

**NC 73 Council of Planning
June 24, 2014 Regular Meeting**

Meeting Minutes

Attendees: Jack Simoneau, Sarah McAuley, and Zac Gordon, Town of Huntersville; Bjorn Hansen, Centralina COG; Sean Epperson, Scott Cole, Stuart Basham, NCDOT- Division 10; Michael Poe, David Keilson, NCDOT- Division 12; Linda Dosse- via teleconference, NCDOT-TPB; Ben McCrary, Davidson; Wayne Herron, Cornelius; Andrew Bryant, Lincoln County; Mike Reece, NCDOT-Congestion Management; Bill Thunberg, LNTC

Welcome and Introductions: Mr. Simoneau called the meeting to order at 1 PM. All present introduced themselves.

Administrative Matters

Approve minutes of November 21, 2013 meeting: Ms. McAuley made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Mr. Herron seconded and the minutes were approved.

Corridor Intersection Inspection and Strategic Transportation Investments (STI) Update: Mr. Hansen provided a status update on the project to evaluate specific intersections along the NC 73 corridor to find high-value low-cost projects for implementation by the NCDOT, MPOs, and COP members. Mr. Hansen stated that the subcommittee has evaluated intersections in Lincoln and Mecklenburg Counties, with the recommended improvements released for Lincoln County. Mr. Hansen stated that the NCDOT's STI project scores have been released, with at one project already funded through the new project ranking process, and several more likely to be funded when the draft STIP is released in November 2014. He reviewed the timeline for the full report, which is currently expected in the spring of 2015. He asked the group to provide feedback on the following issues:

1. Should the intersection analysis process not evaluate projects that may get funded through the NCDOT?
2. Is the level of detail adequate for the initial section of projects in Lincoln County?
3. Is the proposed schedule reasonable?

The group was very impressed with the level of detail and recommendations for the intersections in Lincoln County, and felt the work should continue on the remaining intersections despite potential funding through the NCDOT, as the analysis work could be readily integrated into the designs for the full STIP projects.

Mr. Thunberg felt that the final plan should include land use recommendations for appropriate access management along the corridor. Mr. Hansen stated that was an initial part of the scope of work, but since the NCDOT has led the intersection evaluation process, the land use component has not been actively discussed. He would work with Bill Coxe and Mike Reece to identify ideal recommendations that can be incorporated into the final report for consideration by the COP members.

Davidson East Area Plan: Mr. McCrary reviewed the preliminary plat and traffic analysis for a mixed-use development in the area immediately adjacent to Ramah Church and Bradford Park. The Town of Davidson is being directed by the NCDOT- Division 10 to get COP approval of the recommendation to approve two signals in the area, one to make permanent the one at the entrance to Bradford Park, and a second one at Ramah Church as a part of a fourth leg accessing the development to the north.

Huntersville expressed concern whether the Ramah Church signal and realignment would occur through the development, and that traffic flow would not be harmed by having the second signal. Division 10, Davidson, and Huntersville staff agreed to meet in the near future to address these concerns, with a special COP meeting called to approve the change, if agreed to in advance by all parties.

Upper Ramah Creek Small Area Plan: Mr. Gordon stated that the recommendations and draft plan will be posted to the town's web site, and that Mr. Hansen would distribute the link to COP members for comment.

Member Reports along the NC 73 Corridor: Due to extensive discussion during the intersection inspection topic, there was no individual report.

Next Meeting Date: There will be a short special meeting called for the Davidson East intersection issue, but the next regular meeting will not be until after the draft STIP is released, expected in November.

Wrap up and Adjourn: Mr. Simoneau adjourned the meeting at 3:40 PM.