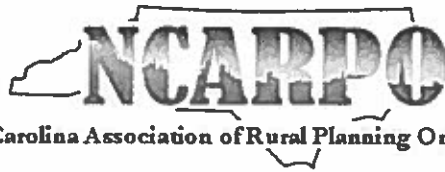


approved at
May 11, 2016
NCARPO meeting
in Greensboro



North Carolina Association of Rural Planning Organizations

NCARPO Business Meeting Minutes

January 29, 2016, 9:30 am, Durham, NC

Attendees

Matt Day

Patrick Flanagan

Dana Stoogenke

Janet Robertson

Lauren Tuttle

Travis Marshall

Patrick Norman

Diane Hampton

Lee Cowhig

Jimmy Eatmon

Justin Oakes

Ben Rogers

James Salmons

Allen Serkin

Ann Stroobant

David Graham

Elizabeth Jernigan

Kelly Larkins

Earlene Thomas

Karyl Fuller

Vicki Eastland

Rose Bauguess

Mike Rutan

James Upchurch

Action Items

Minutes from October 2015 Business Meeting

Matt Day provided a revised version of the draft minutes that included a change that was requested by Ann Stroobant regarding the Transportation Asset Management Plan Committee. Patrick Flanagan made a motion to approve the revised minutes, which was seconded by Dana Stoogenke. The minutes were approved unanimously.

Information and Discussion Items

Transportation Planning Branch Update

Patrick Norman discussed the Strategic Transportation Corridor (STC) proposed priority list, and noted that they plan to move forward with detailed studies on each corridor as funds allow. Kerry Morrow will be the point person on these plans, which will be done using a mixture of TPB staff and consultants.

Dana Stoogenke asked how the CTPs tie together with the STC corridor plans. Patrick Norman replied that it was too early to tell at this point, but the intent is to include all existing plans as part of the corridor vision. He added that US 74 would be the first corridor, and they planned to begin work in Summer 2016.

Patrick Norman noted that Scott Walston would be giving an update to the Board of Transportation next week regarding the CTP 2.0 process. He also noted that a contract was being developed with Cambridge Systematics for the statewide freight plan, and work on the plan should begin soon.

Patrick Norman provided an update on staffing and organizational changes at NCDOT. He noted that the revised TPB org chart and coordinator assignments had been sent out, and that James Upchurch and Pam Cook would now be staff engineers for the eastern and western planning groups. He also noted that Bobby Lewis, Calvin Leggett, and Don Voelker would all be leaving NCDOT soon, and that Alpesh

Patel left sometime in the Fall. He added that there could be additional changes in the Spring, depending on what happens with legislative guidance.

Patrick Norman stated that TPB was working on a "TPB Basics" class for internal use, but that it could be presented to the RPOs as well if there was interest. There was general discussion about the idea of conducting an "RPO 101" class similar to the one done several years ago.

Patrick Flanagan asked that there be consideration of assigning two engineers to work on each CTP. Patrick Norman noted that there were plans underway to test this out.

RPO Update

Travis Marshall reminded everyone to send in their CTP needs lists to Scott Walston, and noted that Q2 invoices are due on February 10.

Patrick Flanagan asked if the Invoice deadline could be pushed back, due to the short turnaround time on reviewing the SPOT spreadsheet that is due by February 5. Travis Marshall and Patrick Norman stated that the deadline would be pushed back to February 17.

Travis Marshall stated that PWP drafts would be due by the end of February, and that final PWPs will be due in May.

Karyl Fuller asked when PWP amendments are due. Earlene Thomas replied that she was not positive, but believed it was the end of May – she noted that we should check the calendar that was sent out previously.

Allen Serkin asked why the RPOs are not allowed to amend our PWPs after July 1, which is typical for budget amendments at COGs and local governments. Earlene Thomas replied that this was due to a contracting issue – the NCDOT Fiscal office will not allow any contract changes after June 15, and in order to allow time for the changes to be processed the RPOs must submit the changes by the end of May.

