

# UPPER COASTAL PLAIN RURAL PLANNING ORGANIZATION

January 27, 2016

## RPO Transportation Advisory Committee Minutes

### Attendance

#### TAC

Kenneth Jones, Wilson's Mills  
Cheryl Oliver, Selma  
Brent Wooten, Pinetops  
Derrick Creech, City of Wilson  
Ted Godwin, Johnston  
Lu Harvey Lewis, Middlesex  
Wayne Outlaw, Nash  
Ron McCormick, Saratoga  
Logan Liles, City of Wilson

#### NCDOT

Jimmy Eatmon, NCDOT  
Tobline Thigpen, TPB

#### UCPRPO

James Salmons

#### Other

Erin King, Town of Benson  
Mary Marlin, UCPCOG

### Introduction

- Welcome & Introductions – Cheryl Oliver – TAC Chair*  
TAC Chair Mrs. Cheryl Oliver (Selma) called the meeting to order. Mrs. Oliver welcomed and thanked everyone for attending the meeting. She then introduced and welcomed Mr. Brent Wooten as a new member from Pinetops.
- Mrs. Oliver asked everyone to review the agenda and asked if there were any additions or changes requested by the members. Mrs. Oliver (Selma) made a request to add one action item for a Resolution of Support for the CSX CXX project for discussion and approval. **UPON A MOTION** by Kenneth Jones (Wilson's Mills), second by Ted Godwin (Johnston) the modified agenda was approved. Mrs. Oliver then asked if any members have a conflict of interest on any of the items on the agenda. There were no members with a conflict.
- Minutes – September 23, 2016*  
After reviewing the Minutes for the September 23, 2016 meeting and **UPON A MOTION** by Logan Liles (City of Wilson), second by Kenneth Jones (Wilson's Mills) they were unanimously approved.

### Action Items

- Resolution of Support for the Town of Benson's Bike/Pedestrian Planning Grant Application*  
Mr. Salmons explained the proposed resolution was in support of a Bike/Pedestrian Planning Grant application submitted by the Town of Benson and asked the members for their support. **UPON A MOTION** by Kenneth Mills (Wilson's Mills), second by Brent Wooten (Pinetops) the Resolution to support the Town of Benson's Bike/Pedestrian Grant Application was unanimously approved.
- Resolution to Participate in Activities of the Highway 17/64 Association*  
Mr. Salmons reported that the Hwy 17 Association has included the US 64 Corridor into their efforts to support and promote. Due to this effort some UCPRPO members have elected to become members of the Association. Therefore it was requested that the UCPRPO participate in activities in support of the Hwy 17/64 Association. Mr. Ted Godwin asked if the Hwy 17/64 Association was similar to the US 70 Commission and Mr. Salmons stated that it was similar. Mr. Salmons reported that the Association has been in existence for seven to nine years. **UPON A MOTION** by Ted Godwin

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(Johnston), second by Wayne Outlaw (Nash) the Resolution to Participate in Activities of the Hwy 17/64 Association was unanimously approved.

3. *Resolution of Support for a US 70 Feasibility Study*

Mr. Salmons reported that Division 4 had contacted the UCPRPO to request a Resolution of Support for a Feasibility Study for US 70 from I-95 in Johnston County to the Wayne County line. He explained that the same corridor was listed as a priority corridor in the latest Federal Transportation Bill (FAST Act). **UPON A MOTION** by Kenneth Jones (Wilson's Mills), second by Lu Harvey Lewis (Middlesex) the Resolution to support a Feasibility Study along the US 70 was unanimously approved.

4. *Adoption of STI P4.0 Methodology*

Mr. Salmons reported that as part of the STI P4.0 prioritization, the TAC must adopt a Methodology describing the process on how projects will be prioritized. He explained the proposed Methodology is generally the same as the P3.0 Methodology with only minor typo and date modifications. He also stated that the SPOT Methodology Committee has tentatively approved the Methodology. It was explained that the allocation of points will be completed in two separate rounds; once for Regional points (for Regional projects only) and then again later for Division points which may contain both Regional and Divisional projects. **UPON A MOTION** by Kenneth Jones (Wilson's Mills), second by Ted Godwin (Johnston) the STI P4.0 Methodology was unanimously approved.

5. *Adoption/Approval of Nash County CTP Update*

Members were provided with the proposed three changes to the Nash County CTP. The first being upgrading US 64 to Interstate Standards through the County, second being modernizing the NC 43 corridor between Rocky Mount and Red Oak to include sidewalks and bike lanes, and the last being a minor update to correct locations of existing sidewalks within Middlesex. **UPON A MOTION** by Lu Harvey Lewis (Middlesex), second by Wayne Outlaw (Nash) the Nash County CTP Proposed Updates was unanimously approved.

