



Technical Coordinating Committee

Meeting Minutes of September 18, 2023

2:00 PM, Greensboro, NC
Zoom Online Virtual Meeting

Attendance

Tyler Meyer	<i>TCC Chair</i>	Alex Rotenberry	<i>NCDOT IMD</i>
Lydia McIntyre	<i>MPO Staff</i>	Elizabeth Jernigan	<i>GSO Parks & Rec</i>
Raunak Mishra	<i>MPO Staff</i>	Jason Geary	<i>GSO E&I</i>
Craig McKinney	<i>MPO Staff</i>	Suzette Morales	<i>FHWA</i>
Yuan Zhou	<i>MPO Staff</i>	Irma Zimmerman	<i>TAMS</i>
Gregory Carlton	<i>MPO Staff</i>	Alex Rosser	<i>PTLA</i>
Mary Harward	<i>MPO Staff</i>	Bruce Adams	<i>GTA</i>
Gray Johnston	<i>MPO Staff</i>	David Pegg	<i>GTA</i>
Tram Truong	<i>MPO Staff</i>	Hanna Cockburn	<i>GDOT Dir.</i>
Mark Kirstner	<i>PART</i>	Nathanael Moore	<i>GDOT St. Maint.</i>
Chad Reimakoski	<i>NCDOT Div. 7</i>		
Chris Spencer	<i>GDOT Eng.</i>		
Deniece Conway	<i>GDOT Eng.</i>		

Tyler Meyer called the meeting to order at approximately 2:00 PM.

Lead Planning Agency: City of Greensboro Department of Transportation

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Introductory Items

1. Orientation to Teams Software

Tyler Meyer welcomed everyone to the September virtual meeting and reviewed how to use the Teams software.

2. Opening Remarks and Roll Call

Craig McKinney took roll call for the public record. TCC members and others identified themselves.

Action Items:

1. August 7, 2023 Meeting Minutes

Tyler Meyer asked if any changes were needed to the minutes. No changes were recommended.

Mark Kirstner moved to approve the minutes. Elizabeth Jernigan seconded. The TCC voted unanimously to approve.

2. 2023 Public Participation Plan Update

Gregory Carlton updated the group on the revisions to the Plan. The revisions provide the TCC and TAC chairs more flexibility in deciding whether to host virtual meetings by allowing individual discretion in setting meeting locations and parameters. Document language was also revised as to be more reader-friendly. Changes were also made to how documents are available, moving towards electronic availability and distribution. This change was open for public comment from August 4, 2023 to September 18, 2023. No public comments were received. It is recommended that the TCC approve the revised public participation plan in order to keep procedures up-to-date. There were no questions from the TCC.

Chris Spencer moved to approve the Public Participation Plan. Jason Geary seconded. The TCC voted unanimously to approve.

3. 2024-2033 MTIP Adoption

Lydia McIntyre was invited to share the details and recommendation for the MTIP Adoption. The MTIP was changed to a 4-year cycle and was created for review on Arc Hub. McIntyre explained that the Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program is a short-range, federally-required document that is a subset of the Statewide Transportation Improvement Program. Projects within the first 5 years of the plan are committed, which means that any projects outside of that window could be reprioritized in the future. The plan had just over 1.1 billion in investment in our area that covers all of the projects. McIntyre then explained the tiers and categories that NCDOT evaluated projects under and the cost breakdown of various projects such as the U-6100 project and U-6108, for which all details can be found on the online hub mentioned earlier in the meeting. McIntyre also reported on the process for the public-outreach periods for said projects, explaining how many were in

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attendance and gave a summary of the comments. It was stated that the community did show support for better bicycle and pedestrian facilities and increased focus on how current facilities are maintained.

McIntyre then stopped and asked if there were any questions. Suzette Morales, FHWA, asked if any of the comments simply did not want any of the projects or if any of the comments were addressed. McIntyre stated that GDOT does a summary response for all of the comments and that it is known that 90 percent of funding goes towards roadway projects. Tram Truong then asked about a specific graph included in the presentation and McIntyre clarified that during the process, the scoring became inverted, and should show that projects scoring a 6 were the most important. It was also mentioned that comments were mainly from a group of bicycle-enthusiasts and while valid in their own right do not represent a statistically valid survey of the overall community attitudes. Alex Rotenberry also asked for clarification of a category in the pie chart in the presentation relating to and Meyer explained that the chart takes the TIP table and sorts it into different sections and categories and is an under-representation of the total investment in said category and is specific to the Greensboro MPO. Meyer stated that each grouping would be unpacked for correctness. Rotenberry also asked to see the breakdown of MPO fund allocation, which Meyer said would be discussed further into the presentation.

