



**RRRPO TAC ZOOM Meeting**  
**Thursday-November 19, 2020**  
**10 am – 12 noon**

**Public is Invited to Attend**

**ZOOM Link:**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89004919831>



# AGENDA: TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Thursday, November 19, 2020  
ZOOM Mtg.  
10 am-12 noon

## 1. Ethics Statement

Chris Whitley, Chairperson

## 2. Amend/Adopt Agenda.....(ACTION NEEDED)

Chris Whitley, Chairperson

## 3. Approval of Minutes from September 2020.....(ACTION NEEDED)

Chris Whitley, Chairperson

## 4. RRRPO Letters of Support.....(ACTION NEEDED)

Lee Snuggs, RRRPO

- Stanly County Senior Services
- Anson County ACT Services

## 5. Electric and Autonomous Vehicles Presentation.....(INFORMATION)

Jason Wager, Centralina Regional Council

## 6. NCDOT Updates

- a. County Updates.....Division Staff
- b. Mobility & Safety Division.....Regional Traffic Staff
- c. NCDOT Corridor Development Engineers.....Scott Miller
- d. Transportation Planning Division.....J. Andy Bailey

## 7. Old Business

## 8. New Business

- Election of New TCC Officers-January 2021
- 2021 TAC Meeting Schedule (December 2020)

## 9. Public Comment

## 10. Adjourn

**Next Meeting:**  
***Thursday, January 21, 2021***  
***Location/Format - TBD***



## Technical Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

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**Members Present:** Chris Whitley (Chairman – Albemarle), Jarvis Woodburn (Vice-Chairman –Anson County), Tony Lanthrop (NCBOT), Richard Allen (Peachland), Wes Hartsell (Norwood), Gary Lowder (Badin), and Bill Peak (New London).

**Members Absent:** Bud Smith (Oakboro), Stoney Rushing (Union County), Tommy Jordan (Stanly County), Bob Usrey (Wadesboro), Michael Herron (Misenheimer), and Joey Estridge (Ansonville).

**Others Present:** J. Andy Bailey (NCDOT-TPD), Bret Canipe (NCDOT), Jeff Littlefield (NCDOT), Pate Butler (NCDOT), Stuart Basham (NCDOT), Scott Miller (NCDOT), Hannah Cook (NCDOT), Kusondra King (NCDOT-TPD), David Wasserman(NCDOT), Lee Snuggs (RRRPO) and Lisa Park (RRRPO).

### Welcome

The meeting convened at 10:05 am. Quorum was established.

#### 1. Ethics Statement

The Ethics Statement was read to members by Chairman Chris Whitley.

#### 2. Approval of Agenda (Approved)

A motion was made by Bill Peak to approve the agenda and was seconded by Jarvis Woodburn. The motion was unanimously approved.

#### 3. Approval of Minutes from May, 2020 (Approved)

A motion was made by Wes Hartsell to approve the May, 2020 minutes and was seconded by Jarvis Woodburn. The motion was unanimously approved.

#### 4. Strategic Transportation Corridor Master Plan (Informative) Kusondra King, NCDOT-TPD

The 292-mile Corridor U serves southwest North Carolina from I-26 in Polk County to U.S. 117 in Wilmington, the primary access to the Port at Wilmington, traversing the state’s southern tier counties and the Charlotte metropolitan area. U.S. 74 carries high truck volumes for the entire length of the corridor and high passenger volumes from Shelby to Monroe. Corridor U overlaps Corridor H (Future

I-74) for 91 miles from Rockingham to Columbus County. The corridor is used as both a regional and statewide connection to major employment centers, airports, and health centers.

**5. US #74 Master Plan Vision Resolution (Approved)**

**Lee Snuggs, RRRPO**

The N.C. Department of Transportation adopted the Strategic Transportation Corridors (STC) Network in 2015 to establish a multimodal, high-priority system of highways, rail lines, ports, and airports to support smart planning, help set long-term investment decisions, and ensure that North Carolina’s economic prosperity goals are achieved. The RRRPO was asked by NCDOT-TPD to consider a resolution for the US#74 Master Plan Vision.

A motion was made by Bill Peak to approve RRRPO support of the US #74 Master Plan Vision Resolution. It was seconded by Gary Lowder and unanimously approved.

**6. RRRPO Letters of Support (Approved)**

**Lee Snuggs, RRRPO**

**Union County/Build Grant**

**City of Albemarle/Build Grant**

**Town of Oakboro/Bike & Ped Grant**

**Monarch/5310 Capital – Purchase of Services Funding**

A motion was made by Wes Hartsell to approve RRRPO support for these jurisdictions. It was seconded by Bill Peak and unanimously approved.

**7. FY 2019-2020 PWP Amendment (Approved)**

**Lee Snuggs, RRRPO**

NCDOT requires an official amendment of the PWP if there is a cost shift of any one category. Staff has billed out more money in the Program & Project Development line item than anticipated because of work for STIP P6.0. Money has been underspent in several other line items, one being Transportation Planning because of the delay in the Anson County CTP. These line items will be shifted but the overall budget will not be changed.

A motion was made by Jarvis Woodburn to approve the 2019-20 PWP Amendment. It was seconded Wes Hartsell and unanimously approved.

**8. STIP Reprogramming-RRRPO (Informative)**  
**Hannah Cook, NCDOT**

STIP Reprogramming Presentation was provided discussing STIP Components, Reprogramming Process and Key Projects in the RRRPO.

