
1 Triangle Area Rural Planning Organization (TARPO)
2 Rural Transportation Advisory Committee (RTAC)
3 **October 12, 2023 Meeting Minutes**

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5 The meeting was conducted as a hybrid meeting. Members were in-person at the Chatham County Agriculture &
6 Conference Center, 1192 US-64 BUS, Pittsboro, NC 27312 or online. The date, time and room location were made available
7 to the public.

8
9 **RTAC Members Present:**

10 Lisa Mathis, NC Board of Transportation
11 **Mike Dasher, Chatham County (RTAC Vice-Chair)**
12 Pat Pizzella, Pinehurst
13 Rebecca Salmon (alternate)
14 Frank Quis, Moore County
15 Curtis Brown, Siler City
16 Phyllis Portie-Ascott, Orange County
17 Anna Richards, Orange County (alternate)

18 **RTAC Members Absent:**

19 Donald Andrews, Broadway

20
21 **RTCC Members Present:**

22 Matt Day, Central Pines Regional Council
23 Karyl Fuller, Central Pines Regional Council (RTCC alternate member)
24 Morgan Dewit, Pittsboro
25 Brandon Dawson, Chatham County
26 Nishith Triveldi, Orange County
27 Julie Bogle, NCDOT Transportation Planning Division
28 David Montgomery, Sanford/Lee County/Broadway
29 Nishant Shah, Division 7 (alternate)
30 **Kirk Smith, Lee County (RTAC chair)**

31
32 **Others Present:**

33
34 Note: The RTCC remained in session from its meeting earlier in the morning. These minutes begin at the joint RTCC/RTAC
35 portion of the agenda. The RTCC minutes from their earlier meeting are recorded separately.

36
37 Item 1 – Welcome, Introductions and Ethics Reminder

38 At approximately 12:00 pm, Commissioner Dasher, Vice-Chair called the RTAC meeting to order. He read the ethics
39 reminder, and no RTAC members noted any conflicts of interest with today's agenda items. Ms. Fuller conducted a roll call
40 of all participants in the room and on the webinar/phone call. Quorum was established.

41
42 Item 2 – Purpose & Agenda for Today's Meeting

43 Ms. Fuller reviewed the day's agenda, including the 9 discussion/information items and 5 decision items: the August 10,
44 2023, Minutes, the 2024 Meeting Calendar, CMAQ/CRP Project Submissions, a Request to Remove R-5963C from 2024-
45 2033 STIP and a Request to Adopt NC 54, all in the consent agenda.

46
47 Item 3 – Public Comment

48 No public comments were made at this time.

49
50 Item 4 – NC Board of Transportation Update

51 Ms. Mathis provided a brief update from the Board of Transportation, including an update on the NEVI Plan.

52
53 Item 5 – NCDOT Transportation Planning Division Update

54 Ms. Bogle reviewed TPD's newsletter. She briefly reviewed the CTPs' status and noted that we are moving forward on
55 model updates for Chatham, and that there were some errors in the Lee County model that she is currently working to

56 correct. She also noted that a plan was being developed for Strategic Transportation Corridor “K” and would begin soon.

57
58 Item 6 – NCDOT Division 7 Update

59 Mr. Shah provided information about projects in Orange County. A handout was provided in the agenda materials.

60
61 Item 7 – NCDOT Division 8 Update

62 Mr. Kluchar provided information about projects in Chatham, Lee, and Moore Counties. A handout was provided in the
63 agenda materials.

64
65 Item 8 – TARPO Staff Update

66 Ms. Fuller noted that she planned to send a newsletter out sometime after the meeting. She noted that she had changed
67 the “Current STIP” page on the website. It is now can be sorted or filtered. Also, projects that have had some recent
68 change are highlighted, to be easier to find.

69
70 Item 9 – RTCC Adjournment and Report to RTAC

71 Mr. Montgomery made a motion to adjourn the RTCC meeting, which was seconded by Ms. DeWit. The vote passed
72 unanimously, and the meeting was adjourned at 12:21 PM.

73
74 Mr. Montgomery provided an overview of the morning’s RTCC meeting.

75
76 Item 10a – Meeting Options & 2024 Meeting Calendar

77 Ms. Fuller reviewed the 2024 Meeting Calendar. She also stated that she was open to having all the meetings in Pittsboro,
78 as she had had difficulty finding a suitable location in Sanford to host a hybrid meeting. The conference room in the Buggy
79 building had been mentioned as an alternative. Staff agreed to try it for 2024 and keep to the current process of switching
80 between Pittsboro and Sanford, as the locations for the meetings. No issues were noted with the proposed calendar.

81
82 Item 10b – CMAQ/CRP Project Submissions

83 Ms. Fuller reviewed the two project submissions: a CMAQ project in Pittsboro to run a circulator bus in downtown, and a
84 CRP project also in Pittsboro to construct ~1,200 linear feet of sidewalk. Ms. Fuller also noted that both projects had a 20%
85 match and would be locally administered projects. Also, she mentioned that NCDOT is only soliciting CRP projects in
86 jurisdictions with less than 5,000 people.

87
88 Item 10c – MOU Amendment Update

89 Ms. Fuller noted that the MOU had been adopted by all 4 counties and CPRC. She will be submitting it to NCDOT this week
90 and letting the municipalities know what they need to do, to remain or become members.

