

AGENDA

The **Technical Coordinating Committee (TCC)** of the Gaston Urban Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) will meet **Wednesday November 9, 2011 at 10:00 AM** at the at the Gaston County Administrative Building, room 3A, which is located at **128 W. Main Street; Gastonia, NC 28052.** The following is the agenda for the meeting:

1. Set Agenda

Presenter: Adrian Miller, TCC Chair

The agenda needs to be set to include adding "New" or "Other Business".

2. Determination of Quorum (51%-seven of thirteen)

Presenter: Adrian Miller, TCC Chair

- a) During the March 12, 1997 TCC meeting, it was discussed that the following five cities, six towns, the County of Gaston, and the NCDOT would be counted to determine if a quorum is present; all other members would be affiliate. This is a total of thirteen votes to be counted against the quorum.
- b) The City of Belmont ____, The City of Bessemer City ____, The Town of Cramerton ____, The Town of Dallas ____, The County of Gaston ____, The City of Gastonia ____, The City of Lowell ____, The Town of McAdenville ____, The City of Mount Holly ____, The Town of Ranlo ____, The Town of Spencer Mountain ____, The Town of Stanley ____, The North Carolina Department of Transportation ____.

3. Approval of Minutes

Presenter: Adrian Miller, TCC Chair

Review and adopt the minutes from the regularly scheduled meeting of October 12, 2011.

ACTION REQUESTED: Approve as Presented.

4. Introduction of Members & Guests

Presenter: Adrian Miller, TCC Chair

All TCC members and guests shall have the opportunity to introduce themselves at this time.

5. Public Comment Period

Presenter: Adrian Miller, TCC Chair

Any public comment will be presented and addressed at this time. Public comment will be kept to a reasonable period of time.

**6. Transit Project Rankings for the Strategic Planning Office of Transportation (SPOT) 2.0 Program
*Presenter: Bernie Yacobucci, Transportation Planner I***

Review the final ranking of the Gaston MPO transit projects as determined by the SPOT program.

ACTION REQUESTED: Recommend Approval to TAC.

**7. 2012-2018 Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program (MTIP) and 2035 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) Amendments
*Presenter: Bernie Yacobucci, Transportation Planner I***

The 2012-2018 MTIP and 2035 LRTP will need to be amended due to the addition of new projects and existing project changes.

ACTION REQUESTED: Recommend Approval to TAC.

**8. NCDOT Bicycle and Pedestrian Planning Grants 2012
*Presenter: Jason Pauling, Transportation Planner I***

The NCDOT Division of Bicycle and Pedestrian Planning issued a call for proposals for 2012 for municipalities to develop a bicycle or pedestrian plan. Applications are due by December 2, 2011. Each application must be accompanied by the appropriate resolution of support by the municipality and the MPO. Gastonia and Mount Holly are applying for pedestrian grants for the current cycle.

ACTION REQUESTED: Recommend approval and resolution of support by TAC

**9. 2012 Recreation Trails Program – Call for Project Proposals
*Presenter: Jason Pauling, Transportation Planner I***

The Division of Parks and Recreation and the State Trails Program are instituting a 2012 Federal Recreational Trails Program Pre-Application process. All agencies and non-profit organizations interested in applying for 2012 Recreational Trails Program (RTP) funding are required to complete and submit the online pre-application by December 30, 2011.

ACTION REQUIRED: For Information Only and Discussion

10. New Business

11. Other Business

MPO Staff Update

- a) Gastonia 85X Express Ridership History
- b) Carolina Thread Trail remaining Funds for 2011
- c) Next TCC meeting: January 11, 2012

12. Adjournment:

If you have any additional items or questions regarding this agenda, please call Hank Graham at 704-854-6663, Bernie Yacobucci at 704-854-6604, or Jason Pauling at 704-866-6980. You can also e-mail us at hankg, berniey, or jasonpa@cityofgastonia.com respectively.



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MINUTES
GASTON URBAN AREA
METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION
TRANSPORTATION COORDINATING COMMITTEE (TCC)
SPECIAL MEETING
October 12, 2011

The special meeting of the Gaston Urban Area Metropolitan Planning Organization Transportation Coordinating Committee (TCC) was held Wednesday, October 12, 2011, at 10:00 a.m. until 1:30 p.m. at the City of Gastonia City Hall, City Council Conference Room, 2nd floor, 181 S. South Street in Gastonia, NC.

