

The Cape Fear Rural Transportation Planning Organization serves as the intergovernmental organization for local elected officials, the North Carolina Department of Transportation, and residents of Brunswick, Columbus and Pender Counties to work cooperatively to address transportation issues.

## Rural Transportation Advisory Committee (RTAC)

### Meeting Minutes

June 12, 2020 • 9:00 AM

Cape Fear Council of Governments • Large Conference Room • Wilmington, NC

#### Voting Members Present

Frank Williams, Brunswick County  
Mike Forte, Brunswick County  
Dave DeLong, St. James  
Glenn Marshall, Sandy Creek  
Craig Caster, Boiling Spring Lakes

Terry Mann, Whiteville  
Jackie Williams-Rowland, Brunswick  
Don Helms, Surf City  
Teresa Batts, Surf City  
Grady Hunt, Board of Transportation

#### Others Present

Caitlin Marks, NCDOT Division 3  
Darius Sturdivant, NCDOT Division 6  
Bill Hammond, NCDOT Division 6  
Ken Clark, NCDOT Division 6  
Nazia Sarder, NCDOT TPD  
Cat Peele, NCDOT Ferry

Iona Thomas, McAdams  
Shweta Nanekar, McAdams  
Graham Bruns, McAdams  
April Radford, Cape Fear COG  
Patrick Flanagan, Cape Fear RPO  
Allen Serkin, Cape Fear COG  
Billy Christ, Congressman Rowzer

#### START-UP

- 1. Call to Order** – RTAC Chair, Frank Williams, called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.
- 2. Roll Call** – Patrick Flanagan took a roll call of all attendees.
- 3. Invocation/Pledge of Allegiance** – Don Helms led the group in an invocation and the Pledge of Allegiance.
- 4. Ethics awareness & conflict of interest statement** – Frank Williams read the ethics awareness statement. No conflict was found.
- 5. Additions or corrections to the agenda** – Patrick Flanagan requested Item 8 be struck from the agenda as no update was available. *Mr. Don Helms made a motion to approve the agenda with that change. Mike Forte seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken.*

*Frank Williams, Yes  
Mike Forte, Second  
Dave DeLong, Not Present*

*Glenn Marshall, Yes  
Terry Mann, Yes  
Jackie Williams-Rowland, Yes*

*Don Helms, Motion*  
*Teresa Batts, Yes*

*Grady Hunt, Not Present*

- 6. Approval of Minutes** – *Mr. Terry Mann made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Mr. Don Helms seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken.*

*Frank Williams, Yes*  
*Mike Forte, Yes*  
*Dave DeLong, Not Present*  
*Glenn Marshall, Yes*  
*Terry Mann, Motion*

*Jackie Williams-Rowland, Yes*  
*Don Helms, Second*  
*Teresa Batts, Yes*  
*Grady Hunt, Not Present*

- 7. Public comment** – There was no comment from the Public. Patrick Flanagan noted there is now a public comment form available on the RPO website where the meeting agendas are posted. Any public comment forms received will be read during the this portion of the meeting.

- 8. ~~Vacancies and appointments~~** (*roster attached*)

## I. PRESENTATIONS

- 9. NC 211 Corridor East Coast Greenway Study Update** – Iona Thomas, of McAdams, gave a presentation to the group. She gave some background on the purpose of the project, what field work had been done up to this point and what the next steps were. She briefed the group on the public input phase of the project that is about to begin and asked everyone, especially those representing areas on the corridor, to help promote the survey to the public.
- 10. NCDOT Funding** – Caitlin Marks, with NCDOT Division 3, gave an update on the funding situation at NCDOT. She highlighted what affect the funding issue is having on local projects and initiatives. She also talked about what NCDOT is doing to address the issue. Patrick Flanagan mentioned the potential ramifications this will have on P6.0 and the SPR application submitted for the upcoming fiscal year.

