

Cape Fear RPO

Brunswick County ❖ Columbus County
Pender County

Rural Transportation Coordinating Committee September 5th, 2018 Meeting Minutes

Voting Members Present

Stephanie Ayers, NC Ports
Gary Brown, St. James
Helen Bunch, Brunswick County
Karen Dunn, Burgaw
Coke Gray, NCDOT TMSD*
Yvonne Hatcher, Brunswick Transit
Travis Henley, Pender County
Joy Jacobs, Columbus Co. Transportation
Robert Lewis, Whiteville

Thomas Lloyd, Southport*
Caitlyn Marks, NCDOT Division 3
Behshad Norowzi, NCDOT TPD
Alan Pytcher, NCDOT Division 3
Jeff Repp, Boiling Spring Lakes
Allen Serkin, Cape Fear RPO
Darius Sturdivant, NCDOT Division 6
Jake Vares, Oak Island

Others Present

Justin Brantley, Cape Fear COG
Bill Hammond, NCDOT Division 6
Gage King, Henderson Field Airport
Doug LaFave, NCDOT Reg. Traffic Office

Abby Lorenzo, WMPO
Glenn Marshall, Sandy Creek
Katie Moore, WMPO

1. **Introduction and quorum** – Having reached a quorum, Mr. Serkin called the meeting to order at 10:00 AM. The attendees introduced themselves.
2. **Changes or additions to the agenda** – No changes were made to the agenda.
3. **Approval of the minutes** – There were no changes to the minutes. *Ms. Ayers made a motion to approve the minutes. Ms. Hatcher seconded the motion. The motion carried.*
4. **Public Comment** – There was no comment from the public.
5. **Presentation on Freight and NCPorts** – Stephanie Ayers made a presentation about NCPorts. The presentation provided an overview of NCPorts which includes 2 ports and 2 inland facilities. Ms. Ayers mentioned that a recent Panama Canal expansion is expected to increase port traffic throughout the east coast. Ms. Ayers discussed the growth the Wilmington Port has experienced in recent years and highlighted the improvement US 74 from Wilmington to Asheville as their biggest priority. Ms. Ayers identified projects that are also important to NCPorts which include US 74 Rockingham Bypass, US 74 New Wadesboro Bypass, and the US 74 upgrade to interstate standards east of Hamlet to west of Laurinburg.
6. **Prioritization 5.0 Regional Tier Results** – Mr. Serkin summarized the regional tier results. The highest scoring project is the addition of a Southport ferry vessel and mooring facility

expansion at Southport. Other projects includes 3 intersections in Pender County including the roundabout at Watts Landing in the Surf City area as well as the Hampstead bypass.

7. **Prioritization 5.0 Preliminary Division Tier Point Assignments** – Mr. Serkin reviews the local input methodology and went over the preliminary point assignments. The top scoring project is the 74/76 in Columbus County. This project is currently funded. The second best scoring project is the NC 53 three lane widening followed by the widening of NC 87 to four lanes in Columbus County. The number one non-highway project was identified as a sidewalk installation project in Southport. *Mr. Repp made a motion to approve the preliminary point assignments. Ms. Dunn seconded the motion. The motion carried.*
8. **Reports/Updates** – Mr. Serkin gave an update on Prioritization 5.0 identified that local input points are due at the end of October. Mr. Serkin included that the Division Needs results with draft STIP should be released in January '19. Mr. Serkin mentioned that the NCDOT Bicycle & Pedestrian Planning Grant applications are due Nov. 2nd. Mr. Serkin also gave an update on the Columbus County Transportation Plan. The project is undergoing edits and will be sent to the steering committee. Ms. Marks gave a Division 3 update. Mr. Sturdivant a Division 6 update. Mr. Norowski gave an update for the Transportation Planning Branch and discussed the Columbus CTP, Brunswick CTP, as well as the Pender CTP. The Columbus CTP is scheduled to be complete by June 2019. The TPB is working to finish the transportation model for Brunswick County before beginning the Brunswick CTP. In addition the Pender CTP is expected to begin the process in the next two months. Ms. Lorenzo gave an update for the Wilmington MPO.
9. **Adjournment** – There being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 11:00 AM.

Minutes prepared by Justin Brantley on September 7, 2018 and approved by the RTCC on November 7, 2018.