

### Strategic Mobility Formula

Also referred to as the Strategic Transportation Investment, the Strategic Mobility Formula (introduced as House Bill 817 on April 29) quickly moved through the NC House and Senate and was passed by the House on Wednesday, June 19. The legislation now awaits the Governor's signature, and if signed, will change the way transportation investments in North Carolina have been made since 1989. Instead of an equity formula that has historically distributed federal funds to each division of the NC Department of Transportation, the Strategic Mobility Formula will distribute funds based on three broad categories of investment – Statewide Mobility, Regional Impacts and Division Needs – using a heavily data-driven process. The quantitative evaluation process is being developed by the Strategic Planning Office of Transportation (SPOT), and vetted by a workgroup of various stakeholders, which includes MPO representation. Some significant impacts of the new legislation include public transit projects not being eligible for funding in the Statewide Mobility category, standalone bicycle and pedestrian projects not being eligible for State funding in any category, and phasing out Powell Bill funds.

### Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) Update

Federal transportation legislation refers to a Metropolitan Planning Organization's long range plan as the Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP). In addition, most of the MPOs in North Carolina also refer to their long range plans as MTPs. To maintain consistency with federal and state practices, MUMPO will officially refer to its next plan as the 2040 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (or MTP), and will no longer use the LRTP terminology. Other updates regarding the development of the 2040 LRTP/MTP include endorsement of the following: Goals & Objectives, financial plan assumptions, and a roadway project ranking criteria that will be used to evaluate candidate projects for inclusion in the Plan.

In addition to the activities highlighted above, there will be opportunities to learn more about the plan update process and provide comments at the following three public meetings that have been scheduled in the month of June:

#### MUMPO Leadership

##### MPO Chair

**Sarah McAulay**  
 Town of Huntersville

##### MPO Vice-Chair

**Brad Horvath**  
 Village of Wesley Chapel

##### TCC Chair

**Danny Pleasant**  
 City of Charlotte  
 Department of Transportation

##### TCC Vice-Chair

**Joe Lesch**  
 Union County  
 Department of Transportation

#### Upcoming Meetings

MPO – July 17, 2013

MPO – August 21, 2013

MPO – September 18, 2013

#### **Monday June 24, 2013**

4:00-6:00 PM  
 Stallings Civic Building  
 323 Stallings Rd  
 Stallings, NC 28104

#### **Wednesday June 26, 2013**

4:00-6:00PM  
 Charlotte-Mecklenburg Government  
 Center  
 600 East 4th St, Room 266  
 Charlotte, NC 28202

#### **Thursday June 27, 2013**

4:00-6:00 PM  
 Charles Mack Citizen Center  
 215 N. Main St, Merchant Room  
 Mooresville, NC 28115

Updates on the progress of the LRTP/MTP update can be found on the MUMPO website at [www.mumpo.org](http://www.mumpo.org).

## Contact

**(704) 336-2205**

If you know anyone who would like to be added to our mailing list, please e-mail us

**[info@mumpo.org](mailto:info@mumpo.org)**

## Website

Please visit our website for more information

**[www.mumpo.org](http://www.mumpo.org)**

## MUMPO Members

*Charlotte*

*Cornelius*

*Davidson*

*Huntersville*

*Indian Trail*

*Matthews*

*Mecklenburg County*

*Mint Hill*

*Monroe*

*NCDOT*

*Pineville*

*Stallings*

*Union County*

*Waxhaw*

*Weddington*

*Wesley Chapel*

*Wingate*

## Next newsletter

***Jul – Sept 2013***

## **I-77 High Occupancy Toll (HOT) Lanes Update**

At its meeting on May 22, 2013, the MPO took action to amend its 2012-2018 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and 2035 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP), to include a

managed lanes project on I-77 north from I-277 (Brookshire Freeway) in Charlotte to approximately Brawley School Road (Exit 35) in Mooresville. The amended project includes two (2) high occupancy toll (HOT) lanes from I-277 to Catawba Avenue (Exit 28) in Cornelius, and one (1) HOT lane in each direction from Exit 28 across Lake Norman to Exit 35 in Mooresville. It is anticipated that the public funding identified for the project would be used to leverage a combination of federal loans and private funds in order to deliver the project as a public-private partnership (P3).



## **Recent MPO Actions**

*In other MPO-related news, the MPO board has recently taken the following actions:*

### **Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) revisions endorsed**

The MOU subcommittee of the MPO has worked diligently over the past several months to make changes to the MOU based on the expansion of the MPO's planning area boundary. Much progress has been made, and several recommendations of the MOU subcommittee regarding voting, local match, membership, etc. were endorsed by the MPO at its June 19 meeting.

### **FY 2014 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) approved**

The UPWP is adopted annually in accordance with joint Federal Highway Administration/Federal Transit Administration (FHWA/FTA) transportation planning guidelines. The UPWP describes the planning activities that are anticipated for the coming fiscal year and documents the allocation of state and federal funds associated with each planning activity.

### **MPO successfully demonstrates conformity to new 2008 Ozone Standard**

In 2012 the National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS) for 8-hour ozone was revised to reflect improved scientific understanding of the health impacts of the ozone pollutant. This is known as the 2008, 8-hour ozone NAAQS. Effective July 20, 2012, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) declared the Charlotte area as being "marginal nonattainment" for the 2008 8-hour NAAQS. As such, federal regulations require the MPO to demonstrate that its current plans and programs conform to the new standard.