



Albemarle RPO Board Meetings

Wednesday, September 28, 2016 College of the Albemarle - Foreman Center Room FC121, 1208 N. Road Street
Elizabeth City, NC

Technical Coordinating Committee: Starts at 11:00 AM

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| 1. Call to Order | Rhett White, TCC Chair |
| 2. Roll Call | Rhett White, TCC Chair |
| 3. Agenda Approval | Rhett White, TCC Chair |
| 4. Approval/ Adoption of Minutes from Last Meeting | Rhett White, TCC Chair |
| 5. Division level scoring
Approval | Rhett White, TCC Chair |
| 6. Discussion of STI
Approval | Rhett White, TCC Chair |
| 7. Public Comments | Rhett White, TCC Chair |
| 8. Adjournment | Rhett White, TCC Chair |

Lunch and Presentations

NCDOT update- Discussions/presentations
Ferry update
TPB update
ARPO update

Transportation Advisory Committee: Starts at 1 PM

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| 1. Call to Order | Lloyd Griffin, TAC Chair |
| 2. Roll Call | Lloyd Griffin, TAC Chair |
| 3. Agenda Approval | Lloyd Griffin, TAC Chair |
| 4. Approval/ Adoption of Minutes from Last Meeting | Lloyd Griffin, TAC Chair |
| 5. Division level scoring
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| 7. Public Comments | Lloyd Griffin, TAC Chair |
| 8. Adjournment | Lloyd Griffin, TAC Chair |

Minutes of the Rural Technical Coordinating Committee (RTCC) Meeting
April 27, 2016
11:00 a.m.

The April 27, 2016 RTCC meeting was held at the Dare County Administration Building in Manteo, NC was opened and called to order by RTCC Chairman Rhett White at 11:00 a.m.

Roll Call

It was determined a quorum was present with the following TCC members in attendance: Chairman Rhett White, Town of Columbia; Dan Scanlon, Currituck County; Shelley Cox, Pasquotank County; Donna Creef, Dare County; Erin Burke, Town of Maneto; Bill Rich, County of Hyde; David Clegg, County of Tyrrell; Frank Heath, Perquimans County; Sam Barrow, Town of Edenton; Joe Heard, Town of Duck; J.D. Melton, Town of Creswell; Natalie Rountree, Gates County; Andy Garman, Town of Nags Head; Jerry Jennings, NCDOT Division 1; Gretchen Byrum, NCDOT Division 1 and Nazia Sarder- NCDOT-TPB.

Agenda Approval

Chairman White called for a motion to add discussion of HB959 and HB 963 the agenda. A motion to add discussion of HB 959 and HB 963 to the agenda was made by Frank Heath and seconded by J.D. Melton, and unanimously carried.

Approval of January 27, 2016 RTCC Minutes

Chairman White called for a motion to accept the minutes as presented. A motion to adopt the minutes was made by Bill Rich, his motion was seconded by Natalie Rountree, and unanimously carried.

ARPO Mini-grant Application

Chairman Rhett White called for a motion approving a Mini-grant in the amount of \$6051.00 to the Town of Duck to produce and distribute 35,000 copies of a brochure which will include maps of their multi-use path, sound side boardwalk, and other pedestrian, bicycle and vehicle safety guidelines in Town. A motion to grant a Mini-grant in the amount of \$6051.00 to the Town of Duck was made by Andy Garman, his motion was seconded by Erin Burke, and unanimously carried.

Ferry Discussion

Chairman Rhett White stated the Draft Ferry legislation, written by Representative Paul Tine was included in your packet as information for discussion. Sterling Baker from the NCDOT answered questions from RTCC members. No action was requested on this item by Staff and no action was taken by the RTCC Board.

Regional Project Scoring

Chairman Rhett White asked for an action to assign local input points to “regional” highway projects. Angela Welsh reviewed the outcome of the projects that were scored based on the SPOT scores with the Board. After discussion of the ARPO’s adopted methodology, it was decided the RTCC would apply the ARPO’s 1300 local input points to the top 13 scoring projects in the “regional” category. Although high scoring, Dare County chose not to allocate points on project H090284 due to the fact there was no local support for the project at this time. The following projects received 100 points each:

1. Pasquotank County; H150618
2. Pasquotank County; H150685
3. Pasquotank County; H150687
4. Perquimans County; H090286
5. Dare County; H090230:
6. Currituck County; H090139
7. Currituck County; H111225
8. Perquimans, Chowan, Pasquotank Counties; H141929
9. Perquimans County; H090285
10. Camden County; H090869
11. Currituck County; H111227
12. Tyrrell County; H129070-AA
13. Camden, Pasquotank Counties; H141931

Chairman Rhett White called for a motion to approve the allocation of the ARPO’s 1300 local input points on the above listed projects. David Clegg made a motion to approve the allocation of the ARPO’s 1300 local input points on the above listed projects, his motion was seconded by Natalie Rountree, and carried unanimously.

