



MEETING MINUTES FOR THE
TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE (TAC)

Friday, April 26, 2024
10:30 AM
Ocean Isle Beach Town Hall

Members Present

Hon. Debbie Smith, Ocean Isle (Vice-Chair)
Ms. Pat Sykes, Brunswick County
Mr. John Corbett, Sunset Beach
Hon. Alan Holden, Holden Beach
Mr. Randy Thompson, Brunswick County
Mr. Gene Vasile, Shallotte
Hon. Daniel Conte, Carolina Shores
Rep. Frank Iler, District 17
Hon. Walt Eccard, Shallotte (Chair) *
Hon. Donna Price Long, Calabash

* remote/virtual

Other Attendees

Mark Hoeweler, GSATS
Elizabeth Tucker, GSATS
Chelsea Cogliano, GSATS
Steve Roach, GSATS
Michelle Howes, NCDOT
Chad Kimes, NCDOT
Sam Boswell, Cape Fear RPO
Helen Bunch, Brunswick County
Pete Larkin, Sunset Beach
Savanna Tenenoff, Brunswick Beacon
Bill Marley, FHWA
Nicholas Morrison, FHWA
Justin Whiteside, Ocean Isle Beach
Behshad Norowzi, NCDOT *
Jim Bradshaw, ABC POA

I. Ethics Awareness & Conflict of Interest Reminder

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

II. Roll Call/Introductions

Meeting called to order at 10:30am by Vice-Chair Mayor Smith. Members of the Committee and people in the audience introduced themselves.

III. Adoption of the Agenda

Vice-Chair Smith addressed the committee and asked if there was a motion to approve the agenda as written. Mr. Randy Thompson requested a copy of the bylaws for the GSATS committee.

Mr. Gene Vasile motioned to approve the agenda. Mr. John Corbett seconded the motion. There was no discussion. The motion carried unanimously.

IV. Public Comment

Vice-Chair Smith addressed the audience to see if anyone has signed up for public comment. One person from the audience signed up for public comment.

Mr. Jim Bradshaw (Representing the ABC POA) from the audience came to speak about Route 211. He spoke about all the new developments/construction along 211 and their impact on roadways. He mentioned a plan for an interchange with 211 and 17 which is pending construction next year but was taken off the list. He asked if NCDOT could re-add 211 to their list of improvements. Also mentioned the end of the boundary at that intersection and Mr. Hoeweler explained why the boundary was drawn this way. Mr. Chad Kimes said this was a priority and Mr. Hoeweler stated this was given the maximum amount of local points.

V. Approval of the Meeting Minutes from February 16, 2024.

Vice-Chair Smith addressed the committee for a motion to approve the minutes from February 16, 2024.

Mr. Randy Thompson motioned to approve the recorded meeting minutes from February 16, 2024. The motion was seconded by Mr. John Corbett. There was no discussion. The motion carried unanimously.

VI. NCDOT Projects Update

Ms. Michelle Howes gave a status update on current projects in the area. Project information was included in the packet. She provided an update on the ongoing construction

projects, including their completion percentage. Committee members discussed the status of several projects. Mr. Kimes honored Rep. Frank Iler and presented him with Division 3 patch. Vice-Chair Smith asked FHWA about the status on Carolina Bays Parkway. Mr. Bill Marley said he would get back with Mr. Hoeweler about this.

VII. MTIP Amendment

Ms. Elizabeth Tucker presented the MTIP amendment. Mr. Hoeweler explained the context of the MTIP amendment and how it accounted for additional funding for statewide projects in the region.

Mr. Vasile motioned to approve the MTIP amendment. Ms. Sykes seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

VIII. Local Input Points Methodology Resolution

Mr. Hoeweler presented the Local Input Points Methodology Resolution. There were no changes advocated by the Committee. Mr. Thompson stated he was unable to find the Methodology on the website. Mr. Hoeweler explained the process. Mr. Corbett asked what the process would entail if changes were made to the methodology. The Committee discussed the pros and cons of updating the points methodology. Ms. Howes addressed the Committee and explained how the points methodology works for GSATS compared to other MPOs. Mr. Thompson explained how his constituents were very concerned about the increasing congestion & traffic in the area. Mr. Kimes elaborated further on the points methodology.

Mr. Thompson motioned to approve the Local Input Points Methodology. Mr. Corbett seconded the motion. There was no discussion. The motion carried unanimously.

IX. Study Area Boundary

Mr. Hoeweler explained the reasoning behind the study area boundaries and what the Technical Coordinating Committee (TCC) approved for recommendation to the TAC. Mr. Corbett expressed concern for his community and wondered if this accurately represented the growth. Mr. Hoeweler responded, acknowledging the size of the area in relation to funding and project prioritization. Committee members discussed this in further depth.

Ms. Sykes motioned to keep Study Area A and reject Study Area B. Mr. Thompson seconded her motion. Mr. Hoeweler stated that the recommendation from the TCC was the action item before the committee. Mr. Justin Whiteside explained why the TCC came up with its recommendation to include Study Area A and B together. Ms. Helen Bunch came to the podium and mentioned that the prior vote at TCC was not unanimous. She also stated that the Brunswick County Planning Department did not feel that Zone B will be urban in twenty years.

After in-depth discussion, Ms. Sykes rescinded her prior motion and motioned to adopt Study Areas A and B. Mr. Vasile seconded the motion. Rep. Her abstained. There was no further discussion. The motion passed. There were 8 in favor, 1 abstention, and 1 opposed (Mr. Thompson).

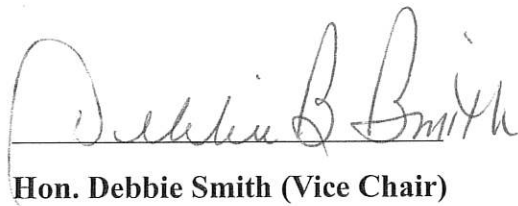
X. Adjourn

Ms. Smith adjourned the meeting at 12:04pm.

Respectfully Submitted,



Mark Hoeweler, MPO Director



Hon. Debbie Smith (Vice Chair)

8/19/24

Date