Members Present:

Adrian Miller	City of Belmont, Asst. City Mgr., TCC Chairman
David Kahler	Town of Dallas, Planner, TCC Vice-Chairman
Debby Key	City of Gastonia, Fleet Manager
Margo Medlin	City of Gastonia, Project Manager
Jason Thompson	City of Gastonia, Senior Planner
Tom Datt	Town of Stanley, Town Manager
Steve Baucom	Town of Cramerton, Planning Director
Greg Beal	City of Mount Holly, Senior Planner
Brian DuPont	City of Mount Holly, Planner
David Williams	Gaston County, Dev. Director of Planning
Juan Garcia	Gaston County, Plng. GIS Data Analyst
Bjorn Hensen	LNRPO, Transportation Planner
Mark Bolick	Gaston EDC, Project Administrator
Shannon Ransom	NCDOT, Gaston MPO Coordinator
Mike Holder	NCDOT, Division 12 Engineer

Staff present:

Hank Graham	Gaston MPO, Principal Transportation Planner
Bernie Yacobucci	Gaston MPO, Transportation Planner I
Jason Pauling	Gaston MPO, Transportation Planner I
Cass Roberts	City of Gastonia, Administrative Assistant III
Lauren Hinely	City of Gastonia, Gastonia Transit Grant Facilitator

Others present:

Jackie McSwain	NCDOT Div. 12 Project Manager
Loretta Barren	FHWA Transportation Planner
Amanda Reid	Town of Cramerton, Project Coordinator

Members with absences in 2011:

Town of McAdenville	(Jan., Mar., May, July, Oct. - 5)
Town of Spencer Mountain	(Jan., Mar., May, July, Oct. - 5)
Town of Cramerton	(Jan. - 1)
City of Mount Holly	(Jan., July - 2)
Town of Ranlo	(Jan., Mar., May, July, Oct. - 5)
City of Bessemer City	(Mar. - 1)
City of Belmont	(May - 1)
City of Lowell	(Oct. - 1)

1. Set Agenda, Presenter: Adrian Miller, TCC Chairman

Mr. Miller stated that setting the agenda is the first order of business. Mr. Miller entertained a motion to set the agenda as presented.

Mr. Bolick made the motion to approve the agenda as presented. Mr. Datt seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

2. Determination of Quorum (51%-seven of thirteen)

It was determined that a quorum was present.

3. Approval of Minutes, Adrian Miller, TCC Chairman

Mr. Miller asked for any corrections or changes to the minutes of the scheduled meeting of the TCC on July 13, 2011. There were none.

Mr. Miller entertained a motion to approve the minutes of July 13, 2011 as presented.

Mr. Baucom made a motion to approve the minutes of the scheduled meeting of July 13, 2011 as presented. Mr. Bolick seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

4. Introduction of Guests

Mr. Miller asked guests to please introduce themselves at this time.

Mr. Baucom introduced Ms. Amanda Reid, Project Coordinator with the Town of Cramerton.

5. Public Comment Period

Mr. Miller stated that during the public comment period, comments made should be kept to a reasonable period of time. There were no public comments and Mr. Miller declared that the Public Comment Period was closed.

6. 2040 State Transportation Plan, Presenter: Shannon Ransom, NCDOT Gaston MPO Coordinator

Mr. Miller stated that NCDOT is updating its Statewide Transportation Plan and that Ms. Ransom will provide a brief overview of the Plan's horizon year period, state growth assumptions and schedule.

Ms. Ransom stated that when she first spoke about the 2040 State Transportation Plan a few meetings ago, she focused on the process, the schedule, and the initial activities. Today, she

wanted to inform the TCC about the status of the ongoing activities and what has transpired thus far.

The 2040 Plan consists of the following:

- Challenges and opportunities
- Long-term modal infrastructure and service needs
- A sustainable financing strategy
- A framework of strategic long-term spending (Safety, Mobility, Infrastructure Health)
- Policy or procedure adjustments needed to meet program delivery targets.

Ms. Ransom stated that Secretary Conte has asked that the Board of Transportation adopt the plan by June, 2012. She added that there are MPO and RPO comment/workshops planned for the winter, 2011-2012. Currently, the second round of Public Involvement has been initiated and Webinars occurred for MPOs and RPOs in September, 2011.

Ms. Ransom pointed out that the Technical Elements are in development such as modal needs and costs estimates, transportation system performance, current revenue sources and revenue options. She also pointed out that there will be a 20% decrease in motor tax revenues caused by the current Fuel Efficiency Standards placed on new cars.

Because of the uncertain financial future, new revenue options are under consideration and some of these options are as follows:

- System tolling of interstate highway and urban loops
- Fee on vehicle miles traveled
- Local vehicle property tax
- Local option sales tax
- Fee on automobile insurance

Ms. Ransom asked the TCC to provide feedback on the following and to think of not necessarily their specific region but overall North Carolina:

1. What other revenue sources should be considered
2. What other investment priorities should be considered
3. What high priority targets should be considered

Ms. Ransom informed the TCC that Tyler Bray of NCDOT and Mark Boggs from Adkins are working on this plan and that the 2040 Plan can be viewed at its website: <http://www.ncdot.org/performance/reform/2040Plan>.

Mr. Graham reminded the TCC that many of them had answered the first round of the Public Involvement survey and encouraged the members to answer the second round as well. He also invited the TCC members to email or talk with him and staff about any concerns. He added that he received notice that there will be a meeting in Hickory tomorrow for elected officials to discuss

long range transportation goals. There will also be three additional meetings in the state in the next few months.

A brief discussion ensued.

