October 8, 2020 RTCC/RTAC Meeting Report

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

At the October 8, 2020 RTCC and RTAC meetings, the following decisions were made:

- **Approved** Letters of Support for FTA Section 5310 applications by Monarch, Central Carolina Community College, and Chatham Transit
- **Approved** the use of proposed *Area Specific Weights* for Division 7 in the upcoming Prioritization 6.0 process (also see handout [here](#))
- **Rejected** the use of proposed *Area Specific Weights* for Division 8 in the upcoming Prioritization 6.0 process (also see handout [here](#))
- The RTCC **approved** addition of a seat on the RTCC for the NCDOT Integrated Mobility Division

Additionally, the following information items were presented and discussed:

- Presentation Slides on Funding Availability for Prioritization 6.0
- Recent STIP Amendments/Reprogramming
- 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 December 10, 2020 as a virtual meeting. We hope to be able to return to in-person meetings in 2021.

The full slide deck from the meetings can be found [here](#).

**NC Moves 2050**

NCDOT’s long-range transportation plan, *NC Moves 2050*, is nearing completion. A draft version of the document is available [here](#) for review and NCDOT is accepting comments on the document through November 9. An online survey can also be found [here](#).
A presentation on the draft *NC Moves 2050* document can be found on the TARPO [website](#) in both a narrated video format and a PDF format (without narration).

## S-Line Project Receives Federal Grant

The US Department of Transportation recently awarded a $47.5 million grant to NCDOT for the purchase of the S-Line rail corridor between Raleigh and Ridgeway in Warren County. This rail line is a key segment of the Southeast Corridor and purchase of the corridor is a first step in making improvements that will allow 90 minutes to be cut off from the current rail route between North Carolina and the Northeast US Corridor.

## GIS Data Opportunity

Triangle J Council of Governments has an MOU with a GIS vendor to provide access to governments/agencies in the region to purchase aerial orthophotography and associated planimetric GIS data at a set cost and without needing to go through an RFQ process (because TJCOG has already gone through the necessary RFQ process to select the vendor and define the contract terms). Governments/agencies that would like to participate in the 2021 data collection must indicate their intent to participate by December 2020. For more information, contact Matt Day ([mday@tjcog.org](mailto:mday@tjcog.org)).

## Orange County Transit Plan Update

Orange County is in the process of updating its county Transit Plan. As part of this process, the county has put out a survey to gather feedback from the public. The online survey can be accessed [here](#), and the paper version can be accessed [here](#).

## TJCOG Safe Routes to School

The Safe Routes to School program at Triangle J COG has recently launched a new [website](#) and is hosting an [art contest](#) for students. While activities have been somewhat delayed due to COVID, plans are in place to begin working with schools in each county in the future.
NC Chamber Report on Transportation Funding

The NC Chamber of Commerce Foundation has released a research report on transportation funding in the state.

Funding Opportunity

The NC Division of Public Health is inviting municipalities to apply for bicycle amenity (bike rack and repair station) distribution. Must apply by November 6. Click here for more info.

Upcoming Conferences & Events

- Webinar on Microtransit Pilot Project in Wilson – October 21 at 2 PM
- BikeWalk NC Conference – November 5 & 6
- Transportation Research Board Annual Meeting – various dates in Jan.

News Briefs

- Road closure on NC 42 in eastern Chatham for pipe replacement
- NC announces Powell Bill funding distribution to municipalities
- Updated “Move Forward” list for preliminary engineering activities
- 2019 traffic volume data now published
- New section of Fayetteville Loop open to US 401/Raeford Road
- Reminder – Great Trails State Plan survey

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

Calendar

- October 21 – Webinar on Wilson Microtransit Project – 2 PM
- October 29 – NC Association of RPOs Quarterly Meeting
- November 5-6 – BikeWalk NC Summit
- November 11 – TARPO offices closed for Veterans Day
- November 26 & 27 – TARPO offices closed for Thanksgiving
- December 10 – TARPO RTCC & RTAC meetings (virtual)

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