



JACKSONVILLE URBAN AREA
JUMPO
METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

TECHNICAL COORDINATING COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

May 14, 2026

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

Present, Mr. Carter Metcalf, Mr. Wally Hansen, Mr. Ryan King, Mr. Chris Roberson, Mr. Danny
In Person: Ferucci, Mr. Joseph Bauer, Mr. Tim McCurry, Mr. Stephen Adams, Mr. Chris Coursey

Present, Mr. Larry Faison, Mr. Behshad Norowzi, Ms. Kirsten Spirakis, Ms. Amy Procopio, Lt.
Remote: Dale Silance, Ms. Rebecca Brehmer, Mr. Ben Johnson,

I. Call to Order

Chairman Metcalf called the TCC meeting to order at 10:34 am at Jacksonville Station.

II. Welcome and Introductions

Chairman Metcalf welcomed members and invited attendees. Members present introduced themselves, followed by those attending virtually.

III. Public Comment

No requests were received, and no members of the public were present for comment.

Action Items

IV. Approval of February 12, 2026, Meeting Minutes

Chairman Metcalf called for a motion to approve the meeting minutes as presented. Vice-Chairman Hansen noted a correction was needed on Page 3, Agenda Item #8. Staff made note of the correction. Vice-Chairman Hansen made the motion, seconded by Mr. Ferucci. The motion carried and was approved unanimously.

V. Draft 2026-2035 MTIP Amendment #4

Mr. Adams presented Amendment #4 to the 2026–2035 Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Plan (MTIP), noting that the amendment reflects STIP modifications issued by the NCDOT STIP Unit between April and May 2026. He reviewed the projects affecting the JUMPO area, beginning with Project TD-4904, which incorporates the previously approved administrative modification adding federal lapse funds to support Jacksonville Station Phase II.

Mr. Adams also highlighted Project U-6082, noting that right-of-way acquisition and utility relocation have been delayed from FY25 to FY28, with construction now scheduled for FY30 to allow additional time for planning, design refinement, and coordination with affected property

owners. He further discussed Project U-5951 (US 17 Business/Marine Boulevard Partial Cloverleaf Interchange), explaining that the project exceeded both the \$2 million and 25 percent cost increase thresholds, requiring acknowledgment through the amendment process.

Mr. Adams then reviewed several statewide amendments, including projects associated with the Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) Improvement Program and a statewide passenger rail safety initiative. During discussion, members briefly discussed CMAQ eligibility requirements and noted that the JUMPO area is not currently eligible for CMAQ funding.

Chairman Metcalf called for questions. Hearing none, he requested a motion to recommend approval to the TAC. Vice-Chairman Hansen made a motion to approve, seconded by Mr. Ferucci. The motion carried and was approved unanimously.

VI. Removal of U-5787 Trade Street Extension project for the STIP

Mr. Adams presented information regarding Project U-5787 (Trade Street) Extension, which would extend and realign Trade Street to connect with McDaniel Drive behind the commercial area near Walmart and Best Buy. He explained that recent updated cost estimates identified significant right-of-way acquisition challenges associated with the project. The primary issue involves existing stormwater management ponds located on several affected parcels. Because NCDOT does not acquire right-of-way associated with stormwater facilities, the responsibility for purchasing those properties would fall to the City of Jacksonville.

Mr. Adams stated that updated estimates indicate the local right-of-way costs could exceed \$9.1 million and may continue to increase as project design progresses. He noted that the substantial local cost associated with acquiring and relocating stormwater facilities outweighs the anticipated transportation benefits of the project. As a result, staff determined that the project is no longer cost-effective and recommended requesting its removal from the State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP). Mr. Adams further explained that the accompanying resolution requests that any funds previously programmed for U-5787 be reallocated to other underfunded transportation projects within the region, including Project U-5716, the US 258/NC 24/NC 53 interchange project.

Following discussion from members regarding the right-of-way costs and stormwater impacts, Chairman Metcalf called for questions. Hearing none, he requested a motion to recommend approval to the TAC. Mr. Ferucci made a motion to approve, seconded by Mr. King seconded. The motion carried and was approved unanimously.

Discussion Items

VII. STIP Presentation: Confident Scope and Cost Estimate (CSCE)

Mr. Johnson, Eastern Region STIP Manager with NCDOT, introduced himself to members and presented slides with an overview of the Department's Confident Scope and Cost Estimate (CSCE) initiative. He explained that the program was developed in response to project cost escalation, inflation, evolving project scopes, and outdated estimates that have affected funding availability and project delivery in recent prioritization cycles. The initiative is intended to improve cost accuracy, increase confidence in project schedules, and provide greater stability within the State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP).

Mr. Johnson explained that a project reaches the CSCE milestone once its scope has been sufficiently defined and agreed upon by the project manager and Division Engineer, and a comprehensive cost estimate has been completed for all project phases. He noted that the initiative applies only to projects selected through the STI prioritization process and that MPOs and RPOs throughout the state are encouraged to participate in scope development discussions. He further stated that projects are generally expected to achieve the CSCE milestone during preliminary design and that projects failing to meet the milestone by September 30, 2027, may be subject to reevaluation through a future prioritization cycle.

Mr. Johnson then reported that JUMPO currently has sixteen projects subject to the CSCE requirement, eight of which had not yet achieved the milestone as of April 2026. He noted that all eight are NCDOT-delivered projects and are actively being advanced by NCDOT staff. Mr. Adams added that some of the projects Mr. Johnson noted were anticipated to be submitted to the Feasibility Studies Unit to begin updating project cost estimates. At the request of members, Mr. Johnson agreed to provide a list of the affected JUMPO projects for distribution to the TCC after the meeting.

