

**Lumber River Rural Transportation Planning Organization
Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC)
Monday, January 23, 2023
12:00 noon**

TAC MEMBERS PRESENT

Hoke County:	Commissioner Harry Southerland
Richmond County:	Mayor Bill Bayless and Councilman Jeff Smart
Robeson County:	Commissioner Faline Dial; Councilman Leroy Rising; Commissioner John Cummings
Scotland County:	Commissioner Mary Jo Adams
NCDOT Board Member	Grady Hunt

TAC MEMBERS ABSENT

Robeson County	Commissioner Tom Taylor; Mayor Elbert Gibson
Richmond County:	None
Scotland County:	Commissioner Tim Ivey
NCDOT Board Member	None

COG STAFF PRESENT

Janet Robertson, LRCOG RPO Coordinator; Sonya Johnson, Clerk to Board

OTHERS PRESENT

Darius Sturdivant, NCDOT Div. 6 Planning Engineer; Bryan Kluchar, NCDOT Div. 8 Planning Engineer; Kathy Vollert, NCDOT Div. 8 Corridor Development Engineer; Brice Bell, Div. 6, District 1 Engineer; Matthew Kitchen, Div. 8, District 2 Engineer; Bill Hammond, NCDOT Div. 6 Corridor Development Engineer; Behshad Norowski; NCDOT-TPD; Katie Smith, representative from Congressman Rouzer's office.

WELCOME AND READING OF ETHICS AWARENESS REMINDER/ PUBLIC COMMENTS

The roll was called; a quorum was present. Chairperson Faline Dial called the meeting to order and read the Ethics Awareness and Conflict of Interest Reminder. She asked for Public Comments; there was no one present to speak.

CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES FROM MAY 23, 2022 TAC MINUTES

Ms. Mary Jo Adams made a motion, seconded by Mr. Bill Bayless to approve the November 28, 2022 TAC minutes as presented. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

Draft 2023-24 Planning Work Program

Ms. Janet Robertson reviewed the draft PWP for the RPO's activities for the upcoming fiscal year. The funding level of \$140,300 is the same as the current fiscal year. She advised that if any jurisdiction would like to propose a study in its area that she would need to know as soon as possible. The draft PWP is due to NCDOT by February 28, 2023; she would need to include any changes the draft before submitting to NCDOT. Ms. Robertson informed the Committee that the TCC had recommended approval of the draft PWP at their last meeting.

Ms. Mary Jo Adams made a motion, seconded by Mr. Bill Bayless to approve the FY24 Draft PWP as presented. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

Draft 2024-2033 STIP - Flexibility Option

Ms. Robertson advised the Committee that as a result of additional funding, the Draft 2024-2033 STIP was reprogrammed in August. Three projects in the Lumber River RPO that had lost all funding in the Draft that was released in April have now been funded in this reprogrammed STIP. The TAC needed to decide if it would swap any project that received funding in the 2024-2033 STIP Draft with projects that did not receive funding. All project swaps must be agreed to by NCDOT and the RPO with documentation of the agreement provided by March 17, 2023. At the January TCC meeting, the TCC recommended that the RPO not swap any projects.

Mr. Bill Bayless made a motion, seconded by Mary Jo Adams that no swaps be made to the Draft 2024-2033 STIP. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

Prioritization 7.0 Update

Ms. Robertson advised that the process of submitting and prioritizing projects for the next STIP (2026-2035) had begun. The SPOT Workgroup began meeting in October to identify any updates and changes needed for P7.0. She stated that the Project Submittal window will be open July 2023 through September 2023. She informed the committee that now was the time to start thinking about new projects. She also stated that because the P6.0 process was not completed and no new projects will be funded in the 2024-2033 STIP, projects that were submitted in P6.0 will probably have to be resubmitted to be considered. She communicated that a meeting will be scheduled in each County to solicit new projects.

Informational purposes only. No action taken

NCDOT AND STAFF REPORTS

NC Board of Transportation Members

Mr. Grady Hunt discussed the NC Transportation Summit that was held in January 2023 and advised that at the last NCDOT Board Meeting, they were informed that all projects were coming in under the estimated budget. Mr. Hunt also gave an update on current NCDOT Projects.

NCDOT Division 6

Mr. Darius Sturdivant discussed the status of current projects in Division 6, highlighting the I-95 widening projects.

NCDOT Division 8

Mr. Bryan Kluchar gave an update on current projects in Division 8.

NCDOT Transportation Planning Division

Mr. Behshad Norowski discussed the newsletter from the Transportation Planning Division, highlighting the work being done on the Robeson County CTP.

RPO Coordinator

- Carbon Reduction Program

Ms. Robertson discussed the Carbon Reduction Programs that was presented at the November TAC meeting. She advised that entities should apply through the RPO and that when the Pre-application form is submitted to her, she will share it with NCDOT to determine if the project might be eligible or if the application can be improved. Completed applications for the first round of funding should be submitted to the RPO by February 20, 2022. She noted that there is a 20% local match required and that it is a reimbursement program which means that the local entity will pay for all project costs upfront and then invoice NCDOT for 80% reimbursement.

- The Ethics filing deadline is April 17, 2023.

New Business

Ms. Robertson introduced Ms. Katie Smith, representative from Congressman David Rouzer's office.

CLOSING COMMENTS AND ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Approved by the TAC on March 27 2023