



Triangle Area Rural Planning Organization

Rural Transportation Advisory Committee (RTAC)

9 February 2023
12:00 PM to 2:00 PM

Chatham County Agriculture & Conference Center
1192 US-64 BUS, Pittsboro, NC 27312
Hybrid Meeting Using Zoom (see calendar invite)

Joint RTCC/RTAC Agenda (begins at 12:00 PM)

- | | |
|--|-----------------------------------|
| 1. Welcome, Introductions, and Ethics Reminder | <i>Donald Andrews, RTAC Chair</i> |
| 2. Purpose and Agenda for Today's Meeting | <i>Karyl Fuller, TARPO Staff</i> |
| 3. Public Comment | <i>Donald Andrews, RTAC Chair</i> |
| 4. NC Board of Transportation Update | <i>Lisa Mathis, NCBOT</i> |
| 5. NCDOT Transportation Planning Division Update | <i>Julie Bogle, NCDOT TPD</i> |
| 6. NCDOT Division 7 Update | <i>Vacant, Div. 7</i> |
| 7. NCDOT Division 8 Update | <i>Bryan Kluchar, Div. 8</i> |
| 8. TARPO Staff Update | <i>Karyl Fuller, TARPO Staff</i> |
| 9. RTCC Adjournment & Report to RTAC | <i>Jack Meadows, RTCC Chair</i> |

RTAC Agenda (following joint meeting)

- | | |
|--|-----------------------------------|
| 10. Discussion Items | <i>Donald Andrews, RTAC Chair</i> |
| a. Preparation for FY24 Planning Work Program | |
| b. Draft CRP/CMAQ Slate of Projects | |
| c. Census-2020 Urban Areas Update and a new MPO in southern Moore County | |
| d. Concur with Prioritization 7.0 TCC Subcommittee and Define Purpose & Role | |
| e. CTP Status Update | |
| f. STIP Updates | |
| 11. Consent Agenda | <i>Donald Andrews, RTAC Chair</i> |
| a. December 8, 2022 Minutes | |
| b. Approve Slate of Projects and Letters of Support for CRP and CMAQ Programs | |
| c. Approve Letters of Support for Pittsboro Feasibility Study and TJCOC's SRTS Application | |

Triangle Area Rural Planning Organization Core Duties (G.S. 136-212)

To develop, in cooperation with NCDOT, long-range local and regional multimodal transportation plans; provide a forum for public participation in the transportation planning process; develop and prioritize suggestions for transportation projects the organization believes should be included in the State Transportation Improvement Program; and provide transportation-related information to local governments and other interested organizations and persons.

d. **Concur with Prioritization 7.0 TCC Subcommittee and its Purpose & Role**

12. **Member Updates from Around the Region/Open Discussion**

Donald Andrews, RTAC Chair

13. **Adjournment**

Next Meeting: Thursday, April 13, 2023, 12:00 PM in **Sanford**

Triangle Area Rural Planning Organization Core Duties (G.S. 136-212)

To develop, in cooperation with NCDOT, long-range local and regional multimodal transportation plans; provide a forum for public participation in the transportation planning process; develop and prioritize suggestions for transportation projects the organization believes should be included in the State Transportation Improvement Program; and provide transportation-related information to local governments and other interested organizations and persons.

TARPO Rural Transportation Coordinating Committee Meeting Agenda Comments – February 9, 2023

Item 4: NC Board of Transportation Update

Background

Board of Transportation member Lisa Mathis will provide an update.

Recommendation

For information/discussion only

TARPO Rural Transportation Advisory Committee Meeting Agenda Comments – February 9, 2023

Item 5: NCDOT Transportation Planning Division Update

Background

NCDOT staff will provide updates on Comprehensive Transportation Plans and other statewide planning activities at the Joint RTCC/RTAC meeting.

Recommendation

For information/discussion only

**TARPO Rural Transportation Advisory Committee Meeting
Agenda Comments – February 9, 2023**

Item 6: NCDOT Division 7 Update

Background

The attached document provides information on projects in Orange County.