House Bill 959

Chairman Rhett White noted that HB 959 was introduced in the Legislatures short session He asked Jerry Jennings to review the bill with the Board. Jerry Jennings reviewed the bills with the Board and stated there would be no adverse effects to Division 1 if it was passed by the Legislature. Chairman White asked if there were any questions, with no questions, moved to the next item on the agenda.

House Bill 963

Chairman Rhett White noted that HB 963 was introduced in the Legislatures short session. He asked Jerry Jennings to review the bill with the Board. Jerry Jennings reviewed the bill with the

Board and stated there would be no adverse effects to Division 1 if it was passed by the Legislature. Chairman White asked if there were any questions, with no questions, moved to the next item on the agenda.

Public Comments

Chairman White opened the floor for public comments and there being no public comments closed the floor.

Adjournment

With no further business to discuss, Chairman White adjourned the meeting at 12:10 pm.

Lunch and Presentations

NCDOT Update – Discussion/Presentation

Jerry Jennings provided an update regarding rehabilitation, paving and construction projects in the region. Malcolm Fearing provide an update on bridge funds provided to NCDOT Division 1.

Ferry Update

Sterling Baker and Jed Dixon from NCDOT provided an update on the ferry division, as well as an update of the dredge christening.

TPB Update

Nazia Sarder introduced Doc Rosenthal as her replacement. Doc will now be the TPB Coordinator overseeing the ARPO.

ARPO Director Report

Angela Welsh was not provided the opportunity to give her report due to time constraints.

Minutes of the Rural Technical Advisory Committee (RTAC) Meeting
April 27, 2016
1:00 p.m.

Call to Order

The April 27, 2016 TAC held at Dare County Administration Building in Manteo, NC was opened and called to order by RTAC Chairman Lloyd Griffin, III at 1:00 p.m.

Roll Call

It was determined a quorum was present with the following RTAC voting members in attendance: Lloyd Griffin, Pasquotank County; Michael McLain, Camden County; Jack Shea, Dare County; Vance Aydlett, Currituck County; Benjamin Simmons, III, Hyde County; Leroy Spivey, Tyrrell County; Matt Peeler, Perquimans County; Malcolm Fearing, BOT Appointee.

RTAC Non-voting members in attendance: John Ratzenberger, Town of Nags Head; Lynne McClean, Town of Kitty Hawk.

Alternates in attendance: Wally Overman, Dare County

Agenda Approval

Chairman Griffin called for a motion to accept the agenda with the following amendments: add discussion of HB959 and HB 963. Jack Shea made a motion to accept the agenda with the additions, his motion was seconded by Benjamin Simmons, III and carried unanimously.

Approval of January 27, 2016 RTAC Minutes

Chairman Griffin called for a motion to accept the minutes as presented. A motion to accept the minutes as presented was made by Jack Shea, his motion was seconded by Benjamin Simmons, III, and unanimously carried.

ARPO Mini-grant

Chairman Griffin asked Angela Welsh to comment on the Town of Ducks Mini-grant application. Angela Welsh reviewed the Mini-grant application with the Board noting that the Town of Duck is seeking \$6,051.00 to match the Town's 20% contribution of \$1, 513.00 to produce and distribute 35,000 copies of a brochure which will include maps of their multi-use path, sound side boardwalk, and other pedestrian, bicycle and vehicle safety guidelines in the town. With no further discussion, Chairman Griffin called for a motion to approve the Mini-grant as presented by Angela Welsh. Jack Shea made a motion to approve the Mini-grant in the amount of \$6051.00, his motion was seconded by Leroy Spivey, and carried unanimously.

Ferry Discussion

Chairman Griffin called for discussion. Angela Welsh presented Representative Paul Tine's draft ferry funding legislation. Staff did not request any action be taken on this agenda item and no action was taken by the RTAC.