As this item was for information purposes, no action was needed at this time.

7. Federal Planning Grant Administration, Presenter: Loretta Barren, Federal Highway Administration (FHWA)

Mr. Miller stated that Ms. Barren will provide federal grant fund users information on federal requirements associated with the use of such funds.

Ms. Barren stated that the presentation will show how FHWA manages the planning funds for the MPOs in the state. All the sources of planning and research funds come from US Code (104F Planning Grant and 5303 Transit Planning Grants) and some funds come from our National Highway Assistance Funds. Ms. Barren added that since the funds come from different sources, there is a mix and a match of different rules and the manner in which funds may specifically be used. As an example, food isn't PL funded because our funding is tied to transportation projects. Ms. Barren added that we are bound by a Common Grant Rule (49 CFR Part 18) which establishes uniform administrative rules for Federal grants and cooperative agreements, and sub-awards to states, local governments and Indian Tribal governments.

Ms. Barren explained that the Common Grant Rule covers the following:

- Financial Management
- Use of Equipment
- Procurement of equipment
- Sub-allocation of funds to local governments

All Federal funds go through the state to the MPOs. Distribution of PL funds is made possible by the following:

1. All PL funds are made available to MPOs
2. A PL funding formula has been developed by the state in consultation with the MPOs and approved by the FHWA.
3. PL funds are distributed by activities that benefit the MPOs
4. State cannot use PL funds for their grant administration

Mr. Graham asked about a possible rescission of PL funds. Ms. Barren stated that rescission occurs with unobligated fund balances so if the funds have not been spent, FWHA perceives that the MPO apparently did not need the funds. If the MPOs spent their funding, they should not experience a rescission of funds.

Ms. Barren added that FHWA does not define what can be done with PL funds other than by definition of an Expenditure which is *whatever is necessary to carry out transportation planning within the Metropolitan Planning Area as outlined in 23 CFR.*

Eligible Expenditures are as follows:

- Must be eligible under Title 23 U.S.C
- Necessary and reasonable
- Verifiable from records
- Cost not incurred prior to authorization
- Allowable under applicable cost principles (indirect and in-kind pre-approved).

Ms. Barren reviewed documentation requirements for MPOs that records must be retained by MPOs for a period of 3 years from the date the last expenditure report was submitted for reimbursements.

Since this item was for informational use, no action was needed at this time.

8. Approve the Final Air Quality Conformity Analysis, Amended 2035 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) and the 2012-2018 Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program, Presenter: Bernie Yacobucci, Transportation Planner I

Mr. Yacobucci asked the TCC for their recommendation to the TAC to approve the Final Air Quality Conformity Analysis, Amended 2035 LRTP, and the Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program.

There were no questions for Mr. Yacobucci.

Mr. Miller entertained a motion to recommend approval to the TAC of the Final Air Quality Conformity Analysis as presented.

Mr. Krouse made a motion to recommend approval to the TAC of the Final Air Quality Conformity Analysis as presented. Mr. Williams seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously

Mr. Miller entertained a motion to recommend approval to the TAC of the amended 2035 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP).

Mr. Williams made a motion to recommend approval to the TAC of the amended 2035 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP). Mr. Bolick seconded the motion and the motion was approved unanimously.

Mr. Miller entertained a motion to recommend approval to the TAC of the 2012-2018 Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program.

Mr. Kahler made a motion to recommend approval to the TAC of the 2012-2018 Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program. Mr. Thompson seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Yacobucci stated that at the next TCC meeting, there may be an amendment to the MTIP concerning moving the way station somewhere else in Gaston County or to Cleveland County. There may be another amendment concerning the Mount Holly River Front Greenway and another amendment regarding resurfacing on I-85, mile marker 8.4 to 13.9 in Cleveland and Gaston Counties.

9. Gaston Urban Area MPO Highway, Project Rankings for the Strategic Planning Office of Transportation (SPOT) Program, Presenter: Bernie Yacobucci, Transportation Planner I

Mr. Yacobucci stated that the TCC will review the final ranking of the Gaston MPO projects as determined by the SPOT program and discuss the assignment of the Gaston MPO's allotted 1,300 points to the projects. He added that he already assigned and allotted 100 points to the top projects on the list to simplify the ranking.

A brief discussion ensued.

Mr. Graham stated that there will be another TCC meeting in November so we have another month to work on the SPOT Program and recommend a final point distribution. Upon the TCC recommendation of approval, the TAC will then adopt the SPOT Program at their TAC meeting in November.

Mr. Miller was concerned that there was not much time to thoroughly score these projects. Mr. Holder advised that during this cycle, the TCC must approve the score that it has before them now and added that the next round for the SPOT Program begins again in January, 2012, and scoring will occur every year after that. The TCC will be able to have yearly opportunities to rank these projects in the SPOT Program.

Mr. Bolick made a motion to approve the SPOT Program rankings as amended and presented. Mr. Baucom seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

At this time, the TCC broke for a 20 minute lunch break.

Mr. Miller called the meeting back to order.