Jason Geary moved to approve the minutes. Mark Kirstner seconded. The TCC voted unanimously to approve.

4. MTIP Amendments and Modification: Statewide Projects:

Tram Truong was invited to take the group through action items. Truong stated that the NCDOT has requested the MPO to make amendments to the MTIP by adding 16 statewide projects and adjusting three additional statewide projects. Truong led the group through the description of specific projects and their respective totals of funding including HM-9999: \$14 million, HS-2015: \$5 million, HS-2420: \$51 million, HS-2421: \$90 million, HS-2422: \$50 million, and SM-6215: \$6 million. Three other projects were proposed for amendment and modification including HO-0010B, M-556 and TO-0004. It was mentioned that for HO-0010B, \$74.5 million in CMAQ funding will be allocated. For the M-556 project there will be \$1 million in funds allocated, and for TO-004, \$2.4 million dollars will be allocated.

Meyer thanked Truong for presentation of the statewide projects and asked if there were any questions. There were no questions from the group.

Jason Geary moved to approve. Chris Spencer seconded. The TCC voted unanimously to approve.

5. MTIP Modification: Aviation Projects

Tram Truong presented the next action item of 6 aviation-related transportation projects at the Piedmont Triad International Airport. The first was AV-5701, which will add \$19.5 million in funds for runway modification. AV-5707 will add \$15.4 million in funds for taxiway modification. AV-5715 will add \$9.5 million in funds for runway upgrades. AV-5718 will add \$2.5 million in funds for taxiway modification. AV-5800 will add \$5.5 million in funds for taxiway extension. AV-5802 will add \$9.5 million in funds for a capacity expansion project. The recommendation was made for TCC approval for all aviation projects.

Chris Spencer moved to approve. Jason Geary seconded. The TCC voted unanimously to approve.

6. MTIP Modification: Safety Projects

Tram Truong presented the next action item of three highway safety projects. The first, HS-2007 G, will construct a direction crossover and the Lake View Memorial entrance on US-29 to improve traffic safety and restrict left turns. The second project, HS-2007 I, will be to improve the intersection signal and turn lane at East Gate City Boulevard and the I-40 exit ramp. The amendment is to add 757,000 total funds for utility work in FY '25 and '26. The last project, W-5870 is to improve safety at East Wendover and Summit Avenue ramp terminals. The amendment will shift funds to FY '24. A clarification in discrepancy between what Truong stated and was shown on the presentation was addressed and will be fixed. The recommendation was made for TCCs approval for all aviation projects.

Jason Geary moved to approve. Mark Kirstner seconded. The TCC voted unanimously to approve.

7. MTIP Modification: Rail Projects

Gregory Carlton presented the next action item of an amendment of three rail projects and modification of two other rail projects. Two projects, including P-2918 and P-5719 C, are regional projects. P-2918 improves Amtrak train service by improving equipment and the capital yard maintenance facility. The increased funding, \$8,211,000 to \$9,032,000, has been shifted to FY '24. Project P-5719 C will purchase new passenger rail cars for service on the Piedmont corridor. Cost is estimated at \$184 million dollars. Implementation schedule has shifted to FY '24. Projects P-5709 and Y-4807 B are realignment projects that have funding shifts from fiscal year '23 to fiscal year '24. Project P-5709 is a grade separation project for the Norfolk Southern H line at the Franklin Boulevard crossing in Greensboro. Y-4807-B will close the Pine Street crossing and realign the crossing at Lowdermilk Street and Sykes Avenue. Project RX-2007-C to improve rail crossing safety at Hillcroft Road on the NS mainline situated close to the Urban Loop, shifts funding to FY '24 to allow time for more planning and design.

Meyer updated the group on the description for P-5719 C to fit current projected outcomes, and noted that P-5709 and Y-4807 are on the NCRR while RX-2007 C is on the NS mainline. There were no further questions or comments from the group.

Jason Geary moved to approve. Mark Kirstner seconded. The TCC voted unanimously to approve.