6. *Resolution of Support for the Carolina Connector Intermodal Rail Terminal (CXX) Project*

Mr. Salmons introduced the proposed Resolution in Support for the Carolina Connector Intermodal Rail Terminal. Mrs. Oliver (Selma) stated that she believed the proposed Resolution would show support for rail transportation in eastern North Carolina as a whole. Mr. Ted Godwin (Johnston) stated that he believed the project could be great for the Selma area, eastern Johnston County, and could also be a key component to Edgecombe and Nash Counties. He stated it would be good to keep it within eastern North Carolina. Mr. Kenneth Jones (Wilson's Mills) stated that the project could be a big benefit to the area and could bring needed jobs. Mrs. Oliver stated that all of eastern North Carolina would benefit if the project were developed anywhere along I-95 in North Carolina. Mr. Wayne Outlaw (Nash) recommended that the Resolution of Support include all of the Counties located within the Upper Coastal Plain Rural Planning Organization including Edgecombe, Johnston, Nash, and/or Wilson Counties. After further discussion and modifying the proposed Resolution to include, "within the Upper Coastal Plain rural Planning Organization's Planning area, which includes Edgecombe, Johnston, Nash, and Wilson Counties" and **UPON A MOTION** by Ted Godwin (Johnston), second by Kenneth Jones (Wilson's Mills) the Resolution of Support for the Carolina Connector Intermodal Rail Terminal (CXX) Project was unanimously approved.

### New Business

7. *Consider upcoming FY1617 CTP needs*

Mr. Salmons reported that there were no anticipated CTP updates planned for FY1617.

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### Other Business

#### 8. *UCPRPO STI P4.0 Project Prioritization Process*

Mr. Salmons asked members to refer to the STI P4 calendar provided with the Agenda. He explained the next step is to wait for NCDOT SPOT to release the data scores by the end of March. After receiving the data scores, UCPRPO staff would be meeting with individual TCC members to determine their priority projects. These priorities will be shared with all members prior to prioritizing. He further explained the members that they would be prioritizing the STI projects in April and May. After which the scoring of the projects will be posted on the UCPRPO web site for a 30-day public review. After the 30-day public review period, the public would be invited to the TAC meeting in May to finalize the UCPRPO point allocations for Regional Projects. Once NCDOT is able to program both the State and Regional projects the UCPRPO TAC would then prioritize the remaining project and allocate its Divisional projects in August and September.

### Other Business

#### 1. *TAC Member Comments*

There were no TAC member comments.

### Report Items

#### 1. *CAMPO Southeast Area Study*

Mr. Salmons reported that the SEAS Core Technical Team (CTT) continues to meet and are in the process of selecting “Hot Spots” for potential detailed study. He reported that the next CTT meeting was scheduled for February 11, 2016.

#### 2. *Legislative/STIP Update*

Mr. Salmons reported that the NC Legislature recently passed the new budget, which provided a few minor changes to the STIP including moving the timetable up for a few projects within the UCPRPO area. He reported that the new 5 year Federal Transportation Bill, the FAST Act was signed by President Obama. Included in the Bill was language, which required the State of North Carolina to move forward with toll road projects within the next year, or the State would lose the authority to toll Interstate roads. There was brief discussion on tolling in North Carolina. Members were informed of the recently NC House Select Committee on Strategic Transportation Planning and Long Term Funding solutions which is scheduled to meet twice a month. Mr. Salmons informed the members that the US 70 Interchange Project Team (W-5600) has a public meeting scheduled for February 2, 2016 from 4pm to 7pm at the Wilson’s Mills Elementary School.

#### 3. *New members and Ethics Reminder*

Members were reminded that the filing deadline for the Statement of Economic Interests and Real Estate Disclosure Forms is April 15, 2016. Mr. Salmons reminded members that there are criminal and civil penalties for non-filing.

#### 2. *NCDOT Division 4*

Mr. Jimmy Eatmon reported the US 70 Interchange Project Team (W-5600) has a public meeting scheduled for February 2, 2016 from 4pm to 7pm at the Wilson’s Mills Elementary School. He also reported that the US 301 detour in Nash County is now open.

#### 3. *NCDOT Planning Branch*

Mr. Salmons stated that Tobline Thigpen was unable to attend but that she had reported that she was preparing to deliver the Nash County CTP maps.

#### 4. *Public Comment*

There was no public comment.

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**Upcoming meeting:**

The next meeting will be held on April 13, 2016.

**UPON A MOTION** from Mr. Kenneth Jones (Wilson's Mills) was made to adjourn with a second motion was made by Mr. Lu Harvey Lewis (Middlesex) and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

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Cheryl Oliver, TAC Chair

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James M. Salmons, UCPRPO Transportation Planner