

Charlotte Regional Alliance For Transportation

Technical Committee Meeting

Tuesday, October 16, 2012, 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM
Gastonia City Hall – 2nd Floor Conference Room,
181 S. South St., Gastonia, NC 28052

Attendees:

Phil Conrad	CRMPO
Dana Stoogenke	RRPO
Andy Grzymiski	Charlotte DOT
Anna Gallup	Charlotte DOT
Bob Cook	MUMPO
Linda Dosse	NCDOT-TPB
Jessica McClure	NCDOT-TPB
Jamal Alavi	NCDOT-TPB
Brian DuPont	City of Mount Holly
Kate Asquith	South Environmental Law Center
Kym Hunter	South Environmental Law Center
Loretta Barren	FHWA
Bernie Yacobucci	Gaston MPO
Bill Coxe	Town of Huntersville/MUMPO TCC
Hank Graham	Gaston MPO
Nancy Ross	City of Gastonia Planning
David Williams	Gaston County
Bob Clay	NCTA Board

By phone:

David Hooper	RFATS
Michelle Nance	Charlotte COG
Dr. David Appold	Research Assistant Professor, UNC
Chuck Chorack	

AGENDA

1. Call to Order/Welcome/Introductions, Presenter: Hank Graham

Mr. Graham welcomed all attendees to the meeting and asked for introductions around the room. Mr. Alavi introduced Ms. Jessica McClure who is now the Gaston Urban Area Coordinator replacing Shannon Ransom who has taken another job with NCDOT.

2. Approval of July 17, 2012 Minutes, Presenter: Hank Graham

A motion was made to approve the minutes of the July 17, 2012 CRAFT meeting by Robert Cook and seconded by Phil Conrad. The minutes were approved unanimously as presented.

3. 2040 Metrolina Socio-Economic Projections, Presenter: Anna Gallup

Ms. Gallup stated that staff is waiting for a final draft to be released and which will be distributed for review. Mr. Martin Kinnamon will be submitting the data this week and it will be forwarded to Mr. Bill Allen for a final check. She introduced Dr. David Appold

from UNC who has updated the region's county and logistic level totals which updates the work done in 2002 for the same region.

Dr. Appold stated that he started his research with 16 counties and took a top down approach to the projection process. He based the parameters of the model on past history, estimated how those parameters would change over time, and used that information as the basis for calculating into the future from here. He mentioned that this method has worked from a national to a regional to a county level to a district level. He based the regional projections on accepted national projections of population and employment and on the basis of past history in the share of the national population and employment captured by the region and projected the trend on those shares for each county on population and employment for each forecast year. Slower rate of growth and employment is projected and is mainly due from what is expected from the nation. Dr. Appold continued with his other assumptions and projections.

After Dr. Appold's presentation, the general consensus of the CRAFT committee was that Dr. Appold should be invited to the November 1, 2012 CRAFT Executive meeting and present his findings through a slide presentation and a talk of 10 minutes or less.

4. Metrolina HH Travel Survey, Presenter: Anna Gallup

Ms. Gallup reviewed the Metrolina Household Travel Survey status.

5. New MPO Boundaries, Agreements, Presenter: Bob Cook

Mr. Cook stated that the Urban Area Boundaries and MPO/RPOs map created by GUAMPO appear to correctly represent the boundary. Speaking for MUMPO, Mr. Cook also endorsed the new boundaries approved in Union County and approved in Lincoln County as accurate. He added that the Iredell County boundary is fairly solid at this point but not yet endorsed by their Board of Commissioners. The Cabarrus-Rowan boundary is not changing; Gaston County boundary has changed to take in parts of Cleveland County, namely Kings Mountain; RFATS boundary is expanding to take a small part of the Gastonia Urban Area and also parts of the Charlotte urbanized area in York and Lancaster Counties. Mr. Cook added that MUMPO has endorsed its own boundary as well, though it is not formally adopted but that should probably occur in January, 2013.

Mr. Cook stated that in regards to their MOU, MUMPO is in the process of rewriting it and has formed a MOU subcommittee. Mr. Graham stated that GUAMPO hasn't set up a MOU subcommittee as yet but will do so. Ms. Stoogenke stated that RRPO will be doing some minor tweaking on their MOU.

6. Regional Freight Study Open House, Presenter: Michelle Nance

Ms. Nance stated that in August, NCDOT wanted financial support and endorsement from all four MPOs in order to proceed with the project. The timing was too late to request funding for the MPOs for FY 2012-2012 so it was decided to put funding into the MPO's UPWPs. The problem that arose from that was that the MPOs' LRTPs were due before this stage was complete. In order to fill the gap, the MPOs met and discussed how to get private sector freight mobility input into the LRTPs and still be able to complete their work. Ms. Nance stated that there will be two open houses – the first one will be on November 27, 2012 and the second will be in the Spring 2013. The

logistics still need to be worked out but at least MPO/RPO members and staff have the date for their calendars with an awareness of the process.

Ms. Barren added that federal guidance for federal freight requirements regarding Map 21 came out yesterday in the Federal Register and they are available for a 30 day public comment period until November 15, 2012 with particular guidance surrounding the State Freight Plans, the State Advisory Committee, and the ways funding will be distributed.

7. North Carolina Ethics Act Amendments, Presenter: Hank Graham

Mr. Graham reviewed the North Carolina Ethics Act Amendment and discussed the requirements of the MPOs/ RPOs TCC and TAC Primary and Alternate members as well as staff members to participate in submitting personal financial disclosure statements and the requirement for attendance at regional compliance ethics training.

Mr. Graham stated that so far, one TAC representative from GUAMPO had resigned citing that his personal financial disclosure statement that becomes part of the public record is an invasion into his privacy.

Mr. Alavi stated that in 2013, the General Assembly will discuss whether TCC members will be required to submit personal financial disclosure statements.

8. Garden Parkway and Monroe Connector Updates, Presenters: Jamal Alavi and Bob Clay

Because of the litigation involved, Mr. Alavi could not comment on the status of the Garden Parkway but nonetheless stated that NCDOT/NCTA is confident in resolving the matter in court. For the Monroe Connector Project, NCDOT is addressing the legal issues raised by the court. Mr. Clay added that litigation has caused great delays in the project process. These projects have been funded by the State Legislature and until further notice, these projects are still funded. He felt that these projects may not be generally understood at the public level.

Mr. Coxe stated that tolls are another way to finance a road project. He wondered if the usage and maintenance of a toll road over decades would insure a return on investment and what is the affect of these roads on the environment with current and future infrastructure use. Ms. Hunter added that these are the concerns of the Southern Environmental Law Center – the reality of the input of these roads still needs to be addressed. A brief discussion ensued.

9. Other Business

NCDOT 2040 LRTP Implementation (Handout only)

SPOT 3.0 Prioritization (Handout only)

Executive Committee Meeting (November 1, 2012)

Next Meeting: January 2013 hosted by CRMPO

10. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 2:00 pm.