8. MTIP Amendment & Modification: Roadway Projects.

Gregory Carlton presented the next action item of MTIP Amendment and Modifications regarding roadway projects. Carlton walked the group through slides describing projects HL-0046, HL-0047, HL-0048, U-5841, U-5842, U-5892, U-2525-CA, and I-5955. Carlton encouraged all TCC members to look at their packets for further breakdown of cost and project descriptions. Meyer further clarified that HL-0046 included bicycle lanes in its scope of work and that all of the HL- projects are locally administered projects using MPO directed funds previously mentioned.. Carlton recommended that the TCC approve the proposed amendments and modifications.

Chris Spencer moved to approve. Jason Geary seconded. The TCC voted unanimously to approve.

9. MTIP Modification: Pedestrian and Bicycle Projects

Gregory Carlton presented the next action item of MTIP Modifications regarding locally administered pedestrian and bicycle projects. The amendment shifts right of way and/or construction funding from FY '23 to FY '24 to allow for additional time for planning and design phases. Projects BL-0041 (Lake Daniel Greenway, Latham Park Greenway), BL-0042 (Vance Arlington Greenway), EB-5877 (Farmington sidewalks), EB-5878 (Meadowview sidewalks), and U-5532F, U-5532G, U-5532H, and U-5532I (sidewalks at various locations) have construction shift back one year. Projects EB-5985 (Cone Blvd sidewalks) and EB-5877 (Old Battleground sidepath) and EB-5995 (Lawndale sidewalks) have right-of-way and construction shifts

Meyer added spatial details for specific sidewalk projects and noted that for various U projects listed, some of the construction may be moved to FY '25. The recommendation is for the TCC to approve the MTIP modifications. There were no comments from the TCC.

Jason Geary moved to approve. Mark Kirstner seconded. The TCC voted to unanimously approve.

10. Prioritization 7.0 Approval

Lydia McIntyre was invited to lead the group through the Prioritization 7.0 Approval process. McIntyre began by reiterating the prioritization-to-MTIP process steps for 2026 through 2035 and stated that the MPO has gotten an extension on the date of approval to October 27, 2023. McIntyre then lead the group through slides detailing the projects that were submitted, which included projects submitted by the Parks and Recreation department and a wide range from member jurisdictions, excluding Stokesdale. McIntyre distinguished between projects that were resubmitted or automatically carried over from the previous prioritization process and how they fall in line with the maximum number of projects allowed. McIntyre encouraged the TCC again to refer to the hub website for further details on each project and their locations. McIntyre also clarified and expounded on the public review period that was held, which produced 23 public comments by September 12, 2023 after being open for 30 days. A brief overview of the comments was shown and it was noted that most of the comments focused on bicycle and pedestrian projects were sourced from the same public group. The timeline for prioritization approval was laid out as the MPO is in the first phase for identifying projects, and will submit said project list by October 27, 2023.

Meyer asked if there were any questions, and Alex Rotenberry asked if the comments from the P7 public feedback period were included in the TCC packets. Meyer stated that a link to the online website hub was included where all of the documentation for the process can be explored. McIntyre then shared her screen which shows the online website hub with said information. There were no further questions from the TCC. The recommendation is for approval of the prioritization process.

Chris Spencer moved to approve. Jason Geary seconded. The TCC voted to unanimously approve.

11. Funding Recommendation & MTIP Amendment: A&Y Greenway & Lindley Road

Tyler Meyer then discussed three projects for approval. The first is a design phase for the Atlantic and Yadkin Greenway between Hill Street and Rollins Road on a rail banked corridor, which would add design funding so that the project design can start and the project can be brought into shovel ready condition while the MPO and city continue to seek funding to complete the construction funding package. The A&Y Greenway projects scored highly during the P6 quantitative scoring process and was also frequently mentioned as a priority in the MTIP public comment and outreach phase. The

next project will replace the 300-ft trestle bridge over Lake Brandt, hopefully by FY '25. The last project is the Lindley Road Modernization Project, which will add curb and gutter, sidewalks, and bicycle lanes on Lindley Road between Friendly and Market. This project is currently in the property mapping phase. A relatively limited amount of right-of-way is needed and the City will acquire it with local funds to expedite project delivery. Construction funding would be added to FY '24. The recommendation is for TCC recommendation for TAC approval. There were no further questions from the group.

Jason Geary moved to approve. Hanna Cockburn seconded. The TCC voted to unanimously approve.

