

CHARLOTTE REGIONAL ALLIANCE FOR TRANSPORTATION

Technical Committee Meeting January 17, 2012 Charles Mack Citizens Center Mooresville, NC

Meeting Minutes

The January 17, 2012 meeting of the CRAFT Technical Committee was called to order at 10:10 AM.

Present

Stuart Basham	MUMPO	Dana Stoogenke	Rocky River RPO
Phil Conrad	CRMPO	Michelle Nance	Gastonia
Bob Cook	MUMPO	Neil Burke	Mooresville
Bill Duston	Centralina COG	Willie King	Gaston County
Andy Grzynski	CDOT	Jamal Alavi	NCDOT-TPB
Bjorn Hansen	Lake Norman RPO	David Keilson	NCDOT-TPB
Wendy Bell	CRCOG	Bill Coxe	Huntersville
Danny Pleasant	CDOT		
Nick Polimeni	MUMPO		

1. Welcome & Introductions

Bjorn Hansen welcomed everyone to the meeting. Mr. Hansen introduced himself and thanked the Town of Mooresville for providing the meeting space at the Citizens Center.

2. Approval of October 18, 2011 Minutes

The minutes of the October 18, 2011 Technical Committee meeting were presented for approval. Mr. Cook made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Mr. Conrad seconded and the minutes were approved.

3. Regional Freight Mobility Plan Update

Mr. Hansen provided an update of the Freight Mobility Plan. He explained that there would be two open houses in the next few weeks where the public would be invited to provide input into what issues are important to address in a plan for the region. The invitations for these meetings recently went out, and the stakeholders committee would meet the following day to review the boards for the open houses before they are printed. Mr. Alavi asked whether the Statewide Model would be referenced in the study. Mr. Hansen said he was not familiar with the Model. Mr. Alavi said it was being developed for the entire state and would produce traffic projections for the entire state. Mr. Hansen said it could be referenced as a part of the plan development. Mr. Grzynski asked for a presentation of the Model at the next meeting. Mr. Cook asked whether an MPO funding formula had been developed to help pay for the Plan. Mr. Conrad asked whether private firms had been contacted to pay for it. Mr. Hansen said the MPOs had not been asked for specific funding amounts since he knew funding levels have been flat for some time, and

that no firms have been specifically asked for money, although all communication has consistently expressed a desire for both public and private funding of the plan. Ms. Bell said the SCDOT was willing to provide data and in-kind support but was unable to fiscally participate. There was no action taken.

4. Discussion of Urban Area Criteria

Mr. Cook presented a set of maps depicting the 2000 urban areas for the region, as well as potential 2010 urban areas based on new census methodology. He said that he has no requests for action, but rather wanted to stimulate conversation on the implications of the new boundaries, which would be distributed by the Census Bureau later in the spring. The group did not know whether urban areas being redesignated by the Census methodology would be required to switch MPOs. The group felt the CRAFT Executive Committee would be the appropriate group to meet and review the issue, likely in the summer of 2012. The MPO and RPO associations could discuss this, along with any statewide NCDOT policy, at their upcoming quarterly meetings. Mr. Alavi said that regardless of any inter-local agreement regarding planning boundaries, the NCDOT would distribute funding based on the Urban Area population as defined by the Census. Mr. Pleasant then explained the process for approving any new study area boundaries. There was no action taken.

5. Centralina Mobility Management Project Update

Mr. Hansen announced that the Centralina COG had been awarded approximately \$198,000 by the NCDOT to develop a mobility management arrangement for the region. Mobility management would address demand-response transportation for the elderly and disabled, particularly for those trips crossing county lines. The project would take 18 months, and would identify an arrangement that helps the area demand response systems and related agencies provide more service in the face of flat or declining revenues. This is necessary due to demands for a brokerage system for Medicare-related trips. Ms. Bell said that the brokerage experience in South Carolina was that private providers underbid the cost to provide trips and then are unable to provide the service proposed, resulting in additional work by the existing systems. Mr. Hansen said he had read of this in other states as well. There was no action taken.

6. HUD Sustainability Project Overview

Mr. Duston explained that the Centralina COG had been awarded a grant from HUD to conduct blueprinting for the region, as well as to explore various scenarios for growth impacts in the region. This three-year project will begin in February, and currently is being led by Vicki Bott, although a permanent project coordinator is currently in the process of being hired. There was no action taken.

7. NCDENR Division of Air Quality Public Input Sessions

Mr. Conrad stated that the DAQ would hold two public open houses on January 18 to solicit input on the Ozone non-attainment boundaries for the area. They would be accepting comments until February 10, and are currently considering slight modifications to the non-attainment boundary. Ms. Bell said South Carolina was still on record

supporting the removal of the portion of York County currently in the non-attainment area. There was no action taken.

8. Next Meeting

The next Technical Committee will be held on Tuesday, April 17, 2012, and will be hosted by the Gaston MPO.

9. Adjournment

The meeting concluded at 11:50 AM.