10. Gaston Urban Area MPO Bicycle/Pedestrian Project Rankings for the Strategic Planning Office of Transportation (SPOT) Program, Presenter: Jason Pauling, Transportation Planner I

Mr. Graham introduced Mr. Pauling as the MPO's new Transportation Planner and added the Jason comes to us from Mecklenburg County where he was a Planner in the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Parks and Recreation Department.

Mr. Pauling reviewed the final rankings of the Gaston MPO bike/ped projects as determined by the SPOT program. The TCC will discuss 10 pedestrian projects and 10 bicycle projects and select the 5 top projects from each.

Mr. Graham added that the Safe Routes to School program projects are also included in this selection process list.

Mr. Krouse remarked that the TCC has already ranked these projects. Mr. Graham stated that the TCC has already run a methodology and has ranked 10 pedestrian projects and 10 bicycle projects. Currently, the SPOT Program has a record of 39 projects from the MPO - 19 projects submitted in previous years and include the Safe Routes to Schools projects and 20 ranked projects. Mr. Yacobucci added that this current list of 39 projects presented today is the list of SPOT rankings for these projects.

Mr. Krouse made a motion to accept the top 5 pedestrian projects and the top 5 bicycle projects as presented and that the project rankings reflect the SPOT Program methodology. Mr. Bolick seconded the motion but wished to add to the motion that the TCC accepts the NCDOT SPOT Methodology for the rankings of projects for the past and for future rankings.

A brief discussion ensued.

Mr. Miller called for a vote.

The motion passed by a vote of 6 to 5 with Ms. Key, Mr. Thompson, Mr. Datt, Mr. Kahler, and Mr. Baucom casting the dissenting votes.

11. Gaston Urban Area MPO Transit Project Rankings for the Strategic Planning Office of Transportation (SPOT) Program, Presenter: Bernie Yacobucci, Transportation Planner I

Mr. Yacobucci stated that he and Ms. Key will review the final ranking of the Gaston MPO transit projects as determined by the SPOT program. Ms. Key stated that there are 3 projects on the STIP for future funding and she will meet with Mr. Yacobucci to discuss final ranking.

No action was needed at this time by the TCC.

12. FY 2016-2017 Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) Call for Projects, Presenter: Jason Pauling, Transportation Planner I

Mr. Pauling stated that NCDOT has notified the Gaston MPO about the CMAQ process for 2.0 prioritization and the development of the 2014 STIP. Gaston MPO staff is requesting that all interested parties submit applications for eligible projects to be considered for CMAQ funding. The deadline for applications is at the end of October.

Mr. Pauling added that CMAQ projects typically consist of improvements such as increasing pedestrian travel through the construction of sidewalks or greenways, new local transit service routes, alternative fuel transit or passenger vehicle purchases, and intersection improvements

including turn lanes, roundabouts, etc. Individual projects should be a minimum of \$100,000. There is a maximum of \$1,700,507 in Federal CMAQ dollars available each year based on the project amounts submitted last year for 2013, 2014 and 2015 project requests. The total project cost including the local 20% match is \$2,130,133 per year and \$4,260,266 for both years.

Mr. Kahler asked about CMAQ funding for an electric car for the town of Dallas. Mr. Graham stated that the CMAQ funding for an electric car is 80% of the difference between a regular vehicle and an electric vehicle. The local share is 20% of the difference between a regular vehicle and an electric vehicle.

Mr. Baucom made a motion to approve the CMAQ call for projects for the fiscal years of 2016 and 2017 with the inclusion of the Town of Dallas' CMAQ funding request for an electric car that they may submit. Mr. Williams seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

13. NCDOT Bicycle and Pedestrian Planning Grant Initiative, Presenter: Jason Pauling, Transportation Planner I

Mr. Pauling stated that the NCDOT Division of Bicycle and Pedestrian Planning has issued a call for proposals this year for municipalities to develop a bicycle or pedestrian plan. Applications are due by December 2, 2011, and the application must be accompanied by the appropriate Resolution of Support by the MPO.

Mr. Pauling added that if a municipality has a Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan already in place, they have a better chance of securing funds when they submit their application along with their existing Bike and Pedestrian Plan.

No action was needed at this time as this item was for information use.

14. Household Travel Survey Update, Presenter, Bernie Yacobucci: Transportation Planner I

Mr. Yacobucci gave an update on the initial assessment of the trial run for the Household Travel Survey. He discussed a trip base travel survey which clocks mileage from home to work and he also discussed a tour base travel survey which clocks mileage from many stops such as from home to daycare to work and back.

Mr. Yacobucci added that a press release will go out on the Household Travel Survey and he wanted the TCC members to be aware that they may have to provide some information on it.

No action was needed at this time as this item was for information only.

15. New Business

There was no new business presented

16. Other Business

MPO Staff Update

- Gastonia 85X Express Ridership History
- Next TCC meeting: November 9, 2011

17. Adjournment:

There being no other business to discuss, Mr. Miller entertained a motion to adjourn the TCC meeting.

