Chairman Walt Eccard noted that a quorum was present and brought the meeting to order in Carolina Shores Town Hall at 10:00AM.

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

Chairman Eccard acknowledged that there were several members of the public in attendance at the meeting and noted that there was no public comment opportunity listed on the agenda. Mr. Bill Brennan made a motion to amend the agenda to include a public comment period. Mr. Durham seconded. All voted in favor.

Mayor Eccard then invited members of the public who wished to speak to address the committee. The following is a summary of the comments expressed during the public comment period:
Champlain welcomed Ms. Carpenter to provide an update on the status of the project.

During second, all voted in favor.

Ms. Skyes made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Mr. Carpenter seconded the motion minutes from September 20, 2019. There were no changes proposed. Ms. Skyes made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Mr. Carpenter seconded. The motion was approved.

Mr. Kimes continued that the current schedule is to narrow the corridor and acquire 3 of 4 properties. He also announced that the consultant recommended an in-field environmental analysis as well.

Please note that the consultant recommended an in-field environmental analysis as well.

Mr. Howard presented his proposal for the project. He highlighted the importance of the project in the context of environmental concerns and potential impacts on local businesses.

Please note that the consultant recommended an in-field environmental analysis as well.

Mr. Howard presented his proposal for the project. He highlighted the importance of the project in the context of environmental concerns and potential impacts on local businesses.

Please note that the consultant recommended an in-field environmental analysis as well.

Mr. Howard presented his proposal for the project. He highlighted the importance of the project in the context of environmental concerns and potential impacts on local businesses.

Please note that the consultant recommended an in-field environmental analysis as well.

Mr. Howard presented his proposal for the project. He highlighted the importance of the project in the context of environmental concerns and potential impacts on local businesses.

Please note that the consultant recommended an in-field environmental analysis as well.

Mr. Howard presented his proposal for the project. He highlighted the importance of the project in the context of environmental concerns and potential impacts on local businesses.

Please note that the consultant recommended an in-field environmental analysis as well.

Mr. Howard presented his proposal for the project. He highlighted the importance of the project in the context of environmental concerns and potential impacts on local businesses.

Please note that the consultant recommended an in-field environmental analysis as well.

Mr. Howard presented his proposal for the project. He highlighted the importance of the project in the context of environmental concerns and potential impacts on local businesses.

Please note that the consultant recommended an in-field environmental analysis as well.
Mayor Holden expressed concerns about the aesthetics of the temporary rails that are in place on the Holden Beach Causeway Bridge. Ms. Marks indicated that the project is scheduled for completion in November 2020 and that there would be no single lane closures between Memorial Day and Labor Day. Mr. Kimes explained that the temporary rail is an additional protection measure for the safety of workers. There was a previous bridge repair accident in North Carolina that resulted in new OSHA standards for bridge repair projects.

Chairman Eccard then introduced GSATS staff member Dan Newquist to brief the committee on the action item pertaining to the GSATS MTIP. Mr. Newquist explained that following the completion of the SPOT 5.0 process, NCDOT has since included projects that were selected for funding on the STIP. The Board of Transportation voted to approve the updated STIP in September which also expanded the program window to FY20-29. The STIP office requested that each MPO update and adopt their respective MTIP to ensure that their project schedule and funding commitment accurately reflects the STIP. The TCC has recommended approval.

Mr. Durham made a motion to adopt the GSATS FY 20-29 MTIP as presented. Mr. Brennan seconded. All voted in favor.

Mr. Newquist continued with the next agenda item which is an action item pertaining to a request from Ocean Isle Beach for an increase in DA funding to support the bike lane installation on First Street. Mr. Newquist reminded the committee of the scope of the project, which includes a 3 mile section on First St. to install 4-5 ft bike lanes on each side of the roadway. The proposal included coordination with NCDOT Division 3 staff on an upcoming resurfacing project that is scheduled for First Street. Following site visits from Division 3 staff and the preparation of more detailed cost estimates, the funding share required from Ocean Isle Beach and GSATS increased from $700,000 to $768,875. Ocean Isle Beach has already committed to $315,000 which is well above the 20% minimum. Mr. Newquist confirmed that there were sufficient DA funds available to cover the revised funding request. Mr. Corbett asked when the funding would be opened up for additional project submissions. Mr. Newquist stated that would not occur in the immediate future as GSATS staff wants to ensure that the three projects that are currently funded proceed smoothly. The Local Project Administration process has been a learning curve to date which may result in potential changes to the submission criteria in a subsequent round of DA call for project proposals.

Mayor Holden expressed concern that Holden Beach has not received its fair share of project consideration over the past five years. Mr. Hoeweler mentioned that the DA project window was open to all jurisdictions. The only one that was received and not awarded funding was the Sunset Beach turn lane proposal. Mr. Hoeweler also reminded committee members that the Metropolitan Transportation Plan process which occurs every five years is an appropriate time to include local project ideas. Inclusion on the MTP ensures that a project concept is eligible for federal funds. Mr. Newquist also mentioned that NC 130 is a high priority corridor for GSATS staff during SPOT 6.0.
With no further discussion, Ms. Sykes made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Brennan seconded.

Respectfully submitted,

Mark Howard, MPO Director

With an annual FST study due in October, the local MPO is in the process of updating the GSAFT data. The new study will be used to inform the planning process for the next round of transportation funding. The GSAFT data is used to allocate funding to communities based on transportation needs.

Mr. Howard updated the committee on the status of the 2050 NC MOVE Process. Mr. Neubauer then directed the committee to updates from NCDOT’s Planning Division.

Interest in a possible sidewalk extension project was expressed by members of the community. Ms. Sykes asked for more information on the project and how it could be incorporated into the overall plan.

During the meeting, concern was expressed about the potential impact on local businesses. Ms. Sykes asked for more information on how the project would be managed to minimize disruption.

Mr. Howard reported on the progress of the project and the steps being taken to ensure minimal impact on the community.