91
92 The TAC looked at new logos. Generally, the group liked them but wanted to see a few more designs. Ms. Fuller said she
93 would bring a few more designs to the December meeting and hoped we could approve one then.

94
95 Item 10d- MPO/Boundary Update

96 Ms. Fuller gave an update on Sandhills MPO’s progress and also, noted that it appears that FAMPO may include a small
97 portion of Moore County into its boundary. She would let the Board know when she received confirmation.

98
99 Item 10e –STIP Updates

100 Ms. Fuller discussed briefly that there were changes to the newly Adopted 2024-2033 STIP. She also mentioned that she
101 has changed how the Current STIP is tracked on the website, as she discussed in her staff update.

102
103 Item 10f--Request to Remove R-5963C

104 Ms. Fuller said she had received a request from Division 8 to remove R-5963C from the 2024-2033 STIP. Division 8 stated
105 that they wanted to facilitate the completion of the entire Park Way but construction costs are continuing to rise. If the “C”
106 section was removed, its current funding, \$9.8 million, would be used to cover most of the cost increases, of \$14 million
107 for sections “A”, “B”, and “D”. It should be noted that the “C” section exists today as a two-lane road. The proposal, R-
108 5963C, is to widen it from 2 lanes to 4 lanes. Pittsboro and Chatham Park Partners are in agreement with this request.

109
110

111 Item 10h--Local Input Point Methodology Review (SMPO and Points)
112 Ms. Fuller pointed out that generally, staff would not recommend making substantial updates to this methodology,
113 considering that there have been only a few changes to the Prioritization process. However, TARPO/CPRPO needs to decide
114 how to conduct the Local Input Point Process, given the new MPO in Moore County.
115
116 She mentioned that there had been some discussion between the SPOT office, TARPO/CPRPO and a representative of
117 SMPO, to donate 400 points to SMPO (~their portion, based on population) for them to assign to their projects but nothing
118 had been decided. She asked the members to review the Policy for more discussion at the next meeting.
119
120 Item 10i- Request to Adopt NC 54 Plan
121 Ms. Fuller stated that TARPO has received a request from Orange County for us to adopt the 2018 NC 54 West Corridor
122 Study and its Phase 2 Memorandum. She noted that Orange County had recently adopted both plans. There was a brief
123 discussion about the plan.
124
125 Item 11 – Consent Agenda
126 Commissioner Brown made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Commissioner Quis seconded. The motion passed
127 unanimously.
128
129 Item 14 – Adjournment
130 The meeting was adjourned at approximately 1:06pm.
131
132 At this time, Mr. Hewitt spoke up that he would like to speak. Some of the members had already left but those that were
133 still there remained to listen. Staff recorded his remarks and have included a summary and map (that was received from
134 Mr. Hewitt) in these minutes. [It should be noted that several of Mr. Hewitt’s questions were subsequently answered by
135 NCDOT staff].
136

137 Mr. Hewitt's comments: He is the owner of Hewitt Pottery, just off Hanks Chapel Road in Pittsboro. He had two issues:
138 First one involves Chatham Park Charlie Brooks extension and the Lorax Lane Extension. The CTP from 2011 recommends
139 roads that go through the Hanks Chapel neighborhood and several of his neighbors' properties. A group of Hank Chapel's
140 residents met with Chuck Smith in early 2022 and a subsequent meeting on June 30, 2022, Mr. Smith showed a new map
141 with those two roads deleted from the Chatham Park Master Plan. Chuck Smith also informed them that he had been in
142 touch with NCDOT to indicate that Chatham Park no longer needed the Charlie Brooks extension or the Lorax Lane
143 extension. Hank Chapel's group met subsequently in a virtual meeting with NCDOT on January 25, 2023, which confirmed
144 that Mr. Smith had indicated that Chatham Park no longer needed the Lorax Lane extension or the Charlie Brooks
145 extension.
146
147 He had two more follow up questions: 1. Were we [TARPO Board] aware of these developments? 2. How does he or TARPO
148 go about getting NCDOT to permanently delete those 2 recommended roads from CTP.
149
150 Matt Day commented that he had been aware of the early discussions. He noted that the process typically is for the Town
151 to make a request to TARPO to amend the CTP. TARPO would then take the request to NCDOT for them to do any analysis
152 they need to do, to confirm it. Matt noted that TARPO has not received this request from the town. So, that would be the
153 first step.
154
155 Mr. Hewitt then asked who to contact at the Town. Matt Day suggested the Planning Department or the Town Manager's
156 office. Mr. Hewitt provided Mr. Smith's map from 6/30/22 meeting to staff at this time.
157
158 So, the other question was about Hanks (sp?) Loop Road Extension, as intersects with Hanks Chapel and goes to the Duke
159 substation that is currently being built. Matt Day commented that we do not have an answer to this question. Matt Day
160 then asked if this was from the Chatham Park proposal or the CTP. Mr. Hewitt said that he had seen it on the Chatham
161 Park's proposal but the CTP seemed to show it as well.
162
163 Matt Day indicated that TARPO is not aware of any design work and asked Brian Kluchar, Division 8 Planning Engineer to
164 follow up with the Division. Mr. Hewitt said that there was some surveying going on. Bryan Kluchar said that he was not
165 aware of any plans. There was discussion that it may not be a NCDOT road but a municipal road and Mr. Hewitt would
166 need to follow up with the Town.
167
168 Mr. Hewitt stated that he had been curious about the process and thanked us for our time and explanations.