Recommendation

For information/discussion only

TARPO Rural Transportation Advisory Committee Meeting Agenda Comments – February 9, 2023

Item 7: NCDOT Division 8 Update

Background

The attached document provides information on projects in Chatham, Lee, and Moore Counties.

Recommendation

For information/discussion only

**TARPO Rural Transportation Advisory Committee Meeting
Agenda Comments – February 9, 2023**

Item 8: TARPO Staff Update

Background

Staff will provide updates.

Recommendation

For information/discussion only

TARPO Rural Transportation Advisory Committee Meeting Agenda Comments – February 9, 2023

Item 10a: Preparation for FY24 Planning Work Program

Background

Each February, TARPO staff must develop a draft Planning Work Program (PWP) for the upcoming fiscal year and submit this to NCDOT for their review. The PWP serves as the foundational guidance for which tasks staff should be working on in the upcoming year and is essentially the RPO's budget document. Staff typically ask for input from RTCC and RTAC members on items they wish to see included in the draft PWP at their February meetings. A copy of the current year's PWP document is provided as an example to aid in the discussion.

Staff will prepare a draft PWP following today's meeting, and will submit this draft to NCDOT by the end of the month. Staff will also post this draft PWP on the TARPO website for public review and comment. A final draft will be presented at the April RTCC and RTAC meetings for approval.

Recommendation

For information/discussion only

TARPO Rural Transportation Advisory Committee Meeting Agenda Comments – February 9, 2023

Item 10b: Draft CRP / CMAQ Slate of Projects

Background

Every year, TARPO receives an allocation of CMAQ funding (~\$217,000) to be used in Orange County, Pittsboro or in the northeastern corner of Chatham County. In addition, this year, TARPO can submit to a new program, Carbon Reduction Program (CRP). TARPO has 8 slots for projects in locations that are under 5,000 and 4 slots for projects in locations that are between 5,000 and 50,000. NCDOT will evaluate the proposals and determine which projects will be selected for funding.

TARPO has received 10 proposals from six members: Chatham County, Orange County, Pittsboro, Siler City, and Sanford/Lee County. Staff were able to give each member its highest priority. Once that was complete, there were still slots available, so Siler City was given one additional slot. Orange County's proposal was selected for CMAQ funding as Orange County was planning to purchase transit vehicles and had experience with the program. After consultation with the applicants, two other potential CMAQ proposals will instead be submitted to CRP.

Please note that after this initial round, CRP projects will be accepted on a rolling basis.

Recommendation

Adoption of the draft slate of projects. Included in the Consent Agenda.

TARPO Rural Transportation Advisory Committee Meeting Agenda Comments – February 9, 2023

Item 10c: Census 2020 Urban Areas Update and a New MPO in Southern Moore County

Background

On December 29, 2022, the U.S. Census Bureau released a list of population totals for urbanized areas in the United States based on the results of the 2020 census. These urbanized areas are defined based on a series of criteria related primarily to housing unit density (among other factors) and serve as the basis for various federal funding and program rules. One of those rules is that urbanized areas with a population over 50,000 must be part of a Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for transportation planning purposes.

These results published show a "Pinehurst-Southern Pines Urbanized Area" has a population of **50,319**, which means that it is above that 50,000 population threshold and will need to be part of a Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) moving forward.

The Census Bureau ***released*** maps in early January, see [here](#). Pinehurst, Southern Pines, Whispering Pines, Aberdeen, Taylortown and Pinebluff all appear to be in/partially in the MPO. The MPO must include the urbanized area *blue on the map* but can also include a planning boundary. All of this is still in the initial phases. We also still need to know the required timeline for completing this work but will be working with NCDOT to get that timeline information within the next little while.

TARPO and TJCOG are committed to making sure this process goes as smoothly as possible and will be happy to participate in discussions and share information as appropriate.

Recommendation

For information/discussion only

TARPO Rural Transportation Advisory Committee Meeting Agenda Comments – February 9, 2023

Item 10d: Concur with Prioritization 7.0 TCC Subcommittee and its Purpose & Role

Background

TARPO needs to begin preparations for Prioritization 7.0. We will need to identify a list of projects to submit for scoring in Summer 2023. Typically, in the past, we have developed a subcommittee made up of members from the Rural Technical Coordinating Committee (RTCC) to develop a draft project list. A potential timeline and membership structure for this committee is outlined below, based on the way the committee was structured in 2019 for the last cycle of prioritization.