**9. NCDOT Updates:**

**a. County: Division Staff**

- **NC 24/27 Widening Project (R-2530B)** - The widening of NC 24/27 from Albemarle to Lake Tillery. Work is underway on the project. It is scheduled to be complete at the end of 2023.
- **NC 24/27 Bridges (B-4974)** – Rehabilitation work is continuing. Construction of the bridge is approximately 83% complete. Completion is scheduled for Summer of 2021.
- **Pinkston River Bridge (B-2506)** – This bridge is located on Pinkston River Road north of Wadesboro behind the airport. Construction has been completed and the bridge was opened to traffic in late May. The contractor has since completed his punch list items and the project is now fully complete.
- **FY2021 Resurfacing Contracts** – NCDOT did let a resurfacing contract for the is fiscal year for the RPO Coverage area. Given the Department’s current financial situation, which we will hear more about from Hannah Cook shortly, I am not sure if that contract is on hold or is being allowed to proceed at this time. I did check with our Division Maintenance Engineer on this earlier this morning and he said he has not heard any updates on it recently.
- **COVID-19 Revenue Losses & Project Suspensions** – NCDOT is experiencing significant revenue losses due to COVID-19. With the public staying home over the last several months, several of our revenue streams which we rely on for funding have been heavily impacted. Traffic volumes and revenues are still down about 20% across the Division. That means that gas sales and gas taxes are decreased significantly also. In addition, sales of both new and used cars are down anywhere from 10-20% across the region. NCDOT relies heavily on revenue from the gas tax along with DMV fees associated with sales of new and used cars. The result is that the Department has lost many million dollars in revenue. The loss of revenue has caused the Department to implement serious cost saving measures.
  - The Department has been forced to pull almost all projects from our 12 month Let List. An updated let list was issued a few weeks ago and Division 10 only has two bridge replacement projects scheduled to be let in the entire Division over the next twelve months.

- Most projects across the Division were suspended effective May 4<sup>th</sup>. The suspensions are irrespective of phases that a given project may be in. In other words, the suspensions were regardless of whether a project is in the environmental planning, design, right of way, or preparing to be let for construction. They are being suspended at this time until the revenue losses from COVID-19 stabilize.
- Those projects all remain on suspension at this time.
- Active construction projects and recently let projects that have already had a Notice To Proceed (NTP) issued prior to May 4<sup>th</sup> are being allowed to proceed forward.
- The suspensions apply to all modes – not just highway projects. In addition to roadway projects, bike and ped, sidewalk, and aviation projects are affected. This affected many of your Locally Administered Projects (LAP) that are being administered by the Division.
- The suspensions apply to bridge projects also.
- Some rail projects were allowed to proceed as planned. This is due to some of the rail projects being funded with a different source of Federal rail dollars that are not affected by the Department’s revenue losses.
- The Department did go below the mandated minimum cash floor in May and June. Our finances have improved considerably over the last month or so. However, we are still not at a point where we can begin reinstating projects to proceed with planning, design, and right of way activities.
- These events will likely result in schedule changes for most projects. NCDOT recently released an updated STIP. Most all projects were pushed out. Those delays range from one year to several years depending on the project and the Department’s ability to fund that project. That document was presented to the NCDOT Board of Transportation at their meeting this month and is expected to be adopted at their October meeting.

**b. Mobility & Safety Division: Regional Traffic Staff**

- Division 10 will be submitting numerous new Safety Projects for funding at the end of September. Unsure of the amount of funding that will be available or the anticipated number of projects that will be selected. Submitted project list will be provided at the November meeting.

**c. NCDOT Corridor Development Engineers: Scott Miller**

- Updates given during Divisional Staff information.

**d. Transportation Planning Division: J. Andy Bailey**

- SPR budgets for FY2022 are currently being developed. It will be provided to the RRRPO by November/December so that planning can begin for the FY2022.

**10. Old Business: None**

**11. New Business: None**

**12. Public Comment: None**

**13. Adjourned at 11:30 am**

**Adopted: This the 19th day of November, 2020.**

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**Chris Whitley, TAC Chairperson**

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**Lee Snuggs, Secretary**



September 24, 2020

Ms. Becky Weemhoff, Director  
Stanly County Senior Services  
283 N. Third Street  
Albemarle, NC 28001

**Re: CONSOLIDATED CAPITAL CALL FOR PROJECTS GRANT APPLICATION: STANLY COUNTY**

Ms. Weemhoff:

This letter serves as support for the Stanly County Senior Services' Consolidated Capital Call for Projects application to the North Carolina Department of Transportation for purchase of service from SCUSA Transportation for Stanly County senior citizens.

SCUSA has provided transportation for elderly citizens for over thirty years. We understand the valuable therapeutic and social benefits that safe, affordable transportation plays as they strive to remain independent and stay in their own homes as they age.

The RRRPO Technical Advisory Committee has unanimously voted to support the Consolidated Capital Call for Projects application from Stanly County Senior Services.

Sincerely,

Chris Whitley,  
Chairman, RRRPO TAC

Lee Snuggs,  
Director, RRRPO



November 19, 2020

Mr. Scott Rowell, Director  
Anson County Transportation System  
Highway 74 W  
P.O. Box 672  
Wadesboro, NC 28170

**Re: CONSOLIDATED CAPITAL CALL FOR PROJECTS GRANT APPLICATION: ANSON COUNTY**

Mr. Rowell:

This letter serves as support for the Anson County Transportation System (ACTS) Consolidated Capital Call for Projects application to the North Carolina Department of Transportation for purchase of service for Anson County residents.

ACTS fleet of vehicles regularly transport individuals to doctor's appointments, nutrition sites, work, post-secondary school, shopping facilities and recreational functions. They offer two types of transportation-Regular Scheduled Routes and Demand Response.

The RRRPO Technical Advisory Committee has unanimously voted to support the Consolidated Capital Call for Projects application from Stanly County Senior Services.

Sincerely,

Chris Whitley,  
Chairman, RRRPO TAC

Lee Snuggs,  
Director, RRRPO

