

Cornelius
Davidson
Huntersville
Kannapolis
Concord



Lincoln County
Mecklenburg County
Cabarrus County

December 2, 2020
10:30 AM - 11:30 AM
Virtual Zoom Meeting

Regular Meeting Minutes

Attendees:

Aaron Tucker	Town of Cornelius
Andrew Ventresca	Town of Davidson
Jason Burdette	Town of Davidson
Julio Paredes	Gaston-Cleveland-Lincoln MPO (GCLMPO)
Zac Gordon	City of Kannapolis
Andy Bailey	NCDOT
Jerome Scott Miller	NCDOT
Carina Soriano	Centralina Regional Council
Andrew Bryant	Lincoln County

Welcome and Introductions

Mr. Gordon opened the meeting at 10:30 am. All present introduced themselves.

Administrative Matters

Meeting Minutes from the January 23, and June 6, 2020 COP meeting:

Motion was made by Mr. Tucker to approve January 23 and June 6 minutes at 10:37am and seconded by Mr. Burdette.

NC73 Project Delay

NCDOT has sold about \$7m in bonds to shore up their accounts and are in the best place they've been in financially this year. Projects under construction and in progress will be able to continue moving forward. Money will be moved to planned projects that were frozen (all of 73) so it means that those projects may restart soon but are not necessarily guaranteed funding. The delay is still in place though. West of 77 on 73 construction start date is pushed back to 2027. Not sure when construction on eastern half of 73 will be started. Uncertain of time frames for smaller projects, but anticipated Q1 of CY21 it will become more clear which projects will have to move and which ones can begin. NCDOT has released a few small projects based off what was already said. At this current moment it is not known what those projects are, first of the 2021 year and first quarter we should have a better idea of what will be moved, and what will start. CRTPO has taken the list of suspended projects and ranked the ones closest to start highest and have approved some funds to get those closest to start started (general STIP projects). Unaware of any movement from GCLMPO on this matter.



Local Match for Bike/Ped Improvements

Policy shift with NCDOT prior to signing the environmental document, wanted to see if there had been any other updates. Lincoln County has allocated money for this for the first time and now it has been pushed further down the list. Mr. Bryant would like to request something formal from the STIP office of what that's going to look like.

Discussion around Collaborative Peer Review

Observations made around the website having some hosting issues and we'd like to have a discussion around peer review. With new technology, what collaborative plan review software are you using? We'd like to be able to have better collaboration/timelines on here. With three meetings a year, there's not a lot of reinforcement on projects and then we get busy with our own projects. Only thing I could think of would be a reminder. Maybe once a month and a Centralina responsibility? We use the ESRI platform, similar to Cornelius and Davidson; maybe this could be the platform of choice since others already use it. Lincoln County uses Blue Beam Review, which allows folks to review and comment. Lincoln County can facilitate upload of plans and others can have a free copy. Cornelius has Blue Beam already and is ok with using it. Cornelius only has a small frontage of 73 so not sure what criteria a project has to meet in order to qualify. Both touching 73 and/or contributes to traffic on 73?

Originally, some projects used traffic contribution as well as projects directly touching the route. The whole group has shared projects a little off 73 knowing they would contribute to 73. I think it would be good to have the GIS platform available. The group needs to have a better expectation of what kinds of review is expected; we don't need to be commenting on every single aspect, more on the vehicular and pedestrian movement. Why don't we start a GIS repository; Andrew B will start a Dropbox link, participants can drop projects in there and we can get started on what this NC 73 peer review would look like. I think if we can send out those reminders then we can start piecing this together. Centralina will send out the reminders.

What's New Along the NC 73 Corridor

Cabarrus County

At this time, there are no updates from Cabarrus County. Cabarrus is not participating financially.

Concord

At this time, there are no updates from Concord.

Cornelius

W Catawba and 73; vacant lot near Harris Teeter, medical building approved in 2009, but will be built this spring. No direct access to 73. 115 and 73; project off Mayes Rd 95 acres development for 165 single family homes (large for Cornelius) will contribute traffic to 73. They've submitted for a rezoning out there and has support from the board. Will likely be approved.

Davidson

At Davidson Concord Rd the town completed a town funded project -turn lane onto 73 going west. There have been a number of building permits pulled. We have interest in parcels but nothing ever official.

GCLMPO

At this time, there are no updates from GCLMPO.

Huntersville

At this time, there are no updates from Huntersville.

Kannapolis

Kannapolis continues to see a lot of activity at 73 & Kannapolis parkway intersection. In the NW quadrant, near the amazon facility, across the road may be single family/multifamily/senior housing several hundred of each for a fairly busy corner and in conjunction with the widening, is a commercial component but that won't happen until the widening. In the NW quad, next to amazon, about 300 apartments are proposed. In the SE quadrant, we have 90 attached single family homes proposed. There's development occurring near the Mecklenburg County line. Several hundred new single-family homes and will likely see another proposal for more residential. We're continuing to see more interest along 73 and would like to see the widening project start before 2027 especially with the congestion issues we're seeing with 73 in Concord/Cabarrus. Hoping revenue will pick up post covid and that translates to widening sooner. You mentioned 2027, is that also the revised date for widening on the eastern half? Yes, estimated start was 2023-2024, end 2027. I know there was discussion about state funding/DOT in general so perhaps there is change coming. We use OSCELLA for planning comments, but the level of our comments will be at the 10,000 ft level and with the widening at final design, we at least know what the template is going forward. That may help to frame the transportation network.

Lincoln County

Lincoln County is starting to see interest further west of the Trilogy development. Starting to see some interest in several forested acres, with interest in bringing ~400 homes. Will have to wait on wastewater treatment plant expansion. Long term water and sewer update. East Lincoln Fire Substation west of Ingle something. Will also include EMS and highway patrol breathalyzer station. Single access fire station. No sidewalk-no connection and eventually 73 will be widened there eventually which will bring sidewalks consistently down that stretch of 73. We continue to have interest in the NW corner, but watershed restrictions have not pushed anything further.

Mecklenburg County

At this time, there are no updates from Mecklenburg County.

NCDOT

Nothing to add. CRTPO not sure if STIP or DA money. Thought they were prioritizing DA projects.

Wrap-Up and Adjourn

The next meeting of the COP will be held in spring 2021. Mr. Bryant made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 11:15 a.m.

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nc73.net