Mr. Williams made a motion to adjourn the meeting with Mr. Thompson seconding the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Miller thanked all members for coming to the meeting today.

The meeting adjourned at 1:30 pm.

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Agenda Item #6

To: TCC Members
From: Bernie Yacobucci, Transportation Planner I
Date: November 9, 2011
Subject: Gaston Urban Area MPO Transit Project Rankings for the Strategic Planning Office of Transportation (SPOT) Program

Background

A maximum of 100 points can be assigned per project. Staff recommends that 100 points be assigned for the transit projects in the Gaston Urban Area MPO as follows:

- 100 points for replacement buses
- 100 points for the multimodal facility
- 100 points for a downtown trolley

Staff Recommendation

Recommend Approval to TAC

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SPOT ID	GOAL	TIER	TRANSIT PARTNERS	STIP#	DESCRIPTION	FLEET	ADD VEH	3 YR COST	HR\$/PTS	CONNECT/PTS	TECH/PTS	AGE/PTS	FACILITY/PTS	STATE SCORE	STATE Order
1358	mobility	sub regional	GASTONIA/TA TRANSIT	TD-5113	Facility - Intermodal Center - new design, acquisition, construction	9		\$6,500		4.6	4.1		17.70	26.4	13
1392	health	sub regional	GASTONIA/TA TRANSIT	TA-5103	Replacement Bus	9	3	\$1,200			0.8	21.06		21.8	19
1353	health	sub regional	GASTONIA/TA TRANSIT	TA-5109	Expansion Bus - Trolley	9	1	\$350	5.7	4.6	0.2			10.5	52

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Agenda Item #7

To: TCC Members
From: Bernie Yacobucci, Transportation Planner I
Date: November 9, 2011
Subject: 2012-2018 Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program (MTIP) and 2035 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) Amendments

Background

Changes have occurred to current projects in the adopted 2012-2018 MTIP and 2035 LRTP. New projects are also being proposed. Staff recommends amending the 2012-2018 MTIP and 2035 LRTP to include these changes.

Staff Recommendation

Recommend Approval to TAC

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Proposed 2012-2018 MTIP Amendments

TIP Number	Project Type	Road	Project Description	Reason for Amendment	Current FY	Proposed FY	Cost
I-4928	Weigh Station Study	I-85	Weigh Station for Trucks Traffic separation Study Implementation and Closure	New Project	NA	TBD	TBD
Y-5500	Study	Statewide	Implement and Closure	New Project	NA	2012	\$400,000
BK-5120	Bridge	SR 1802	Replace Bridge No. 170 on Colt Thornburg Road over Creek	Delayed Construction. Bridge management needs additional time to complete environmental document due to replacing bridge with culvert.	2011	2012	\$500,000
W-5311	Bridge	US 321 at Robinson Road	Replace overhead Railroad Bridge to allow for construction of two-lane, two-way road for Robinson Road. Construct right turn lane for US 321 northbound approach and construct two limited movement crossover and revise existing flasher.	Delayed right of way Delayed construction Division waiting for railroad decision as to building a new bridge adjacent to project.	2011 2012	2012 2013	\$1,935,000
S-5106	Various, Phase II	Statewide	North Carolina Scenic Byways Land Conservation Initiative: to advance the permanent protection of natural, historic, cultural, and visual resources along 25 of North Carolina's Scenic Byways	Added right of way not previously programmed	NA	2012	\$2,145,500
I-5503	Road	I-85	Mill 2 inches, heavy patching and resurface on I-85 from MM 8.4 to MM 13.9	New Project	N/A	2013	\$7,000,000
EB-5014	Greenway	N/A	Mount Holly Riverfront Greenway - The length of the project is approximately 1.7 miles. It begins at Mount Holly Municipal Complex and ends at Tuckaseegee Park. The cross-section is a 10-foot wide asphalt surface with a 2-foot select material shoulder on either side of the asphalt pavement and a 3-foot grass shoulder.	Construction funding allocated	N/A	2013	\$800,000

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**RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE GASTON URBAN AREA
METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION (MPO)
TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE APPROVING
THE AMENDED 2012-2018 METROPOLITAN
TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM**

WHEREAS, the Gaston Urban Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO), and the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) are actively involved in transportation planning for the Gaston Urban Area; and

WHEREAS, the Gaston Urban Area Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC) is the duly recognized transportation decision making body for the 3-C transportation planning process in the Gaston Urban Area pursuant to 23 CFR Part 134; and

WHEREAS, the Gaston Urban Area Technical Coordinating Committee (TCC) and the TAC for the MPO have prepared an amendment to the Gaston Urban Area 2012-2018 Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program (MTIP) for the MPO; and

WHEREAS, it is recognized that the proper movement of traffic within and through the Gaston Urban Area MPO is a highly desirable element of the amended 2012-2018 Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program for the orderly growth and development of the Urban Area; and

WHEREAS, after the full study of the 2012-2018 Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Plan, the TAC of the Gaston Urban Area MPO finds the Plan meets the goals and objectives for the Gaston Urban Area; and