## II. NEW BUSINESS

- 11. PAS-TRAN FY 2022 FTA Section 5310 Grant Funds Resolution** – RPO staff presented the resolution and discussed its purpose with the group. *Mr. Terry Mann made a motion to approve the Resolution. Mr. Don Helms seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken.*

*Frank Williams, Yes*  
*Mike Forte, Yes*  
*Dave DeLong, Yes*  
*Glenn Marshall, Yes*  
*Terry Mann, Motion*

*Jackie Williams-Rowland, Yes*  
*Don Helms, Second*  
*Teresa Batts, Yes*  
*Grady Hunt, Yes*

**12. Monarch FY 2022 FTA Section 5310 Grant Funds Resolution** – RPO staff presented the resolution and discussed its purpose with the group. *Mrs. Jackie Williams-Rowland made a motion to approve the Resolution. Mr. Terry Mann seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken.*

*Frank Williams, Yes  
Mike Forte, Yes  
Dave DeLong, Yes  
Glenn Marshall, Yes  
Terry Mann, Second*

*Jackie Williams-Rowland, Motion  
Don Helms, Yes  
Teresa Batts, Yes  
Grady Hunt, Yes*

**13. FY 2019-2020 PWP Amendment** – RPO staff presented the proposed budget amendments. *Mr. Mike Forte made a motion to accept the presented amendments to the FY 19-20 PWP. Mr. Don Helms seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken.*

*Frank Williams, Yes  
Mike Forte, Motion  
Dave DeLong, Yes  
Glenn Marshall, Yes  
Terry Mann, Yes*

*Jackie Williams-Rowland, Yes  
Don Helms, Second  
Teresa Batts, Yes  
Grady Hunt, Yes*

**14. Prioritization 6.0 Update** – RPO staff highlighted the changes to the Prioritization 6 schedule due to COVID-19.

### III. REPORTS/UPDATES

- Cape Fear RPO
  - 2020 Meeting Schedule: staff reviewed the adopted schedule.
  - Columbus Co. CTP: staff is working on best way to proceed with public meetings.
  - Brunswick Co. CTP: Brunswick County staff is working with NCDOT on how to proceed.
  - Pender Co. CTP: we are waiting on TPD staffing to begin this plan.
  - Cape Fear Region State Trails Plan: staff went over the survey and outreach efforts for this plan. Also, discussed the Southeast Area Trails plan and their public survey.
  - US 74 Corridor Master Plan: staff informed the group about upcoming resolutions of support for the corridor vision and further, detailed, study of the Delco area associated with upgrading US 74.
  - STIP Amendments: staff highlighted the projects that had been delayed in the most recent STIP adjustment.
- NC Ports (Port of Wilmington): staff gave an update while a short video played. The south gate to the Port is being reconfigured to be automated. The container yard expansion program is underway, and a study is happening to look at deepening the shipping channel.
- NCDOT Division 3 (Brunswick & Pender): Caitlin Marks informed the group of an upcoming town hall meeting at the Wilmington Convention Center.

- NCDOT Division 6 (Columbus): Darius Sturdivant gave an update on Columbus County updates including the opening of the Hallsboro Road interchange on US 74.
- NCDOT Transportation Planning Division (TPD): Nazia Sarder expanded on the Brunswick County CTP update and spoke about the 2050 Moves statewide plan progress. She also reminded everyone of the Bike/Ped planning grant deadline.
- NC Board of Transportation: Grady Hunt told the group NCDOT funding has been the main topic of the Board recently.

## V. OTHER

**15. Open discussion:** staff informed the group The Southport – Fort Fisher ramp project has been delayed by COVID-19. It is expected to be completed in the beginning of July. Frank Williams spoke about virtual meetings and meeting in person in the future and possible ways to proceed for the RTAC. The next meeting will be held September 11<sup>th</sup> at 9 a.m. There was no other business.

**16. Adjourn** – *There being no further discussion Frank Williams adjourned the meeting at 9:58 a.m.*

*Minutes prepared by Patrick Flanagan on June 12th, 2020*