



TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE (TAC)

Monday, October 16, 2023

9:30 AM

Ocean Isle Beach Town Hall

Members Present

Hon. Walt Eccard (Chair)
Ms. Pat Sykes
Mr. John Corbett
Hon. Alan Holden
Mr. Randy Thompson
Rep. Frank Iler
Hon. Debbie Smith (Vice-Chair)
Mr. Bill Brennan

Other Attendees

Mark Hoeweler, GSATS
Elizabeth Tucker, GSATS
Darryl Elliott, GSATS
Tom Dobrydney, GSATS
Chelsea Cogliano, GSATS
Michelle Howes, NCDOT
Behshad Norowzi, NCDOT
Chad Kimes, NCDOT
Kim Nguyen, NCDOT IMD
Helen Bunch, Brunswick County
Caitlin Melvin, NCDOT
Justin Whiteside, Ocean Isle Beach
Savanna Tenenoff, Brunswick Beacon
Sam Boswel, Cape Fear RPO
Joel Strickland

Mayor Eccard welcomed attendees and reminded them that there was a Policy Committee meeting immediately following TAC. Mayor Eccard noted that a quorum was present and brought the meeting to order at 10:30 AM

Mark Hoeweler read the ethics statement and asked the members present if they had any conflicts. There were none stated.

Mayor Eccard reviewed the August 18, 2023, meeting minutes. No revisions made.

Motion to approve the minutes made by Mayor Smith.

Ms. Sykes seconded.

No Discussion: Unanimous vote to approve.

Mayor Eccard asked if anyone was signed up for Public Comment. No one signed up.

Michelle Howes gave a status update on current projects in the area. Project information was included in the packet. Ms. Howes noted the following projects:

1. Pea Landing/Thomasboro is open to traffic and completing punch list items. Final completion by the end of October
2. The Caw Caw bridge on schedule to be open when the pavement markings are complete. Anticipated by the end of the October;
3. 17 & Royal Oak should be completed by the end of November;
4. 130/Waccamaw School pre-con meeting has occurred and estimated completion in Spring 2024;
5. Calabash Bridge replacement underway with an all or nothing incentive of \$750,000 to complete before May 2025;
6. The Holden Beach Bike Lane project was surveyed on October 2nd. Construction is scheduled to begin in December (asphalt in Spring 24) and completed by Memorial Day; and
7. The Shallotte rest area improvement project has pre-con meeting scheduled for October 26th,

Rep. Iler asked why the Highway 17 project still appears to be open. Michelle explained that contract completion occurs after the project is complete.

Rep. Iler also asked about the delay in the Calabash Bridge. Chad Kimes explained that there is a six (6) month moratorium each year on water system disturbance as part of every project involving coastal waters. He also explained that completion includes established vegetation and the project itself could be complete before May.

Tom Dobrydney presented the TCC P7 project submission recommendation. GSATS has fifteen (15) Highway Projects to submit. Approximately fifty (50) projects were identified in the CTP and by local jurisdictions. Projects were tested for initial scoring. Project numbers provide a crosswalk for CTP correlation, not prioritization. NCDOT asked GSATS to submit the Carolina Bays extension project (4A not associated with route, NCDOT coding only). Mr. Dobrydney described the process and provided information on the projects and scoring methodology.

Rep. Iler asked about the scoring difference between P6 and P7 with Carolina Bays. Mr. Dobrydney clarified that before final scoring, he will ensure all scoring criteria are used and will try to identify how to incorporate data driven by South Carolina.

Mr. Thompson asked for clarification on the descriptions and on what the committee is voting. Mr. Dobrydney explained that the vote is for the rough lines from the CTP, NCDOT and GSATS. Chad Kimes explained that the projects must be part of a fiscally constrained document so the lines for Carolina Bays extension is to establish a footprint for getting in the STIP. Mr. Dobrydney indicated he will update the description to be an alternative for clarification.

Motion to approve the P7 Project Submission List with the description modification made by Mayor Smith

Second by Ms. Sykes

No discussion; Unanimous vote to approve.

Elizabeth Tucker presented the FY2024-2033 MTIP update. NCDOT asked MPO's to ensure the project on the FY2024-2033 STIP. NCDOT also requested MPO's include the Statewide Projects as part of the MTIP. Projects on the Statewide Projects have already been approved by the state, MPO's are only including the projects on the MTIP. Mr. Hoeweler added that GSATS will be able to validate the MTIP amendments with the adoption of the MTP at the Policy Committee meeting immediately following the TAC.

Representative Iler asked about the funding and approval of the Statewide Projects. Ms. Tucker clarified that the State has already approved the statewide projects, so TAC is not responsible for approving the list.

Ms. Sykes confirmed that the projects are statewide and not specific to our district.

Motion to approve the GSATS 2024-2023 MTIP made by Mr. Thompson

Second by Ms. Sykes

No discussion; Unanimous vote to approve.

Ms. Tucker presented an Amendment to the approved MTIP to include the Shallotte Signal System. TAC previously approved the project and the funding to utilize Carbon Reduction and STBG-DA to fund the project, however, it could not be added to the MTIP until the MTP was adopted.

Motion to approve the GSATS 2024-2023 MTIP made by Ms. Sykes

Second by Mayor Smith


No discussion; Unanimous vote to approve.

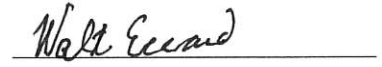
Mr. Hoeweler updated the Committee on the MTP Final Draft. The consultant is ahead of schedule and adoption of the plan is on the agenda for the Policy Committee meeting immediately following the TAC meeting.

Behshad Norowzi presented the CTP update. The document is in final formatting review and anticipated to be adopted by MPO's and RPO's by February/March of 2024.

With no further discussion, Mr. Thompson made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Sykes seconded. The meeting adjourned at 10:15 AM.

Respectfully Submitted,


Mark Hoeweler, MPO Director


Mayor Walt Eccard, Chair

2/16/24
Date