Warden asked for a motion to approve Amendment 1 of FY24 UPWP. Mr. Buchanan made a motion to approve; Ms. Edwards seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

VIII. Approval of Draft FY25 UPWP

Ms. Kutz asked for adoption of the FY25 UPWP. Every year JUMPO produces a Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) to outline the expenditures necessary to execute planning activities by the MPO and member agencies.

Chairman Warden asked for a motion to approve the draft FY25 UPWP. Mr. Bennett made a motion to approve; Mr. Buchanan seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

IX. Approval of 2024-2033 MTIP Amendment 3

Ms. Kutz asked for adoption of the MTIP Amendment 3. Amendment 3 is requested to modify funding for projects ER-5600, U-5728, U-5508, and U-5951 from state funding to federal funding. This amendment would cover NCDOT Item N report for the months of Nov 2023, and February 2024.

Chairman Warden asked for a motion to approve 2024-2033 MTIP Amendment 3. Ms. Edwards made a motion to approve; Mr. Buchanan seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

X. Adoption of P7.0 Local Input Methodology

Mr. Adams asked for adoption of the P7.0 Local Input Methodology. The local input methodology draft covers the method by which JUMPO will assign points to Regional Impact and Division Needs projects for P7.0 after scores are released in June. These points added will assist in positioning project priority for the MPO area. The P7.0 Subcommittee is planned to meet in June to recommend points. The TAC will be presented the recommended point allotment in August.

Chairman Warden asked for a motion to adopt the P7.0 Local Input Methodology.

Mr. Buchanan made a motion to approve; Mr. Bennett seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

XI. Adoption of Title VI Program Plan 2024

Mr. Adams asked for adoption of the JUMPO Title VI Program Plan. As a federal-aid recipient, the MPO is required to review and update its Title VI Policy every three years. Title VI ensures that no person shall, on the ground of race, color, nation origin, Limited English Proficiency, sex, age, or disability be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or subjected to discrimination under any of our programs and activities.

Chairman Warden asked for a motion to adopt the Title VI Program Plan for 2024.

Mr. Bennett made a motion to approve; Ms. Edwards seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

Discussion Items:

XII. Prioritization 7.0

Mr. Adams briefly gave updates to Prioritization 7.0 progress. He discussed the current data collection period which involves MPO staff reviewing and confirming the project information that was submitted before being pushed forward for scoring. Finally, the proposed Local Input Methodology presented to the TAC for approval will be utilized to assign additional points to projects once scores have been released. Within the methodology scoring, 40 points maximum will come from a community importance survey, 25 points maximum from the degree of project readiness, 20 points maximum of its alignment with National goals, and 15 maximum points based on the quantitate NCDOT score.

Chairman Warden asked for any questions and comments on P7.0 and none were received.

Reports/Comments

XIII. Report from the MPO Secretary

Ms. Kutz gave a brief update on the completion of the Downtown Trail. Additionally, the extension of the trail network along Carolina Forest Blvd is being finished up. She also announced the closing of Gum Branch Road from April 5-7 to install a section of new piping. Notices will be forwarded to the committee members.

Mr. Prinz brought up the recent pedestrian fatality on Marine Blvd near Dunkin Donuts. There is currently vulnerable user safety study being conducted at various intersections along Marine Blvd due to growing pedestrian safety issues. He also announced the start of Henderson and Western widening project. NCDOT crews have started preliminary construction.

XIV. Report from NCDOT Division 3

Ms. Howes gave a brief update to NCDOT projects, including the Gum Branch closure that Ms. Kutz had mentioned. She also highlighted a few projects on the list provided to the members.

XV. Report from NCDOT Transportation Planning Division

Mr. Lee briefly gave updates to the TPD newsletter. The Regions 16 Travel Demand Model should be completed by the end of March. The development report will be released by April 2024 and presented to the committee. A user guide will also be provided in May. The Regional Coverage Map is available to view at the link provided.

XVI. Report from FHWA Field Officer

Mr. Marley gave updates on grant opportunities for streets and road funding that have recently opened. Additionally, there is a USDOT complete streets AI grant for small businesses. Finally, the NCAMPO conference event which will be held in April in New Bern.

XVII. Questions, Closing Comments

Chairman Warden asked the attendees if there were any additional questions or comments. Mr. Buchanan made a comment on a local business owner in Swansboro wanting to widen driveway access. He also commented on the current Lewis Sewell bridge inspections.

Mr. Kimes, NCDOT Division 3 Engineer, announced that at the end of September he would be retiring from NCDOT. He commended the committee and JUMPO for their amazing working relationships and work done over several years.

Ms. Melvin, NCDOT Division 3, announced that she would also be leaving her position with NCDOT. She is moving to Charlotte to work in the private sector.

Chairman Warden thanked all for attending both in person and virtually and asked for a motion to adjourn the March 14, 2024, TAC meeting. Ms. Edwards made a motion to adjourn; Mr. Buchanan seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 4:17 pm.