



**TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE (TAC)  
Friday February 8, 2019, 10:30 AM  
Carolina Shores Town Hall**

**Members Present**

Ms. Patty Sykes [Helen Bunch]  
Rep. Frank Iler  
Hon. Debbie Smith (Vice Chair)  
Hon. Bill Brennan  
Mr. Carson Durham  
Hon. Mary Louise Knight  
Hon. Randy Thompson

**Other Attendees**

Mark Hoeweler, GSATS  
Behshad Norowzi, NCDOT  
Dan Newquist, GSATS  
Caitlin Marks, NCDOT  
Chad Kimes, NCDOT  
Brian Slattery  
Roy Cundiff  
Kristina Solberg, FHWA  
Elizabeth Tucker, GSATS

---

Chairman Walt Eccard was not in attendance for today's meeting. Vice Chair Debbie Smith assumed the role of chair and called for a motion to bring the meeting to order in Carolina Shores Town Hall at 10:30AM. It was noted that a quorum was present.

Mr. Mark Hoeweler read the ethics statement and asked the members present if they had any conflicts. There were none stated. Mark also reminded the committee that the deadline for completing the annual Statement of Economic Interest and Real Estate Disclosure Form is April 15, 2019. The forms can now be completed online.

Vice Chair Debbie Smith led the committee through the election of officers for 2019 and 2020. Ms. Smith mentioned that she spoke to Mayor Eccard who indicated his desire to continue to serve the GSATS TAC as the Chair. Ms. Smith nominated Mr. Eccard. Mayor Knight nominated Mayor Smith to continue to serve the GSATS TAC as the Vice Chair. Ms. Smith asked if there were any additional nominations for the Chair or Vice Chair positions. None were stated. **Mayor Knight made a motion to approve the nominations of Mayor Walt Eccard as Chair and Mayor Debbie Smith as Vice Chair for 2019 and**

**2020. All members of the committee voted in favor to elect Mayor Eccard as Chair and Mayor Smith as Vice Chair.**

Following introductions Vice Chair Debbie Smith reviewed the meeting minutes from October 26, 2018. There were no changes proposed. **Mayor Knight made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Mr. Durham seconded. All voted in favor.**

Vice Chair Smith introduced Dan Newquist to review the 2019 Safety Performance Targets. Mr. Newquist began by reviewing the performance measure process which requires state DOTs to develop and adopt annual targets for the following safety criteria: # of fatalities, fatality rate per 100 million Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT), # of serious injuries, serious injury rate per 100 million VMT, and # of non-motorized (bicycle and pedestrian) fatalities and serious injuries. MPOs then must decide to support the adopted state targets or develop and adopt an MPO- specific target. Mr. Newquist reminded the committee that in 2018 GSATS committed to supporting the NCDOT safety targets. As a bi-state MPO with separate targets for SCDOT and NCDOT staff has begun examining the possibility of establishing a GSATS specific set of safety targets. After guidance from SCDOT, NCDOT, and FHWA, it was determined that GSATS staff needed to refine a methodology for establishing and reviewing a regional level target. In the interim, it is recommended to adopt the separate SCDOT and NCDOT safety targets in 2019 with a plan of action to develop GSATS' safety targets beginning in 2020.

Mr. Newquist also presented safety data from NCDOT for the GSATS portion of Brunswick County. Mr. Newquist indicated that 2017 was a particularly notable year for fatalities and serious injuries. Mr. Newquist noted that the performance targets are calculated using a 5-year rolling average, therefore 2017 will be included in the data set for the next 4 years. Several members of the committee expressed concerns regarding the data trends. Rep. Iler asked if there was any way to identify specific locations of these incidents as well as suspected causes. Ms. Marks from NCDOT mentioned that they can share the weekly accident reports from the NCDOT Safety Office with GSATS staff. Mr. Newquist said that there is also valuable information on NCDOT's GIS website which he would be glad to compile and share at a future meeting. Mr. Hoeweler also mentioned that GSATS is in the process of establishing county-level safety committees comprised of law enforcement and EMS personnel to evaluate local level problems and determine suitable countermeasures. Without further discussion Vice Chair Smith presented the resolution that is included in the packet. **Mr. Brennan made a motion to approve the resolution to support the 2019 NCDOT Safety Targets. Mr. Durham seconded. All voted in favor.**

Mr. Hoeweler then provided a status on the project submitted by Sunset Beach for the Direct Attributable (DA) program. Mr. Hoeweler reminded the committee that this was a revised submittal as the initial proposal was essentially a corridor project to improve the entrances at three separate residential developments. Sunset Beach revised their proposal to focus on a single intersection on Old Georgetown Rd at Sandpiper Bay. The TCC has reviewed the project and asked NCDOT staff to check to see if there is a driveway permit on file that would require the developer to install the improvement. NCDOT staff reported that there was no driveway permit on file. The TCC also asked if NCDOT could provide a

crash history summary for that segment of NC 179. NCDOT staff reported that the crash history was minimal and that the project would not warrant funding in any of their programs.

Mr. Durham suggested that in future call for projects a minimum score be included in the evaluation criteria. Mr. Hoeweler agreed that would be warranted. Members of the TAC discussed that they are under no obligation to fund this project. **Mr. Durham made a motion to not approve the funding request for the Old Georgetown Rd and Sandpiper Bay intersection project. Mayor Knight seconded the motion. All voted in favor.**

Mr. Hoeweler invited Ms. Tucker to provide an update on the Transit 5310 program. Ms. Tucker referenced a flyer detailing a call for projects with a submission deadline of February 28<sup>th</sup>, 2019. Ms. Tucker mentioned that she has not received any applications yet but has received some inquiries. Ms. Bunch mentioned that Brunswick County is working with Brunswick Transit on a project proposal.

Mr. Norowzi provided the TAC with an update on the Brunswick County CTP. He mentioned that one additional piece of the model is being worked on. The document will follow the CTP 2.0 template format used throughout the state. Mr. Norowzi also highlighted major discussions at the recent NCDOT Transportation Summit including the advancement of autonomous vehicle technology which will drastically change travel behavior in society. Mr. Norowzi also mentioned the upcoming NCAMPO conference in Charlotte, NC at the end of April. Registration is now open.

Ms. Marks then provided an update on projects that are under construction or in development within NCDOT Division 3. Ms. Marks said that the safety project to install flashers at the intersection of Hickman Rd and Ash-Little Rd is underway and should be completed by the end of the month. Ms. Marks reminded the committee that projects that are scheduled within the first 5 year window on the STIP are not required to go through the SPOT process. Project development is underway for both the interchange project at US 17 (Shallotte Bypass) at US 17 Business and the superstreet project at US 17 at US 17 Business. The same engineering firm is working on both projects which should help with coordination and overall project scheduling. Ms. Marks reminded the committee that the website for the Carolina Bays Parkway project is live. A schedule for upcoming milestones is included in the project report. An SCDOT/ NCDOT merger meeting is scheduled in Florence, SC on March 19<sup>th</sup>, 2019. Rep. Iler had some questions regarding the implications of pursuing a federal environmental document. Mr. Kimes mentioned that the project would be eligible for funding sources beyond those available at the state level. Staff will continue to monitor for potential funding sources.

**With no further discussion, Mr. Brennan made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Durham seconded. All voted in favor.**

Respectfully Submitted,

---

**Mark Hoeweler, MPO Director**

---

**Mayor Walt Eccard, Chair**

---

**Date**