

**CRAFT Technical Committee**  
**Meeting Notes**  
**July 23, 2013**

Attendees: Dana Stoogenke, Rocky River RPO; Bjorn Hansen, Centralina COG; Hank Graham, Gaston MPO; Bernie Yacobucci, Gaston MPO; Taylor Marcantel, Gaston MPO; Greg Long, Gaston MPO; Robby Moody, Catawba COG; Randy Imler, Catawba COG; Jack Flaherty, NCDOT; Michelle Nance, Centralina COG; Tim Gibbs, CDOT; Bob Cook, MUMPO; Stuart Basham, MUMPO; Nick Landa, MUMPO; Allison Love, York County; Phil Leazer, York County; William Long (RFATS); and David Hooper (RFATS).

1. David Hooper from RFATS began the meeting at 10:05 AM and welcomed everyone in attendance.
2. Mr. Hooper asked if there were any corrections, additions and / or deletions to the April 23, 2013 minutes. Hearing none, Ms. Stoogenke made a motion to approve the minutes as presented; Mr. Hansen seconded the motion. The minutes were approved.
3. **MPO Boundaries:** Mr. Graham highlighted the new boundaries for the MPOs and RPOs, and then pointed out some of the more notable changes in the region. Staff discussion then followed with the understanding that with MUMPO and GUAMPO in the final stages of completing their updated MOU's – that September would be a reasonable timeframe to expect completion of remaining tasks.
4. **Pennies for Progress Projects: NC / SC Connection Points:** Mr. Leazer provided an overview of the Pennies Program; recent accomplishments; and a short list of projects that are located at important crossover points at the Stateline. In particular, scheduled work on Carowinds Boulevard; SC 160; and Regent Parkway / Dorman Road – were highlighted.

In discussing likely impacts in North Carolina, Mr. Landa stated that planning for such improvements is important and then noted that MUMPO utilizes a two-tiered project evaluation system – whereby the first tier filters projects quantitatively based on existing conditions and the second tier considers a number of broader variables. For example, environmental conditions, community impacts, future projections, and connectivity. Against this backdrop, Mr. Landa noted that the Carowinds Blvd and Dorman Road projects were submitted, but did not move past the tier one evaluation. Mr. Landa then noted that the work on SC 160 has been advanced to the second tier, but has not been ranked yet.

Mr. Cook stated that it may be helpful for RFATS and / or York County to send official correspondence regarding the importance of these projects. Additionally, it was suggested that inviting Mr. Leazer to make a presentation to the MUMPO Policy Committee might be appropriate as well. Mr. Hooper then asked about the status of the Garden Parkway? In response, Mr. Graham stated that this project continues to be on hold pending the outcome of current legal action. That said, Mr. Graham also noted that the funding match for this project is no longer available; as such, this project is not expected to be on their final project list this MTP update cycle.

5. **CONNECT Project Update:** Ms. Nance presented an overview of the RealityCheck 2050 event and noted that the Charlotte region was the largest to undertake this type of planning session. In reviewing the results of this exercise, Ms. Nance stated that four basic land use patterns were evident: (1) dispersed; (2) corridor growth; (3) compact central urban development; and (4) multiple centers.

Ms. Nance then mentioned that the Urban Land Institute and Kimley-Horn will be presenting the latest data on this initiative to area elected officials on July 30, 2013. Looking a little further ahead, Ms. Nance noted that the next phase of activity includes 48 workshops sharing and seeking input on the RealityCheck process and other supporting information / data. These workshops are slated to be held in September and October 2013. Lastly, Ms. Nance said that pamphlets with summary information by county are available for review and distribution.

6. **Title VI Discussion: Training / Planning Needs:** Mr. Hooper mentioned that during agenda development, it was noted that a recent presentation by NCDOT had provided good information on how to properly structure and implement Title VI program requirements, but that perhaps a follow-up presentation to CRAFT might be a helpful addition to everyone's base of knowledge as well as a more focused opportunity for questions / discussion. In addition, Mr. Cook indicated that receiving guidance on other components of Title VI compliance, such as the allocation of planning funds to local jurisdictions could also be reviewed. Staff discussion followed with the understanding that a joint training session with Shantray Dickens (NCDOT) and Alex Nelson (SCDOT), should be set for the next CRAFT meeting on Tuesday, October 22<sup>nd</sup>.
7. **Other Items:** Following up on a discussion item from the April meeting, Mr. Hansen stated that everyone understands the importance of meeting local public agency (LPA) requirements; and that, it would be helpful to establish a consultative process whereby the MPOs and RPOs could meet with the applicable DOT staff to periodically touch base and hopefully avoid and/or minimize the potential for communication problems. With this in mind, Ms. Stoogenke suggested that sending a formal request through CRAFT might be the appropriate route to take.

From a programmatic standpoint, Mr. Hooper noted that a structured format is needed to ensure that the right type of pre-planning occurs – especially related to project development and budgeting. Specifically, Mr. Hooper noted that LPA project administration involves more than just procedural compliance, but interpretative judgments that may be made by the DOT (assuming they're selected to serve as the LPA) regarding a project's scope after initial funding has been awarded. Staff discussion followed with the understanding that Mr. Hansen would prepare a draft resolution for everyone's review.

8. **Next Meeting:** The next meeting will be on October 22, 2013, hosted by MUMPO. The Executive meeting will be moved to February.
9. **Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 11:55 AM.