WHEREAS, after full study the Gaston Urban Area finds the amended 2012-2018 Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Plan meets the requirements of the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act a Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU); and

WHEREAS, the public has had the opportunity to review and comment on the amended 2012-2018 Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Plan through document sharing; and

WHEREAS, the 2012-2018 Gaston Urban Area Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program is a subset of the currently conforming Gaston Urban Area MPO amended 2035 Long Range Transportation Plan;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT members of the Gaston Urban Area MPO endorse and approve the amended 2012-2018 Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program

Joe D. Carpenter, Chair, Transportation Advisory Committee
Gaston Urban Area Metropolitan Planning Organization

ATTESTED:

James H. Graham, Jr. AICP, Principal Transportation Planner
Gaston Urban Area MPO Coordinator

Resolution adopted upon a motion of _____seconded by
_____ by a vote of the majority of the Gaston Urban Area
Transportation Advisory Committee.

North Carolina
Gaston County

I, **Cathleen L. Roberts**, a Notary Public for said County and State, do hereby certify that **Joe D. Carpenter** personally appeared before me on this the 29th day of November, 2011, and acknowledge the due execution of the foregoing instrument.

Witness my hand and official seal, this the 29th day of November, 2011.

Cathleen L. Roberts
Notary Public

**RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE GASTON URBAN AREA
METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION (MPO)
TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE APPROVING
THE AMENDED 2035 LONG RANGE TRANSPORTATION
PLAN**

WHEREAS, the Gaston Urban Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO), and the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) are actively involved in transportation planning for the Gaston Urban Area; and

WHEREAS, the Gaston Urban Area Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC) is the duly recognized transportation decision making body for the 3-C transportation planning process in the Gaston Urban Area pursuant to 23 CFR Part 134; and

WHEREAS, the Gaston Urban Area Technical Coordinating Committee (TCC) and the TAC for the MPO have prepared an amendment to the 2035 Long Range Transportation Plan for the MPO; and

WHEREAS, it is recognized that the proper movement of traffic within and through the Gaston Urban Area MPO is a highly desirable element of the amended 2035 Long Range Transportation Plan for the orderly growth and development of the Urban Area; and

WHEREAS, after the full study of the amended Long Range Transportation Plan the TAC of the Gaston Urban Area MPO finds the Plan meets the goals and objectives for the Gaston Urban Area; and

WHEREAS, after full study the Gaston Urban Area finds the amended 2035 Long Range Transportation Plan meets the requirements of the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act a Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU); and

WHEREAS, the amended 2035 Long Range Transportation Plan has at least a 20 year horizon year and is fiscally constrained pursuant to 23 CFR Part 450.322; and

WHEREAS, the public has had the opportunity to review and comment on the amended 2035 Long Range Transportation Plan through document sharing; and

WHEREAS, the Gaston Urban Area Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program is a subset of the currently conforming Gaston Urban Area MPO amended 2035 Multi-Modal Long Range Transportation Plan;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT members of the Gaston Urban Area MPO approve and endorse the amended 2035 Long Range Transportation Plan as prepared by the Gaston Urban Area TCC, the TAC, and NCDOT.

Joe D. Carpenter, Chair, Transportation Advisory Committee
Gaston Urban Area Metropolitan Planning Organization

ATTESTED:

James H. Graham, Jr. AICP, Principal Transportation Planner
Gaston Urban Area MPO Coordinator

Resolution adopted upon a motion of _____, seconded by _____, by a vote of the majority of the Gaston Urban Area Transportation Advisory Committee.

North Carolina
Gaston County

I, **Cathleen L. Roberts**, a Notary Public for said County and State, do hereby certify that **Joe D. Carpenter** personally appeared before me on this the 29th day of November, 2011, and acknowledge the due execution of the foregoing instrument.

Witness my hand and official seal, this the 29th day of November, 2011.

Cathleen L. Roberts
Notary Public

Agenda Item #8

To: TCC Members
From: Jason Pauling, Transportation Planner I
Date: November 9, 2011
Subject: NCDOT Bicycle and Pedestrian Planning Grant Applications

Background:

The NCDOT Division of Bicycle and Pedestrian Planning issued a call for proposals for 2012 for municipalities to develop a bicycle or pedestrian plan. Applications are due by December 2, 2011. Each application must be accompanied by the appropriate resolution of support by the municipality and the MPO. Gastonia and Mount Holly are both applying for pedestrian grants for the 2012 cycle. The City of Belmont was awarded this grant last year, and is in the process of searching for consultants to draft the plan.