NCAMPO Update

Jesse Day noted that April 18 is the early bird deadline for MPO Conference registration. He also noted that Chris Lukasina from CAMPO would be presenting to the legislative select committee on transportation on Monday, to educate the members about MPOs. Janet Robertson added that she would be presenting to this committee as well, to speak about the RPOs. Jesse Day noted that NCAMPO would meet next week.

Transit Liaison

Karyl Fuller noted that she was keeping track of issues, but did not have anything major to report.

Vicki Eastland stated that PTD was looking at the possibility of reallocating vehicles between agencies to shift underutilized vehicles to areas that need them.

Karyl Fuller stated that she would like more clarification from PTD on the specific requirements for LCP updates.

Vicki Eastland added that she would like clarification from PTD on whether expansion transit vehicles must be submitted through SPOT even if no state match funding is being requested.

Dana Stoogenke asked Karyl Fuller to follow up with PTD on these, and also get an updated version of the PTD organizational chart.

Future Meetings

May – at the MPO Conference in Greensboro, Wednesday morning

July – somewhere in the Mountains (location TBD)

October – somewhere at the Coast (location TBD)

Committee and Workgroup Reports

CTP 2.0 Committee

Allen Serkin stated that the NCARPO was being asked to set up a subcommittee to look at the issue of considering fiscal realism in the CTP process for rural areas. He also noted that the CTP 2.0 committee was looking at the possibility of using the SPOT tool for CTP project cost estimates.

Matt Day, Patrick Flanagan, James Salmons, and Vicki Eastland volunteered to serve on the fiscal realism subcommittee, with Patrick agreeing to take the lead on organizing the subcommittee. They agreed to bring back a proposal for NCARPO's blessing at the July meeting.

GIS Committee

Karyl Fuller noted that data is available for download from box.com (contact Karyl for the login information). She provided a list of upcoming conferences, including the Bike Summit in Asheville, NADO in Chattanooga in June, TRB Tools of the Trade in Charleston in September, the Transit conference in Asheville in October, GIS-T in Raleigh in April, Southeast ESRI User Group in Charlotte in May, and Free Open Source GIS in Raleigh in May. She also highlighted several training opportunities, including free resources on the ESRI website, low-cost training available through CURISA, and Community Analyst training that Karyl will provide in Winston-Salem.

Allen Serkin noted that David Wasserman told him the GIS layer of SPOT projects should be available "soon." He added that 2014 AADT information is available on the NCDOT website, and 2015 Highway Safety Improvement Program data is available from the Mobility and Safety Unit of NCDOT. 2010-14 high-frequency crash locations are also out, and the Congestion Management unit has a wealth of turning movement data available that is downloadable. He also noted that statewide travel demand

model TAZ data is available from TPB, and that TPB is also working on a GIS database of forecast locations so that you can see where forecasts have been done in the past.

Bike and Pedestrian Committee

Justin Oakes stated that the committee had met to discuss goals for the year, and would be sending out a survey again to get feedback from the RPOs. The committee plans to look at the issues with regard to state match funding, and any other things as directed by the results of the survey.

Dana Stoogenke requested that the committee consider how the county economic tier system could be used as a justification for providing state match funding for projects.

Legislative Committee

Dana Stoogenke stated that this year would be a Short Session, and that as bills are introduced, she will forward the information. She also noted that a new select committee had been established in the House, but it was unclear what would result from this committee. Dana agreed to forward a presentation by Julie White on legislative items of interest.

Other Committee Reports

Matt Day stated that the STI Local Methodology Review Committee had been meeting, and that any RPOs who had not yet submitted their methodologies should do so ASAP. He noted that the Division Engineer methodologies have been reviewed by the committee and are awaiting final approval from Mike Holder and Nick Tennyson, but should come out soon.

Other Business

Rose Bauguess shared the results of a survey on the need for communication/facilitation training for the RPO staff. She stated that there appears to be strong interest, and that she would follow up with Donna Dancausse (FHWA) and Ann White (NCDOT) to see what is possible. Janet Robertson suggested that Rose send out a poll to find a good date for this training.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 11:30 am.