August 13, 2020 RTCC/RTAC Meeting Report

Thank you to everyone who participated in our third round of “virtual” meetings! Your flexibility in participating remotely is greatly appreciated!

At the August 13, 2020 RTCC and RTAC meetings, the following information items were presented and discussed:

- Prioritization 6.0 Update – current list of 92 projects being scored as part of Prioritization 6.0
- Prioritization Letter – a memo from NCDOT about expectations regarding the available funding for projects in Prioritization 6.0 and next steps
- Updates to the Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP)
- Presentation on Traffic Survey Data related to COVID-19
- Summary of House Bill 77
- Memo on TARPO FY20 Fourth Quarter Finances and FY20 Annual Report
- Project updates from NCDOT Division 7 and Division 8
- Updates from NCDOT Transportation Planning Division

The next RTCC and RTAC meetings will be held on October 8, 2020 as a virtual meeting. It is likely that both remaining meetings in 2020 (October and December) will be conducted online.

The full slide deck from the meetings can be found here.

TJCOG Regional Summit is Going Virtual!

This year’s Triangle J Regional Summit will be held as an online event over the course of five Thursdays this fall. Each Thursday will have a 90 minute session on one of the following topics under the theme “What’s Equity Got to Do With It?”: local government (9/17), development and growth (9/24), aging in a post-COVID world (10/1), community engagement (10/8), and policing (10/15). More information available here.
Shape the Region’s Economic Strategy

“Strength in Numbers”—Triangle J’s regional comprehensive economic development strategy—is currently in development. As part of the process, TJCOG is asking for feedback in multiple ways. You can take part in a survey, provide feedback on a Strengths-Opportunities-Aspirations-Results (SOAR) matrix, or volunteer as an engagement ambassador. For more information, contact Lindsay Whitson at lwhitson@tjcog.org.

House Bill 77 – DOT Budget & Governance Changes

The North Carolina General Assembly recently passed House Bill 77, which outlined a number of changes to NCDOT’s FY21 budget as well as changes to its governing structure and reporting requirements. Among the major changes were a reduction in funding available for FY21 construction projects and a restructuring of the NC Board of Transportation. A summary of the changes can be found here, and the full text of the bill can be found here.

TJCOG Response to Recent Events & Commitment to Systemic Change | TJCOG Statement Opposing Shortened U.S. Census Timeline

Triangle J Council of Governments, the Lead Planning Agency for TARPO, has recently issued statements on two major topics of importance both regionally and nationally:

- Link to the statement on recent events and TJCOG’s commitment to systemic change
- Link to the statement on opposition to the shortened census timeline

National Regional Transportation Conference 2020

On July 28-29, the National Association of Development Organizations (NADO) held its bi-annual National Regional Transportation Conference, geared toward RPOs and small MPOs. TARPO staff attended the online conference, and made a joint presentation with NCDOT to speak about the history of North Carolina’s RPO program. More information, including a link to all the presentations from the conference can be found online here.
Upcoming Conferences & Events

- The 2021 NC GIS Conference will be held as an online event the week of February 16-19, 2021
- The 2020 Bike Walk NC Conference will be held as an online event November 5-6, 2020, with a conference theme on inclusive transportation
- AARP is holding two online workshops on transportation and livable communities on September 15 & 16
- NCDOT will host an online Research and Innovation Summit October 13-14, 2020
- The National Center for Rural Road Safety will host an online National Summit on Rural Road Safety, September 29-October 1, 2020

News Briefs

- Piedmont train service between Raleigh and Charlotte is restarting following a COVID-related shutdown
- Ongoing bridge work on US 70 near Hillsborough over the Eno River
- Michael Fox & Lisa Mathis reappointed to NC Board of Transportation

A number of additional news items are available on the News Page of the TARPO Website: [http://www.tarpo.org/category/news/](http://www.tarpo.org/category/news/)

Upcoming Events

- August 19 – Orange Unified Transportation Board – 6:30 pm
- September 7 – Labor Day – TJCOTARPO offices closed
- September 17 – TJCOT Regional Summit (Local Government Session) – 10 am
- September 24 – TJCOT Regional Summit (Growth/Dev Session) – 10 am
- September 29-October 1 – National Summit on Rural Road Safety
- October 1 – TJCOT Regional Summit (Aging Session) – 10 am
- October 8 – TARPO RTCC & RTAC meetings – 10:30 am RTAC, 12:00 pm RTCC
- October 8 – TJCOT Regional Summit (Community Engagement Session) – 10 am
- October 13-14 – NCDOT Research & Innovation Summit
- October 15 – TJCOT Regional Summit (Policing Session) – 10 am
- October 29 – NC Association of RPOs Quarterly Meeting
- November 5-6 – BikeWalk NC Summit

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