

**Lumber River Rural Transportation Planning Organization
Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC)
Monday, March 27, 2023
12:00 noon**

TAC MEMBERS PRESENT

Richmond County:	Mayor Bill Bayless
Robeson County:	Commissioner Faline Dial; Commissioner John Cummings; Commissioner Tom Taylor; Mayor Elbert Gibson
Scotland County:	Commissioner Mary Jo Adams
NCDOT Board Member	Lisa Mathis

TAC MEMBERS ABSENT

Hoke County:	Commissioner Harry Southerland
Richmond County:	Commissioner Jeff Smart
Robeson County	Councilman Leroy Rising
Scotland County:	Commissioner Tim Ivey
NCDOT Board Member	Grady Hunt

COG STAFF PRESENT

Janet Robertson, LRCOG RPO Coordinator; Noor Shehata, Lead for NC Fellow

OTHERS PRESENT

Drew Cox, NCDOT Division 6 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; Sangwoo 'Marty' Sung, NCDOT-TPD; Terry Arellano, NCDOT Corridor Development Unit Manager; NCDOT-TPD; Kim Nguyen, NCDOT Multimodal Regional Planner-Coastal Plains; Katie Smith, representative from Congressman Rouzer's office; Jay Britt, TCC Member- Robeson County

WELCOME, ROLL CALL, 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; no one identified a conflict. She asked for Public Comments; there was no one present to speak.

CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES FROM JANUARY 23, 2023

Mr. Tom Taylor made a motion, seconded by Mr. Elbert Gibson to approve the January 23, 2023 TAC minutes as presented. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

Presentation: STI Prioritization and Programming Process

Kathy Vollert, Division 8 Corridor Development Engineer discussed the 2013 Strategic Transportation Investments Law and the resulting Scoring and Prioritization Process. We have gone through several rounds of prioritization since 2013, and are now in the beginning of Prioritization 7.0 (P7).

Bill Hammond, Division 6 Corridor Development Engineer discussed the State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) and how it is programmed. The Draft 2024-2033 STIP is expected to be adopted in June 2023. The 2026-2035 STIP will be developed from the P7 process.

Carryover Projects for Prioritization 7.0 that are to be Selected from Projects that were Submitted for the First Time in Prioritization 6.0

The P6 prioritization process was cancelled and none of the projects submitted in P6 will be funded in the Final 2024-2033 STIP. The RPO is allowed to "carry over" two projects that were submitted for the first time in P6 into the P7 process. These Carryovers will not be counted against our allotment of submittals for P7. NCDOT automatically identified the two highway projects with the highest quantitative scores that were submitted by the RPO as the Carryovers. The RPO needs to decide if it wants to accept the identified projects or if it wants to select one or more different New P6.0 projects. At its March 15th meeting, the TCC recommended accepting the two highway projects identified by NCDOT.

Mr. Tom Taylor made a motion seconded by Ms. Lisa Mathis to approve the two highest scoring RPO submitted highway projects identified by the NCDOT (H190837 and H191677) as the Carryovers.

Project Submittals for Prioritization 7.0

The period for the RPO to submit projects to be considered for the next STIP (2026-35) opens in July 2023 and closes at the end of September 2023. The Lumber River RPO will be allotted 23 project submittals in each transportation mode. Because the P6 process was not completed, projects that were submitted in P6 (shown in Attachment 2) must be resubmitted to be considered in P7. In addition, now is the time to determine if any “brand new” projects should be submitted. A meeting for the public and all jurisdictions will be scheduled in each County in either April or May to solicit new projects as well as consider if any P6 projects should be resubmitted. Potential project submittals will be discussed at the May and July meetings and the Project Submittal List will need to be approved at the July or September meeting.

Information only. No action was taken.

NCDOT AND STAFF REPORTS

NC Board of Transportation Members

Mr. Lisa Mathis discussed the NC Clean Transportation Plan, which is the State’s coordinated strategy to rapidly decarbonize the transportation sector. The Plan recommends strategies to encourage transition to zero emission vehicles, to ensure that electric vehicle charging stations and other clean transportation infrastructure is in place, to seek equitable access to clean mobility options, and to improve investment in clean transportation. These efforts will improve travel efficiency and reduce greenhouse gas emissions. The plan was developed with diverse stakeholders over a one-year period. The draft plan was released on March 1, 2023, followed by a public comment period and robust public outreach. The final plan is due on April 7, 2023.

NCDOT continues to hold Disadvantaged Business Enterprise meetings to help small businesses and those held by women and minorities to learn about working with NCDOT. For more information, go to [NCDOT.gov](https://www.ncdot.gov) and search “DBE Outreach.”

The Spring Litter Sweep is April 15-29. Volunteers will be furnished with clean-up supplies, which can be obtained from the NCDOT County Maintenance Yard offices.

DMV offices will be offering more walk-in opportunities. Beginning May 1st, appointments will be limited to the morning. In addition, five additional offices will open at 7:00 a.m., which will total 40 offices opening early.

NCDOT Division 6

Mr. Bill Hammond discussed the status of current projects in Division 6, highlighting the I-295 and 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 that is being done on the Robeson County CTP. VHB Consultants will be providing Health Equity Technical Assistance for the Robeson County CTP this summer.

RPO Coordinator

Ms. Robertson reminded members that the Ethics filing deadline is April 17, 2023 and urged anyone having problems filing to contact her. Attachment 6 contains an Ethics Newsletter with the link to file on line.

New Business

None

CLOSING COMMENTS AND ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Minutes Approved by the TAC on 5/22/23