

**Henderson County
TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE
February 15, 2017**

The Transportation Advisory Committee held a Regularly Called Meeting on February 15, 2017 at 4:00 p.m. in the King Street Meeting Room at 100 North King Street, Hendersonville. Meeting attendance was as follows:

Voting Member	Present	Not in Attendance
Renee Kumor, Chair at-large	√	
Jim Crafton, Vice-Chair at-large	√	
John Bryant, at-large	√	
Beau Waddell, at-large	√	
Mike Edney, Henderson County Commissioner		√
Bill Lapsley, Henderson County Commissioner	√	
Steve Caraker, City of Hendersonville	√	
John Dockendorf, Village of Flat Rock	√	
Larry Freeman, Town of Mills River (Jeff Wells – Alternate)		√
Eddie Henderson, Town of Fletcher		√
George Banta, Town of Laurel Park	√	
Matthew Champion, Transportation Planner (Commissioner’s Alternate)	√	
Autumn Radcliff, Senior Planner (Commissioner’s Alternate)	√	

Also present was Tristan Winkler, FBRMPO Transportation Planner and Steve Cannon, NCDOT Division 14 Engineer. Mrs. Kumor called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

Public Comments: Mountain True would like a public input opportunity for citizens regarding the Balfour Parkway Project before the final NCDOT plan. They asked that the Transportation Advisory Committee hold this meeting with help from Mountain True.

Discussion

Approval of Agenda. No discussion of agenda.

Approval of Minutes. Mr. Lapsley made a motion to approve the minutes of the December 14, 2016 meeting. Mr. Dockendorf seconded the motion and all members voted in favor.

SPOT 5.0 Outline. Ms. Kumor provided the introduction for the SPOT Project. Mr. Champion provided an explanation of the outline provided by the MPO staff. He stated that the new outline is showing what is to come in regards to projects- division, regional, and statewide. He stated that funding will be limited this round of SPOT and advised the committee to look at breaking up specific intersections of larger projects. Mr. Winkler then mentioned that there will be 25 available projects per mode (highway, bike-ped, transit, and aviation). The MPO staff plan is to meet with each county by May about projects for submittal into the next round. Each municipality within the county should draft a list of projects they want to be considered in the final submittal for SPOT 5.0. A list of NCDOT project considerations and current projects will be provided for each jurisdiction before the April HCTAC meeting.

Project Discussion and Submission. Mr. Winkler stated that the next steps after gathering the information from each jurisdiction about their desired projects would be to submit that list to the MPO, who would

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approved the projects which will be submitted into SPOT. The scheduled date for projects to be submitted is July 5, 2017, however, that is subject to change. Mr. Winkler also said that the SPOT Workgroup is working on a document which states the process and criteria for the SPOT projects, which should be available by June 2017. This will be approved by the State Board of Transportation and possibly the State Legislature. Ms. Kumor advised each member in attendance to look over the list to be sent out by Tristan, and bring back ideas, suggestions, and points of discussion for the April meeting.

5307 Funding Formula Study. Ms. Kumor introduced the next item on the agenda which is 5307 funding Formula Study. Mr. Champion said that the transit system for Henderson County is partly funded by the 5307 fund. This fund comes from FTA for urban transit systems. The funds cover the cost of operations and capital costs. Mr. Champion stated that for capital costs it is an 80/20 split, meaning that FTA would pay 80% and then there would be a local match share of 20%. For operations, the County uses capital costs for third party contracting, so there is a reimbursement of 32% and the remaining match is the responsibility of the County. He mentioned that previously the 5307 funds that were allocated to our region were split between the City of Asheville and our county. The City of Asheville is the direct recipient of the funds, and Henderson County is the sub-recipient, therefore the City of Asheville is the governing body that directly deals with FTA. 5307 funds are now being split between Buncombe County, Haywood County, and Henderson County. A new study was conducted in order to find a formula to split up the 5307 funds. There are two proposed formulas, of which the MPO will vote upon next Thursday (2/23/2017). Mr. Champion presented the two alternatives- the current formula and Alternative 9- which is the current formula without revenue miles. He explained that the second option was chosen because revenue miles are not calculated equally among all the transit systems. For Henderson County, revenue miles will start at the first stop and will end at the last stop of the day. In contrast, revenue miles for Buncombe County will start the moment that the bus leaves the lot. Mr. Champion stated that by going with Alternative 9, Henderson County will receive a larger portion of the funds. He mentioned that if all the money is not used by the end of the fiscal year, the money will go back into the regional pot and the other systems will be able to use those additional funds. There is a three year window that the funds have to be used by. Mrs. Radcliff stated that this money will not be spent until FY18. She stated that the County did vote for both options, however staff prefer option Alternative 9 because of the percentage split and the formula is simpler. There was a consensus made among the TAC members present that they supported Alternative 9. Mr. Winkler informed the members that the MPO Board will be asked four points to agree on when addressing the 5307 funding formula: 1) Keeping the City of Asheville as the designated recipient, 2) Allowing 10% of overall funds to go to the Job Access Revenue Commute Program (JARC), 3) Which formula to implement, 4) Whether or not to keep three year phase in period.

Routine Updates

NCDOT Projects. Mr. Cannon identified that NCDOT is still working on Berea Church Rd and that the road will be closed for thru traffic through mid-April. He mentioned that I-26 rehab project will begin again in March and the US-64 road work will begin in June. Mr. Cannon stated there were several resurfacing projects in the County. He also stated that the Erkwood/Shepard Street project has a let date for construction for this fall that does include a roundabout.

Municipal Representatives. Mr. Caraker stated that the sidewalk project for the City of Hendersonville along Four Seasons is underway. In Laurel Park, the widening of Hwy. 64 and roundabouts are a favorite among the public, however there is opposition from business owners. Mr. Dockendorf stated that Flat Rock

