



Southwestern Commission

125 Bonnie Lane, Sylva, NC 28779 | 828.586.1962

regiona.org

SOUTHWESTERN RURAL PLANNING ORGANIZATION TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE (TAC) MEETING

September 23, 2019 at 5:00 PM
Chestnut Tree Inn, 37 Tsalagi Rd, Cherokee, NC

AGENDA

Welcome and Housekeeping

1. Introductions and Quorum check (C.B. McKinnon, TAC Chair)
2. Ethics Reminder* (McKinnon)
3. Agenda Approval/Modifications (McKinnon)
4. Public Comment

Action Items

5. Minutes from May 29, 2019 SWRPO TAC meeting (Rose Bauguess)

Guest Presentation:

6. Bucky Galloway, NCDOT Western Regional Traffic Safety Unit

Informational Items

7. SWRPO Staff Update (Bauguess)
8. NCDOT Division 14 Update (Steve Williams)

Other Items

9. TAC Member Updates (All)
10. Adjournment

**In accordance with the State Government Ethics Act, it is the duty of every TAC member to avoid conflicts of interest. If anyone has a conflict of interest with respect to any matters coming before the TAC today, please identify the conflict and refrain from any participation in the matter involved.*

Cherokee County
Andrews
Murphy

Clay County
Hayesville

Graham County
Fontana Dam
Lake Santeetlah
Robbinsville

Jackson County
Dillsboro
Forest Hills
Sylva
Webster

Macon County
Franklin
Highlands

Swain County
Bryson City



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Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC) Meeting Summary

Meeting Date: May 29, 2019

Attendees:

Jurisdiction	Representative	Present
Cherokee County	CB McKinnon – Chair	<input type="checkbox"/>
Andrews	James Reid	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Murphy	Rick Ramsey	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Clay County	Clay Logan	<input type="checkbox"/>
Hayesville	Harry Baughn	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Graham County	Connie Orr	<input type="checkbox"/>
Fontana Dam	Rob Hardy	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lake Santeetlah	Roger Carlton	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Robbinsville	Brian Johnson	<input type="checkbox"/>
Jackson County	Brian McMahan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Dillsboro	Mike Fitzgerald	<input type="checkbox"/>
Forest Hills	Niall Michelsen	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Sylva	Lynda Sossamon	<input type="checkbox"/>
Webster	Tracy Rodes	<input type="checkbox"/>
Macon County	Ronnie Beale	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Franklin	Bob Scott	<input type="checkbox"/>
Highlands	Patrick Taylor	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Swain County	Roger Parsons	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Bryson City	Tom Sutton	<input type="checkbox"/>
NCDOT Board	Jack Debnam	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
TOTAL VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT:		10

Representing	Name	Present
Southwestern RPO	Rose Bauguess	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Southwestern Commission	Becca Scott	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
NCDOT Division 14	Steve Williams	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Jackson County Commissioner	Gayle Woody	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Town of Sylva and TCC	Paige Dowling	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
NCDOT Transportation Planning	Roger Castillo (via phone)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
TOTAL NON-MEMBERS PRESENT:		6

Cherokee County
Andrews
Murphy

Clay County
Hayesville

Graham County
Fontana Dam
Lake Santeetlah
Robbinsville

Jackson County
Dillsboro
Forest Hills
Sylva
Webster

Macon County
Franklin
Highlands

Swain County
Bryson City

Welcome and Housekeeping:

1. Vice-Chair James Reid called the meeting to order. Introductions were made, and Reid determined a quorum was present.
2. Reid directed members to the ethics statement printed at the bottom of the agenda and reminded them about the importance of recognizing a conflict of interest when one exists.
3. Reid asked if there were any modifications to the agenda. Hearing none, Niall Michelsen motioned to approve the agenda as presented, and with a second by Harry Baughn, the agenda was approved.
4. Reid offered the opportunity for public comment; there were none.

Action Items:

5. Rose Bauguess presented the minutes from the March 25, 2019 SWRPO TAC meeting for review and discussion. Brian McMahan motioned to approve the minutes as presented, seconded by Niall Michelsen; the motion carried unanimously.
6. Bauguess presented a proposed amendment to the SWRPO 2018-2019 Planning Work Program. The amendment was proposed to better reflect the actual work activities conducted by RPO staff during the fiscal year. Most notably, much less time has been spent on Prioritization than originally anticipated, and much more time has been spent in Project Development. The total numbers remain the same. Harry Baughn motioned to approve the amendment as presented, seconded by Roger Parsons; the motion carried unanimously.
7. Bauguess presented the proposed SWRPO 2019-2020 Planning Work Program (PWP) for adoption. The total amount of the SWRPO FY20 budget is the same as the previous year, \$141,594. However, an additional \$77,250 was included in the budget for a special project that was recently awarded to conduct a transload feasibility study. NCDOT has requested that we include the amount in our PWP so that we won't need to execute an additional contract with NCDOT, since we are already under contract with NCDOT and the source of the funds is the same. The funds are federal, state, and private, with no local funds requested. Harry Baughn motioned to approve the proposed PWP, seconded by Niall Michelsen; the motion carried unanimously.

Guest Presentation:

8. Mr. Dean Ledbetter, NCDOT Division 12 Corridor Development Engineer, gave a presentation on “Traffic Engineering Basics.” His presentation covered the common requests that traffic engineers receive from citizens and local officials, as well as the considerations that traffic engineers apply to such requests. These included requests for signage, traffic signals, and speed limit changes.

Informational Items:

9. Bauguess provided the RPO staff update, including the following items:
 - Transload Feasibility Study: SWRPO was awarded a State Planning and Research Grant to conduct a feasibility study for a transload facility in the region. The study will have two phases. Phase I will include a market demand study to determine what businesses could benefit from reduced transportation costs by shipping and receiving products via rail into the region, even if they are not located directly adjacent to the rail line. Phase II will include an infrastructure study to determine a suitable site for such a facility and estimate the costs of construction, operation, and maintenance.
 - Prioritization 6.0:
 - The adoption of the 2020-2029 STIP (resulting from Prioritization 5.0) has been extended from July to September 2019
 - There has been a three-month extension in the Prioritization 6.0 schedule. New project submittals will now be due in December 2019.
 - The Prioritization 6.0 Workgroup is complete. Key consensus points include:
 - Committed window is 6 years instead of 5 (ROW 2020-2025)
 - Local Input Points – optional 500 point “flex” between Regional Impact and Division Needs
 - Local Input Points – SWRPO 1300 points in each mode
 - Number of Submittals – Same as P5.0 (SWRPO 20 new submittals + Carryover)
 - “Bundling” of Bike/Ped and Transit projects
 - New Highway Criteria for Modernization projects
 - Macon County CTP: We are currently conducting a public input survey for the Macon County CTP. Anyone who travels in Macon County, even if you don’t live there, is encouraged to complete the survey: MaconMoves.metroquest.com.
 - Bike/Ped Planning Grants: Applications for NCDOT Bicycle and Pedestrian Planning grants are due August 2. If your community is interested in applying your RPO staff can help.

10. Steve Williams provided the Division 14 project status updates.

11. Roger Castillo provided the Transportation Planning Division updates via phone.

Other Items:

12. TAC members were skipped due to time constraints.

13. Ronnie Beale moved to adjourn, seconded by all. The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, September 23, 2019.