Regional Scoring

Chairman Griffin asked RTCC Chairman Rhett White for an update on the regional scoring. Chairman White noted that there is a lot of frustration with the process and presented a recommendation from the RTCC that the 1300 local input points allocated to the ARPO be applied to the 13 projects listed above in the RTCC meeting minutes. He went on to say there were 5 projects that scored well and could possibly be funded but enough local input points to put on 13 projects. Chairman Griffin asked if there was any further discussion of placing the ARPO's 1300 local input points on the 13 projects. With no further discussion, asked for a motion to approve allocating the ARPO's 1300 local input points on the 13 projects. Jack Shea made a motion to approve allocating the ARPOs' 1300 local input points to the 13 projects (H150618, H150685, H150687, H090286, H090230, H090139, H111225, H141929, H090285, H090869, H111227, H129070-AA, and H141931), his motion was seconded by Benjamin Simmons, III, and carried unanimously.

House Bill 959

The Chairman did not discuss this item.

House Bill 963

The Chairman did not discuss this item.

General discussion

Chairman Griffin asked for discussion regarding asking the SPOT office to assist with our planning for the project scoring process. Angela Welsh commented by asking the Board if they would like the SPOT office to come out during the January meeting since the ARPO is almost finished with the current scoring process. It was agreed to hold off on having the SPOT office provide a workshop to the Board until January. Chairman Griffin asked that the ARPO's legislative goals be sent to legislators. The ARPO's legislative goals include the need to rotate members of the SPOT Workgroup. The Board agreed that information should continue to be sent to the legislators.

Public Comments

Chairman Griffin opened the floor for public comments and there being no public comments closed the floor. Chairman Griffin thanked those in attendance for attending the RPO Meeting.

DRAFT

Next Meeting

Director Angela Welsh will work with Chairman Griffin to arrange for a meeting in September instead of the normally scheduled August due to project scores not being available for the August meeting.

Adjournment

There being no further business to conduct, Chairman Griffin declared the meeting adjourned at 1:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Angela Welsh, Secretary
ARPO Director

DRAFT



Agenda Item No. 5

Item Title: Division project scoring

Item Summary: We will need to apply our local input points to our "Division" projects during the meeting.

Specific action requested: Assign local input points to "Division" highway projects

Number of attachments: 3

Regional project scores were released in August of 2016. Three projects in Pasquotank County and one in Perquimans County will be funded in the 2018-2028 STIP. We do not, however, know in what years they will be programmed for construction. That information will be available in January of 2017.

Pasquotank County - US 17 BUS at SR 1145(Oak Stump Road)- Reconfigure 5 leg intersection to improve traffic flow and safety, Elizabeth City Signal system - Upgrade new cabinets and controllers, and US 17 (Hughes Boulevard) from SR 1308 (Church Street) to US 17 Business (North Road Street) - Widen existing 4 lane roadway to accommodate left turns/access management

Perquimans County

SR 1336 (Harvey Point Road) - Convert at-Grade intersection to an interchange. ***Please note: The County has requested the US 17 feasibility study be complete before moving forward with programming this project for construction.***

At this time, we will need to apply local input points to "Division" highway projects.

Please note the following information from our adopted Methodology:

- The ARPO received 1300 local input points. ARPO local input scores are worth 25% of the projects total score, the SPOT score equals 50% and the Division 1 scores equals 25%
- The top scoring Division level project, within each County, will receive 100 local input points provided the SPOT score exceeds 10 points.
- Our methodology does NOT allow "Statewide" or "regional" projects costing over \$20,000,000.00 to cascade so we don't wipe out that pot of money with very expensive projects. These projects are marked as "N/A due to cost"
- If a county does not have a project which meets the above criteria, projects, which exceed a SPOT score of 10 points, will be selected by the highest SPOT score.
- We can deviate from our methodology provided a majority of the TCC and a majority of the TAC agree to do so. Any deviation from our adopted point assignments will be disclosed to the public and reason(s) why will be published on the ARPO website.

I have only included the total SPOT scores on this spreadsheet to give you an idea of how well projects scored. It does NOT show all the criteria scores used to calculate the SPOT score.



Agenda Item No. 6

Item Title: STI Discussion

Item Summary: Discussion of resolutions regarding the STI.

Specific action requested: Discussion

Number of attachments: 3

Attached are resolutions adopted by the Rocky River RPO and the Mid-East RPO. These resolutions were adopted in response to the fact rural areas are receiving very little funding for transportation projects in the “Statewide” and “regional” tiers of funding.

On July 25, 2016, the House Select Transportation Committee on Strategic Transportation Planning invited a couple of statewide rural advocacy groups to present the rural counties view of transportation project planning and funding. The Rural Center was one of the groups invited to speak and provided an analysis regarding how the STI Act is working for rural counties. The allocation of available funds is an issue the ARPO TCC and TAC Boards have been concerned about, and working to change, since the STI Act took effect.

