

The Cape Fear Rural Transportation Planning Organization exists to serve 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 Coordinating Committee (RTCC)
Meeting Minutes
August 7, 2024 • 10:30 AM
Held virtually via Zoom**

Voting Members Present

Helen Bunch, Brunswick County
Mo Meehan, Southport
Jeff Repp, Saint James
Dylan Bowen, Columbus County
Robert Lewis, Whiteville
Adam Moran, Pender County
Amy Kimes, Surf City

Ron Meredith, Burgaw
Michelle Howes, NCDOT Division 3
Philip Hart, NCDOT Division 6
Hemal Shah, NCDOT TPD
Greer Shivers, WMPO
Sam Boswell, Cape Fear RPO

Others Present

Nicole Morgan, Boiling Spring Lakes
Doug Shipley, Topsail Beach
Mel Miller, Sandy Creek
Sabra Child, Sandy Creek

Ken Clark, NCDOT Div. 6, District 3
Bill Hammond, NCDOT Division 6
Kim Nguyen, NCDOT IMD
Michael Raynor, NCDOT TPD

I. INTRODUCTORY BUSINESS

- Call to Order** – The meeting was held via video conference on Zoom. Having reached a quorum, Sam Boswell called the meeting to order at 10:30 AM.
- Roll Call** – A roll call was taken of attendees.
- Additions or Corrections to the Agenda** – There were no changes made to the agenda. *Helen Bunch made a motion to approve the agenda. Mo Meehan seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken.*

*Helen Bunch, Yes
Mo Meehan, Yes
Jeff Repp, Yes
Dylan Bowen, Yes
Robert Lewis, Yes*

*Adam Moran, Yes
Amy Kimes, Yes
Ron Meredith, Yes
Michelle Howes, Yes
Philip Hart, Yes*

*Hemal Shah, Yes
Greer Shivers, Yes
Sam Boswell, Yes*

The motion passed unanimously.

4. **Approval of Minutes** – The minutes of the June 5, 2024, RTCC meeting were presented. *Mo Meehan made a motion to approve the minutes. Robert Lewis seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken.*

*Helen Bunch, Yes
Mo Meehan, Yes
Jeff Repp, Yes
Dylan Bowen, Yes
Robert Lewis, Yes*

*Adam Moran, Yes
Amy Kimes, Yes
Ron Meredith, Yes
Michelle Howes, Yes
Philip Hart, Yes*

*Hemal Shah, Yes
Greer Shivers, Yes
Sam Boswell, Yes*

The motion passed unanimously.

5. **Public Comment** – There were no comments from the public.

II. PRESENTATIONS

There were no scheduled presentations for this meeting.

III. REGULAR BUSINESS

6. **P7.0 Regional Impact Local Input Points** – The P7.0 Regional Impact Local Input Point assignment window is from Tuesday, May 28th through Friday, August 30th. RPO staff, with assistance from NCDOT and RPO members, has evaluated projects according to the Local Input Point methodology approved by NCDOT and the Cape Fear RTAC in April 2024.

RPO staff presented the results of the methodology and discussed draft point assignments with the RTCC. Nicole Morgan expressed a desire for local input points to be placed on H230501 – adding turn lanes to NC 87 between Fifty Lakes Drive and S Shore Drive. She proposed that the 81 points preliminarily assigned to H183735 be moved to H230501. This would allow the RPO to place points on an important NC 87 improvement without jeopardizing improvements to NC 211. The improvements included in H183735 are already accounted for the better-scoring projects H090806-A and H090806-C, which are higher on the RPO’s list for point assignments. After being assured that this proposed change would not compromise point assignments to the NC 211 corridor, the committee had no further questions.

Adam Moran made a motion to recommend approval of the adjusted point assignments to the RTAC, and Helen Bunch seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken.

*Helen Bunch, Yes
Mo Meehan, Yes
Jeff Repp, Yes
Dylan Bowen, Yes
Robert Lewis, Yes*

*Adam Moran, Yes
Amy Kimes, Yes
Ron Meredith, Yes
Michelle Howes, Yes
Philip Hart, Yes*

*Hemal Shah, Yes
Greer Shivers, Yes
Sam Boswell, Yes*

The motion passed unanimously.

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7. **Priorities of Existing Committed Projects** – As part of the development of the 2026-2035 Draft STIP, NCDOT is seeking input from Planning Organizations and Divisions on priorities of existing committed projects. These projects have previously been selected for funding through Prioritization cycles 3.0, 4.0, and 5.0. This input will be used to assist the STIP Unit when adjusting schedules to meet federal and state fiscal restraint requirements.

Amy Kimes informed the committee that Surf City would prefer to rank R-5900 ahead of R-5899 given the scope of each project and the momentum they have with developers who are working with the Town on delivering R-5900. Doug Shipley agreed that R-5900 offered a wider range of benefits to the Surf City/Topsail Beach area and supported Amy’s recommendation to swap the priority of those two projects. There were no other questions from the committee.

Amy Kimes made a motion to recommend reprioritizing committed projects R-5900 and R-5899 (placing R-5900 ahead of R-5899 instead of relying on NCDOT’s Seniority Approach), and Adam Moran seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken.

*Helen Bunch, Yes
Mo Meehan, Yes
Jeff Repp, Yes
Dylan Bowen, Yes
Robert Lewis, Yes*

*Adam Moran, Yes
Amy Kimes, Yes
Ron Meredith, Yes
Michelle Howes, Yes
Philip Hart, Yes*

*Hemal Shah, Yes
Greer Shivers, Yes
Sam Boswell, Yes*

The motion passed unanimously.

8. **Resolutions of Support: 5310 Grant Applications** – Monarch and Columbus County Transportation have requested resolutions of support for their applications for FTA 5310 grant funds. *Robert Lewis made a motion to recommend approval of the resolutions of support to the RTAC, and Dylan Bowen seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken.*

*Helen Bunch, Yes
Mo Meehan, Yes
Jeff Repp, Yes
Dylan Bowen, Yes
Robert Lewis, Yes*

*Adam Moran, Yes
Amy Kimes, Yes
Ron Meredith, Yes
Michelle Howes, Yes
Philip Hart, Yes*

*Hemal Shah, Yes
Greer Shivers, Yes
Sam Boswell, Yes*

The motion passed unanimously.

IV. REPORTS/UPDATES

9. Reports/Updates

- **Cape Fear RPO:** Staff provided updates on the revisions to the 2024-2033 STIP. Staff announced that Oak Island and Southport were both awarded planning grants from their applications to IMD's Multimodal Planning Grant program earlier this year. Staff reminded RTCC members that the Pender County CTP public survey remains open through September 1st.
- **NC Ports:** There were no updates from the Ports.
- **Ferry Division:** There were no updates from the Ferry Division.
- **NCDOT Division 3 (Brunswick & Pender):** Michelle Howes gave Division 3 updates.
- **NCDOT Division 6 (Columbus):** Philip Hart gave Division 6 updates.
- **NCDOT Transportation Planning Division (TPD):** Hemal Shah gave updates on the Brunswick, Columbus, and Pender County CTPs.
- **NCDOT Integrated Mobility Division (IMD):** Kim Nguyen gave IMD updates.
- **Wilmington Area MPO (WMPO):** Greer Shivers provided WMPO updates.
- **Grand Strand MPO (GSATS):** There were no updates from GSATS.

IV. OTHER

10. Open discussion – There was no additional discussion.

11. Adjourn – *The meeting was adjourned at 11:40 AM.*