Funding:

City of Gastonia Pedestrian Plan:

Total Cost = \$65,000 | NCDOT Cap = \$39,000 (60%) | Local Match = \$26,000 (40%)

Town of Mount Holly Pedestrian Plan:

Total Cost = \$45,000 | NCDOT Cap = \$31,500 (70%) | Local Match = \$13,500 (30%)

Process & Schedule:

An awards committee at NCDOT will evaluate and rank proposals based on how well the plan satisfies the selection criteria. Selected grant recipients must execute a legal agreement with NCDOT prior to receiving funding, which will also include a Municipal Reimbursement Agreement (MRA). This agreement must be executed within six months after notification that the grant has been awarded. In addition, the funded municipality must also submit the final plan to the City Council or other approving authority for adoption. Selected municipalities will receive a formal NTP once the following conditions are met:

1. The Municipal Reimbursement Agreement is fully executed
2. A list of potential steering committee members is submitted to NCDOT
3. An executed consultant contract with approved scope of work and cost proposals is submitted.

Awarded municipalities will have 12-18 months to complete their plan, and the following key dates were established by the Division of Bicycle & Pedestrian Transportation:

Activity	Date
Issue Call for proposals	September 2, 2011
Application submission deadline – 5:00 PM	December 2, 2011
Awards Committee makes recommendations to NCDOT	March, 2012
Municipalities notified of award	June, 2012
MRA executed and Notice to Proceed issued	Within 6 months from award notification
Plan completion date	Within 18 months from issuance of MRA

Action Requested: Recommend approval and resolution of support by TAC



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Agenda Item #9

To: TCC Members
From: Jason Pauling, Transportation Planner I
Date: November 9, 2011
Subject: 2012 Recreational Trails Program – Call for Projects

Background:

The Division of Parks and Recreation and the State Trails Program are instituting a 2012 Federal Recreational Trails Program Pre-Application process. All agencies and non-profit organizations interested in applying for 2012 Recreational Trails Program (RTP) funding are required to complete and submit the online pre-application by December 30, 2011.

Funding:

Minimum grant amount = \$25,000, Maximum Grant Amount = \$75,000

Attachments:

RTP Pre-Application

Action Requested:

For Information and discussion

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Recreational Trails Program 2012 Pre-Application

Due December 30, 2011 by 4:30pm
Pre-Applications submitted after this time will not be considered

Notes:

- Pre-applications are required before applying for 2012 RTP Funding
- Minimum Grant Award \$25,000 - Maximum Grant Award \$75,000

Applicant Information

1. Agency or Organization Name:

2. Federal Tax ID Number:

3. Contact Name:

4. Title:

5. Mailing Address:

City: State: Zip:

6. Telephone:

7. E-mail address:

8. Sponsoring Agency:

Project Information

9. Name of Trail Project:

10. Anticipated Amount of Grant Request:

11. Project classification:

12. Will completion of this project require additional funding other than the RTP grant amount, and the required 25% cash and/or in-kind match?

Yes No

Project Description *(Limit your text to the visible area)*

13. Provide a brief description of your project, what will this RTP grant pay for and accomplish?

14. Provide a brief statement describing your project readiness - ready to build, plans in hand or is project just in concept?

15. Will your agency or organization be responsible for maintenance and management of this trail project? If not, who will and do you have a formal agreement with this second party?

Project Description (Continued)

16. Define your trail project as one of the following: a park specific project; or part of a larger local, regional, state or national trail system.

17. Provide a brief statement describing community support for this project.

Authorization

"I am authorized by the Project Sponsor to submit this pre-application and understand that this pre-application will be evaluated on the basis of the information submitted, and the submission of incorrect information can result in this pre-application being withdrawn from consideration. I further understand that this pre-application may or may not qualify the Project Sponsor to submit a complete 2012 Recreational Trails Program Grant application package."

Typed Name (required):

Title:

Date:

Submission of Application

Once you have completed your application, click the "Submit" button in the upper right-hand corner of your screen and follow the steps to send your pre-application to our server via Adobe.