The Rural Center provided the following statistical information regarding the P4.0 process:

- 79% of the total \$3.1 billion for transportation projects will go to urban counties
 - 68% of it will go to 4 urban counties
- 11.5% will be awarded to projects in Regional City/Suburban counties
 - 9.5 percent will be awarded to rural counties – 2 counties out of the 80 rural counties

Only a total of 4.5% (\$142.4 million) will go to RPO counties.

**RESOLUTION BY MID-EAST RURAL PLANNING ORGANIZATION
REQUESTING LEGISLATION CHANGING THE STRATEGIC
TRANSPORTATION INVESTMENTS FUNDING FORMULA TO INCLUDE A
FUNDING AND PRIORITIZATION PROCESS EXCLUSIVE TO GEOGRAPHIC
AREAS OF NORTH CAROLINA**

WHEREAS, the Mid-East Rural Planning Organization is committed to regional and statewide cooperation in transportation planning, while continuing to provide rural areas within Beaufort, Martin, and Pitt Counties the opportunity to work in partnership toward the development of a sound transportation infrastructure network; and

WHEREAS, the Transportation Advisory Committee is the duly recognized transportation decision-making body of the Mid-East Rural Planning Organization; and,

WHEREAS, the North Carolina General Assembly in 2013 adopted House Bill 817, creating the Strategic Transportation Investments (STI) legislation, changing transportation funding to a formula that places more emphasis on congestion and population and less on intrastate road improvements, harming rural Highway Divisions; and

WHEREAS, the goal of STI was to better connect all North Carolinians to jobs, health care, education, and recreation experiences through better leveraging of existing funds to enhance the state's infrastructure and support economic growth, but focuses too heavily on congestion, essentially excluding rural areas across the state; and

WHEREAS, metropolitan highway divisions already receive more money than rural divisions through additional resources including Urban Loop Funds, Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Compliance funds; and

WHEREAS, STI allows Statewide Mobility projects, driven by congestion, to cascade down to the Regional and Division tiers, leaving little funding for projects in rural areas, while also allowing congestion mitigation projects to be exempt from the process; and

WHEREAS, rural areas have valid transportation needs, but those needs are minimized under STI for not having the congestion issues that the urban areas have, creating a continuing downward funding spiral for these areas; and

WHEREAS, rural areas like Eastern North Carolina, which lag behind in transportation resources and will never be able to compete against urban areas, are willing to have projects compete for funding based on criteria so long as there is a level playing field of competition based on the needs of a region;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mid-East RPO requests that the Strategic Transportation Investments Funding Legislation be changed to include funding distribution exclusive to the geographic regions of North Carolina;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that each geographic region uses the current Prioritization system to allow MPO's and RPO's to compete for their geographic region's funding.

ADOPTED this the 24th day of June, 2016

Dempsey Bond, Chair
Transportation Advisory Committee
Mid-East Rural Planning Organization

Justin Oakes, Secretary
Mid-East Rural Planning Organization



Resolution Regarding STI Lack of Funding for Rural North Carolina

WHEREAS, the Rocky River Rural Planning Organization (RRRPO) is the Transportation planning organization for Anson, Stanly and rural Union Counties, pursuant to G.S. 136-18; and

WHEREAS, the North Carolina General Assembly in 2013 adopted House Bill 817, creating the Strategic Transportation Investments (STI) legislation, changing transportation funding to a formula; and

WHEREAS, the goal of STI was to better connect all North Carolinians to jobs, health care, education, and recreation experiences through better leveraging of existing funds to enhance the state's infrastructure and support economic growth; and

WHEREAS, STI divides its funding into three Tiers (Statewide, Regional and Division) which projects can cascade down to lower Tiers; and

WHEREAS, in two rounds of funding, rural communities have received very little money in the Statewide Tier, despite the important statewide projects within rural communities, like Interstate 95 and specifically Statewide projects in the RRRPO like Hwy 74, Hwy 52 and Hwy 49; and

WHEREAS, once the projects cascade down to the Regional Tier, there is not the money nor the base score via the P4 Workgroup's methodology to allow the projects to move forward for funding; and

WHEREAS, rural areas, which lag behind in transportation resources and have valid transportation needs, should have an equal voice on the P5 Workgroup to level the transportation infrastructure playing-field;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the RRRPO Technical Advisory Committee requests that there be an equal rural voice on the P5 Workgroup and mindful methodology to fund a statewide transportation vision including rural counties throughout North Carolina.

July 21, 2016

Bobby Usrey, Chairman RRRPO

Dana Stoogenke, Secretary RRRPO