Potential Membership: One voting member from each county, plus one voting member from each NCDOT local division (six voting members, four necessary for quorum). Alternates can be named. Other RTCC members are encouraged to participate in meetings and discussions but may not vote or count toward quorum.

Potential Schedule/Process:

- Late Feb./Early March – kickoff meeting for subcommittee; discuss approach for gathering and vetting project ideas
- March to May – meet regularly as needed to refine project list; complete this task by Friday, May 4th
- May 5 to June 7 – draft project list will be circulated to members for review and comment, and will be posted online for public comment
- June 8 – draft project list will be presented to RTCC and RTAC for review and comment
- Late June/July – final subcommittee meeting to discuss comments received and make any necessary adjustments to project list
- August 10 – final draft list presented to RTCC & RTAC for adoption. RTCC and RTAC may make changes to the draft list developed by the subcommittee.
- Fall 2019 – Subcommittee to review TARPO's local point assignment methodology and recommend changes as appropriate

Recommendation

Concur with TCC appointments to subcommittee and proposed approach.

TARPO Rural Transportation Advisory Committee Meeting Agenda Comments – February 9, 2023

Item 10e: CTP Status Update

Background

There are two Comprehensive Transportation Plans (CTPs) with activity currently underway in the TARPO area:

Chatham County

The Chatham County CTP was adopted back in 2016. However, at that time the CTP report was never completed due to staff turnover at NCDOT. More recently, when NCDOT started work on completing the report, they found that there were some errors in the adopted maps.

As of the end of November, all four jurisdictions have signed on to undertake a complete update to the Plan. Stay tuned for further updates.

Lee County

NCDOT is working on the model updates.

Some of the other remaining items to be completed include the bicycle, pedestrian, and transit recommendations, and public outreach activities.

Recommendation

For information/discussion only

TARPO Rural Transportation Advisory Committee Meeting Agenda Comments – February 9, 2023

Item 10f: STIP Updates

Background

2020-2029 Draft STIP Update

The attached documents show STIP amendments to 2020-2029 STIP that were presented to the NC Board of Transportation in the last two months.

2024-2033 Draft STIP Update

NCDOT has updated its schedule and process for the draft 2024-2033 STIP.

- The Draft STIP will be reprogrammed with additional revenue and released as soon as possible. It is expected in the next several weeks.
- TARPO swaps will now be due by **Friday, March 17th, 2023**.
- The Final 2024-2033 STIP is anticipated to be presented to the Board of Transportation for approval in May 2023.

2026-2035 STIP Update

- Prioritization 7.0 continues. The SPOT Workgroup starts meeting on October 11, 2022. Staff will provide regular updates. Both Matt and Karyl are on the Workgroup.
- Project Submittal window will open in **July 2023**. Start thinking about potential new projects and contact staff with questions. At this meeting, staff will have a process for submitting new projects and we will also be forming a sub-committee to develop a process for choosing the projects to be submitted. At this time, it is not certain the number of submittals that TARPO will have but it should be similar to 2019, or around 23.
- Once the sub-committee has met, staff will send out a solicitation for new projects. More details to come.

Recommendation

For information/discussion only

TARPO Rural Transportation Advisory Committee Meeting Agenda Comments – February 9, 2023

Item 11: Consent Agenda

Background

Given that TARPO is still having hybrid meetings, staff would like to suggest consolidating all of the action items into a single consent agenda. This will minimize the number of roll call votes that need to be conducted. All items will be available in advance, and non-administrative items will be listed for Discussion first. Any item can be pulled out of the Consent Agenda for further discussion and a separate roll call vote.

Consent Agenda for 2/9/2023 includes:

- a. December 8, 2022 Minutes
- b. Approve Slate of Projects and Letters of Support for CRP and CMAQ Programs
- c. Approve Letters of Support for Pittsboro Feasibility Study and TJCOG's SRTS Application
- d. Concur with Prioritization 7.0 Subcommittee

Recommendation

Adopt the consent agenda.