Vincent T. Newman-Brooks
State Trails Program Grants Manager

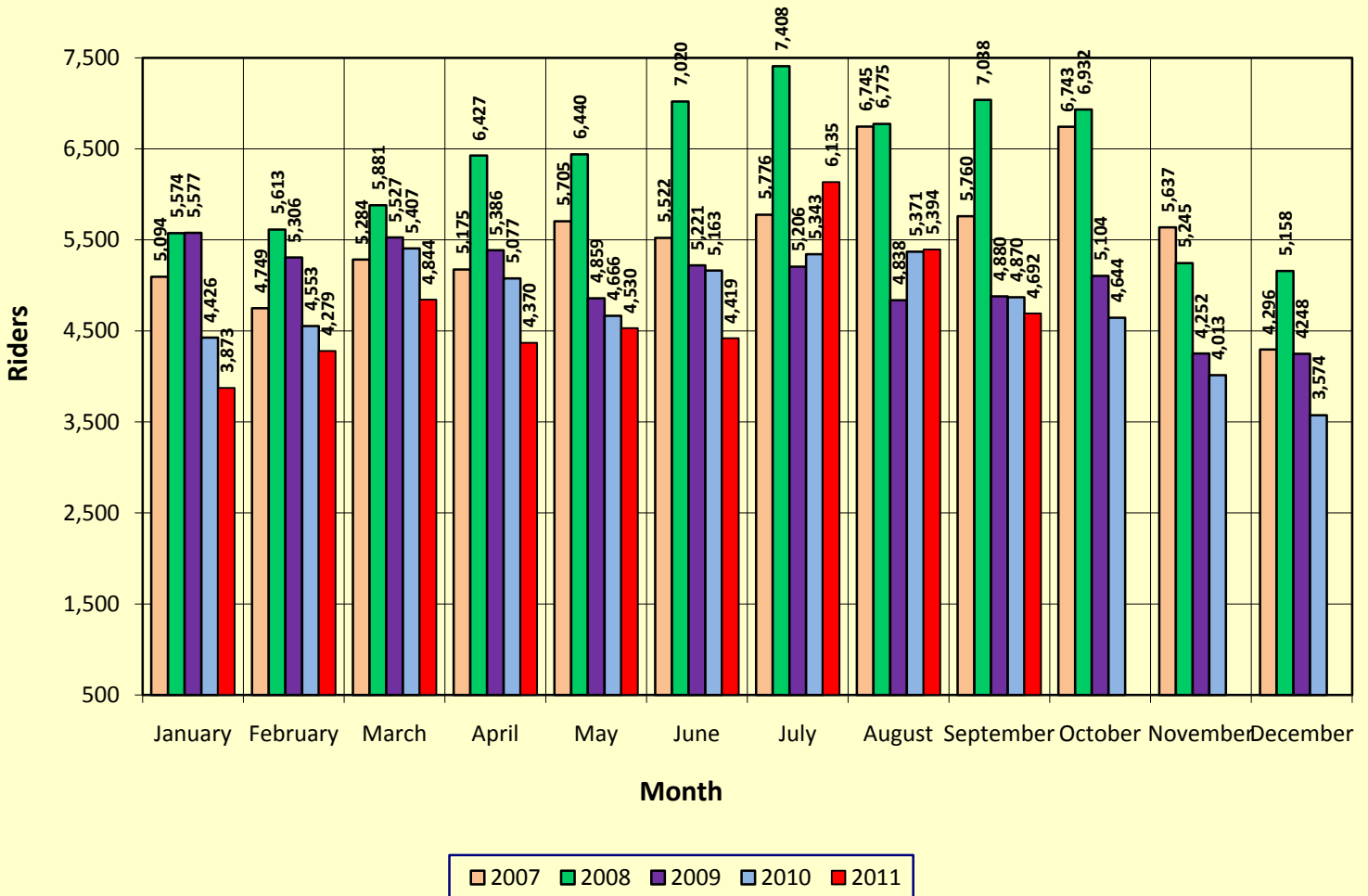
Mail Service Center 1615 Raleigh, NC 27699-1615 Phone: (919) 715-1846 Fax: (919) 715-3085

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Agenda Item #11a

To: TCC Members
From: Bernie Yacobucci, Transportation Planner I
Date: November 9, 2011
Subject: Gastonia 85X Express Ridership History

Gastonia Express Ridership History



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Agenda Item #11b

To: TCC Members
From: Jason T. Pauling, Transportation Planner I
Date: November 9, 2011
Subject: Carolina Thread Trail – Remaining Funds Available for 2011

Gaston County Community Partners,

As a follow up to yesterday's call for projects for funding from the Carolina Thread Trail, I wanted to be transparent with you all that Gaston County only has \$5,516.00 left in your pot of funds for implementation. We have a new Development Director on board, and she is working diligently to try to replenish the funds for Gaston County. Knowing this, I ask that you please don't spend a lot of time on an application for the January deadline. I will let you know as funds become available. If you have a project that you are working on that I may not be aware of, please let me know so that we can brainstorm about alternate funding opportunities.

Thanks and please let me know if you have any questions!

Regards,
Randi

Randi Gates, Carolina Thread Trail Community and Grants Coordinator

Catawba Lands Conservancy

Leading the Carolina Thread Trail

105 W. Morehead Street

Charlotte, NC 28202

O| 704.376.2556 ext. 217

F| 704.342.3340

<http://www.carolinathreadtrail.org>

<http://www.catawbalands.org>

Connect with The Conservancy:



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From: Randi Gates
Sent: Thursday, October 27, 2011 2:41 PM
Subject: Carolina Thread Trail 2012 Implementation Grants - Call for Projects
Importance: High

The Carolina Thread Trail is now accepting grant applications for implementation projects from communities that have adopted Carolina Thread Trail master plans, or expect to have an adopted plan by the application submittal deadlines. Attached you will find a copy of our Grants Program Description, as well as the 2012 Implementation Grant Application.

Please note that the Carolina Thread Trail is now accepting applications on a quarterly cycle.

Submittal deadlines are January 6, April 5, August 10 and October 19.

Please do not hesitate to contact our me with any questions you may have about the grants process and/or to discuss potential projects. We look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,
Randi Gates

Randi Gates, Carolina Thread Trail Community and Grants Coordinator
Catawba Lands Conservancy
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