12. CMAQ Funding Recommendation & FY 2024-2033 MTIP Amendment: New GTA Route 1 Cross Town Service.

Tyler Meyer then discussed the recommendation to add a new project to support the GTA route one and route ten combination, which would result in a new route one. The new route would provide a frequent cross town service connecting East and West Greensboro from the Guilford Technical Community College campus through downtown to UNCG to the commercial zone located at the intersection of Bridford Parkway, Hornaday Road, and Wendover Avenue. The service would operate at 15 minute frequencies, allowing crosstown rides and it would be funded 80% with CMAQ funding (which is the only federal program eligible to support new transit service operating grants). This project is considered a “quick win” under GTA's ongoing long range public transportation plan initiative, which is also called GOBORO and would be a major service enhancement for the riders. The project associated with the area impact by the new route one would help to complete sidewalks on Bridford Parkway, Hornaday Road, Big Tree Way, and Hewitt Street.

Meyer inquired if there were any questions from the group. Rotenberry inquired if this project included shelters, benches, etc. Meyer stated that he didn't know if the project regarding those infrastructure additions were included in this contract. Rotenberry also asked if this route will connect or share some of the same roads that overlap with current GTA routes so perhaps new transfers could be made. Meyer stated that is the case and the route will still go by the depot. The recommendation was for TCC recommendation for TAC approval..

Mark Kirstner moved to approve. Jason Geary seconded. The TCC voted unanimously to approve.

Business Items / Potential Action Item(s):

1. Division 7 Report & Project Updates

Jason Geary gave the project updates. The bid for the Downtown Greenway Phase 4 goes to council the night after this TCC meeting. The general sidewalk improvement that was mentioned previously only had 2 bidders, which triggers a rebid for that project. The Davie Street project will be advertised and started by the end of 2023. The project at Alamance Church Road is on schedule and to be completed by spring 2024. The project on Eugene-Bellemeade has been completed save some hardscape features in the final surface. The second-to-last-project mentioned is the Summit Avenue project, which is completely finished. The last project mentioned is the Greene Street project, which is being finished as quickly as possible given utility work.

Meyer asked if there were any questions from the group, and none were had. Meyer also circled back to Chad Reimakoski for and Division Seven updates. Reimakoski stated that there were no major updates, but did refer the group to the project updates reports.

2. Strategic Reports

Gregory Carlton was invited to present the strategic reports. Carlton proceed to update the group on the smoothed urbanized area boundary for the FHWA's functional classification purposes. The purpose of the smoothed boundary is to delineate which roadways are considered urban and which roadways are considered rural for functional classification purposes and does not override the Urbanized Area Boundary itself.. It is meant to simplify the complex geography of the urbanized area that I showed you in our last meeting by smoothening the boundaries and then extending them to include roads that have an urban character, but may be slightly outside of the original urbanized area. The final version will be presented at the next TCC meeting. Carlton then showed the group the boundary itself. Meyer asked if there were any updates from the group or any further updates from Lydia McIntyre. There were no further questions and no further updates.

Other Items:

1. Member Agency Updates

Meyer then opened the floor to any updates from member agencies. Suzette Morales gave an update for the FHWA. Morales mentioned a current NOFO NEVI that requires 10% of NEVI funds to be given to assist with locals and state governments as they proceed with acquiring EV charging stations. According to the FHWS website, the "NEVI Formula" program was established to "provide funding to States to strategically deploy electric vehicle (EV) charging infrastructure and to establish an interconnected network to facilitate data collection, access, and reliability". Morales also mentioned the Reconnecting Communities and the Neighbor Access and Equity Program grant, which has its deadline as September 28, 2023 and will have submissions from NCDOT. The FHWA is also seeking public comments for its intention to collect information from states and MPOs regarding the SPR program and then progress and periodic financial reports.

Alex Rotenberry then gave an update from the Integrated Mobility Division. Greensboro GTA was awarded a micro transit feasibility study grant. The IMD is also working on their federally required statewide update to the Human Services Transportation Plan. The IMD is also now on social media on Twitter/X.

It was also mentioned that NCANT launched their autonomous vehicle pilot on the same day as this TCC meeting and will run through October 13.

Alex Rosser then shared his screen and gave an update on the Marshall Facility that is being constructed and the groundbreaking that took place on the Friday previous to this TCC meeting. The facility will be working on aircraft for the US Military and will include an extension of the regional road and the addition of a vehicular bridge. All portions will be completed by the end of 2023, weather permitting. There were no other updates from member agencies.

2. Wrap-Up & Adjournment

Meyer established the next TCC meeting will be as November 6, 2023 at 2:00 PM.

Hanna Cockburn made a motion to adjourn, and the motion was accepted by acclamation. **Tyler Meyer adjourned the meeting at 3:35 PM.**