

Minutes

NWPRPO Regional Comprehensive Transportation Plan
Steering Committee Meeting: #2
June 18th, 2019 11:00AM – 12:00 Noon
The Elkin Center, Room 107, 1461 N Bridge Street, Elkin, NC 28621

Attendees

Andy Bailey, NCDOT
Darryl Vreeland, NCDOT
Michael Abuya, NCDOT
Reuben Crummy, NCDOT
Sean Sizemore, NCDOT
Phillip Craver, NCDOT
Rob Weisz, NCDOT
Lawrence Holdsworth, NWPRPO
Kim Bates, Surry County

Laura Neely, Town of Dobson
Sarah Harris, Town of Elkin
Andrew Meadwell, Davie County
Andy Goodall, Benchmark Planning
Michael Boaz, Pilot Mountain
Matt Settlemyer, Mocksville
Lisa Hughes, Yadkin County
Dawn Vallieres, Yadkin County
Michael Pardue, Jonesville

1. Discuss, finalize and release G&O Survey to the public.

Mr. Holdsworth introduced the Metroquest Survey as the online tool for gathering public input into the goals and objectives for the regional CTP. Holdsworth described the way respondents would be able to rank strategies for developing the transportation network for the different transportation modes. Holdsworth explained the mapping function whereby users would be able to place improvement suggestions on the map. Mr. Holdsworth expressed the need for the committee to share the survey on departmental websites and social media feeds.

Mr. Bailey said the survey should be provided in paper and be distributed to public facilities such as libraries and government offices. Mr. Vreeland suggested sharing the survey with specific interest groups and other sub-units of government such as boards and committees. Mr. Abuya suggested where residents pay utility bills as a location for the survey. Laura Neely suggested a final edit for formatting issues. Mr. Settlemyer asked how long the survey would be released for. Mr. Bailey responded that one month would be needed to collect responses. Ms. Harris asked about how many responses are expected. Mr. Bailey answered that it varies greatly, but with ample distribution, particularly with an emphasis on local organizations, a robust response rate is achievable.

2. Seek input into the Preliminary Vision Statement from the Steering Committee

Mr. Abuya presented a draft vision statement for the plan, a combination of the vision statements from the previous CTP's for each County. Ms. Hughes suggested that the length could be edited.

3. Present Draft Base Year (BY) Traffic Analysis/Deficiencies (Volume/Capacity)

Mr. Abuya provided data on traffic congestion throughout the region highlighting locations in Surry and Davie counties where traffic volume exceeded the roadway capacity. In Surry County, NC 89 and US 601 in the vicinity of Mt. Airy were discussed. In Davie County, US 601 and 158 in Mocksville were a focus. Ms. Hughes asked if information for Yadkin County was available. Mr. Abuya responded that capacity issues were not demonstrated in Yadkin County, but further analysis might reveal more information in other areas. Mr. Abuya emphasized the preliminary nature of the data and that committee feedback would be an important component in providing validity. Mr. Pardue suggested that it would be helpful to view data from the other areas not highlighted in the presentation.

Mr. Crummy presented data on fatal crashes, highlighting locations in Surry County such as I-77/NC 89 and SR1125/ SR1175. In terms of frequency of crashes, I-77/NC-67 and US-601/ Beroth Road, were highlighted in Yadkin County. The Town of Elkin in Surry County demonstrated significant numbers of crashes at the intersection of NC 268 and Bridge Street as well as the intersection of Oak Grove Rd and Johnson Ridge Road. Near Mt. Airy in Surry County, the intersection of I-74 and US 601 showed relatively high numbers of crashes. In Davie County, I-40 and US 601 was a focus.

4. Discuss Draft SE data analysis with the committee

Mr. Vreeland presented population growth trends for the three counties until 2040, highlighting low to moderate growth in Davie and Yadkin Counties, with Surry County showing stability at current population levels. Mr. Abuya asked how the committee felt about the projections. Ms. Hughes said Yadkin has shown a recent decrease in population, but with the efforts of the towns to engage in community development activities and recruitment, that population should increase with an influx of returning residents as well as a younger demographic. Mr. Pardue mentioned that the development of economic opportunities would provide an incentive for young people to stay. Mr. Goodall said that in Surry County, young people were moving out and retirees moving in so the overall average age is increasing. Mr. Weisz asked if the age of the population influenced traffic forecasts, with an older population not commuting as frequently. Mr. Abuya responded that the model would demonstrate the patterns and locations of commuting traffic. Mr. Bailey said that at the next meeting, confirmation of the socioeconomic data would take place and that each County would be asked to provide a formal endorsement of the data by the County Board or Commission.

5. Consider if and how to include Stokes County as part of this Regional CTP

Mr. Bailey said that while Stokes County's plan, which was completed near the time the Regional CTP was requested, would not be included in the Regional CTP, the CTP maps would be upgraded to new CTP standards.

Next Steps/Wrap up

Mr Crummy announced that CTP study notebooks would be provided to committee members to contain minutes and presentations at the next meeting.