VIII. P8 Revised Delivery Schedule

Mr. Adams presented updates from the SPOT Office regarding revisions to the Prioritization 8.0 (P8) schedule, noting changes to the Division Needs Local Input Point assignment timeline. He explained that the revised schedule reduces the available timeframe for assigning Division Needs points from October–December to a shortened window ending in November.

Mr. Adams then outlined the resulting adjustments needed to the MPO’s meeting schedule and work program. Under the revised timeline, Regional Impact projects are expected to be released in late September 2026, with the TCC developing Division Needs Local Input Points at its October meeting and the TAC adopting the final points in November for submittal to NCDOT.

To align with the updated SPOT schedule, staff proposed rescheduling meetings as follows: canceling the September TCC meeting, moving the TCC meeting to October 8, shifting the TAC meeting to November 12, and canceling the December TAC meeting. Members also discussed the option of holding subcommittee sessions immediately prior to the proposed July and October TCC meetings to review and develop recommended points assignments for Regional and Division Needs scoring. It was noted that this approach was similar to the P7 schedule, when meetings were adjusted to accommodate key deadline changes.

Mr. Adams noted that public input would be gathered through a Community Importance Survey, as outlined in the Local Input Point (LIP) methodology, following the release of Regional Impact and statewide project scores. He added that the outreach period could be extended beyond the standard comment window to increase participation. Mr. Adams asked for a consensus from the TCC on the proposed meeting schedule, with the understanding that these changes would be brought to the TAC for approval. Members agreed that the revised meeting schedule and approach to LIP development process were acceptable, and no objections were raised.

Reports/Comments

IX. Report from the MPO Secretary

Mr. Adams provided an update on the MPO's Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan, noting that the consultant contract has been completed and is currently under review by NCDOT. He stated that funding has already been encumbered for the project and that, upon receiving NCDOT approval, the MPO will execute the contract and initiate a kick-off meeting. Mr. Adams noted that the study will involve coordination with local jurisdictions throughout the MPO planning area to identify priorities, incorporate existing plans, and develop recommendations for future bicycle and pedestrian improvements. He added that staff looks forward to working with the member jurisdictions and engaging the public throughout development of the plan.

Mr. Adams also provided an update on the Gum Branch Road Sidewalk Project. He reported that the Nottingham Road signal improvements have now been incorporated into the project through the STIP, allowing staff to expand the project limits from Onsville Drive North to Nottingham Road and include more pedestrian improvements. He noted that the project is currently undergoing additional environmental review and permitting requirements and, pending completion of those efforts, staff anticipate advertising the project for construction in July.

Mr. Coursey then provided updates on several pedestrian and vulnerable road user safety initiatives. He reported that two intersections have been submitted through the NCDOT Integrated Mobility Division (IMD) Pedestrian Safety Call for Projects and remain under review by NCDOT. The proposed improvements include pedestrian enhancements and lane geometry modifications at Western Boulevard and Marlin Drive, as well as a complete signal reconstruction at Western Boulevard and Brynn Marr Road.

Mr. Coursey also reported that five intersections have been submitted for Vulnerable Road User Program funding and have received preliminary approval. Staff are currently advancing improvements at Western Boulevard and Memorial Drive, Commerce Road, and Center Street. He noted that revised cost estimates were recently submitted after NCDOT requested additional signal equipment and operational improvements, including replacement of signal cabinets. The updated estimates have been returned to NCDOT for consideration of additional funding.

X. Report from NCDOT Division 3

Mr. Adams provided updates on several ongoing NCDOT projects in the absence of Division 3 staff. He noted that Project U-5787 (Trade Street Extension) is anticipated to be removed from the STIP pending TAC approval and submission to the STIP Office. He also reported that staff continue to coordinate with NCDOT on Project U-5949 (NC 210 Widening) and have been providing updated development and Traffic Impact Analysis (TIA) information to support project planning as development activity along the corridor continues to increase.

Regarding projects under construction, Mr. Adams highlighted Project U-6065, which includes Reduced Conflict Intersection (RCI) improvements at two intersections along US 17 near NC 172 and Old Folkstone Road. The project is approximately 35 percent complete, with completion anticipated in April 2027. He also noted that Project U-5789, the intersection improvement project

at Jacksonville Parkway and Western Boulevard, remains under construction with preliminary drainage work currently underway and an anticipated completion date of 2028.

Mr. Adams concluded by directing members to NCDOT's maintenance and resurfacing program resources including the QR code, noting that the information provides a useful reference for upcoming maintenance activities throughout the Division. He then encouraged members to contact Division 3 staff, Adrienne Cox or Eric Ritzel, with any additional questions.

XI. Report from NCDOT Transportation Planning Division

Mr. Norowzi reported that the MPO's third-quarter reimbursement has been received. He also informed members that the New Bern MPO is coordinating efforts to expand its planning boundary to include all of Craven County. He noted that the Transportation Secretary would sign the MOU, with final approval required from the Governor's Office. Mr. Norowzi directed members to the newsletter for additional links and online resources for more information and updates.

XII. Report from NCDOT Integrated Mobility Division

No report was provided.

XIII. Report from FHWA Field Officer

No report was provided.

XIV. Questions, Closing Comments

Chairman Metcalf thanked all attendees for their engagement and called for questions or comments. Hearing none, He requested a motion to adjourn. Mr. King made the motion, seconded by Vice-Chairman Hansen. The motion carried unanimously, and the meeting was adjourned at 11:25am.

The next TCC meeting is scheduled for July 9, 2026.