

Meeting Minutes

**Salisbury/Wicomico Metropolitan Planning Organization (S/WMPO)
Combined Council & Technical Advisory Committee
August 10, 2015**

**Government Office Building
Council Chambers Room #301
125 N. Division Street
Salisbury, MD**

Attendees:

Council members:

Matt Creamer, Chair, Wicomico County Council
Lyn Erickson, Maryland Department of Transportation (MDOT)
Tom Stevenson, City of Salisbury Mayor's Office
Bunky Luffman, Town of Delmar, Maryland, Commissioner
Rick Konrad, Wicomico County

Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) members:

John Redden, Wicomico County Public Works, Chair
Amanda Pollack, City of Salisbury Public Works, Vice-Chair
Ian Beam, Maryland Department of Transportation (MDOT)
William Hardin, Town of Delmar
Keith Lackie, Maryland Department of Planning (MDP)
Eric Berkheimer, Salisbury University
Brad Bellacicco, Shore Transit

Others:

Keith Hall, S/W MPO staff
Hal Godwin, Sussex County, Delaware
Josh Thomas, Delaware Department of Transportation (DelDOT)
Jamie Smith, Town of Laurel, Delaware
Janelle Cornwell, Sussex County Planning Office
Bobbie Geier, DelDOT Planning
Becky Robinson, Delaware Water Transport Committee
Jamie Lake, STV Inc.

Introduction

Mr. Creamer opened the meeting at 1 P.M. and welcomed everyone.

Presentation -Long Range Transportation Plan –Draft

Jamie Lake, STV and Jacobs Engineering

Mr. Lake gave an overview of the purpose of a long range transportation plan and the process used to develop the S/WMPO's Long Range Transportation Plan, Connect 2045. He noted the purpose of the plan is to assist with guiding the long-term maintenance and future expansion of the region's transportation network. To achieve the purpose, Connect 2045 contains a fiscally constrained financial plan for system preservation and capacity expansion projects for the next 30 years. The long range transportation update process included a public participation process to assist with developing the goals and objectives to serve as the foundation of Connect 2045. To encourage public involvement for this planning effort, the following public participation techniques were used: public meetings; stakeholder interviews; public comments forms; and the draft Connect 2045 available for public review on the S/WMPO website. He added Connect 2045 is a compilation of numerous planning and programming efforts, including, but not limited to the following documents:

- S/WMPO Unified Planning Work Program;
- Transportation planning studies (corridor, pedestrian and cyclist, safety and connectivity, freight plans, etc.);
- Locally adopted comprehensive plans and capital improvement projects;
- MDOT's Consolidated Transportation Program;
- DelDOT's Capital Transportation Program;
- Wicomico and Sussex County Priority Letters for state budgets;
- Shore Transit's Annual Transportation Plan;
- Population forecasts;
- Delmarva Freight Study; and
- Freight movements and mode splits (TranSearch).

Connect 2045 incorporates goals for the following six (6) categories:

- Manage the Existing Transportation System;
- Increase Safety and Security;
- Enhance Access and Mobility;
- Provide a Connected, Multi-modal System;
- Protect the Environment and Quality of Life; and
- Support Economic Development.

Mr. Lake provided an overview of the major components contained in each of the following chapters of the draft Connect 2045:

- Plan purpose and process used to develop Connect 2045;
- S/WMPO's Urbanized Area identifying the community characteristics;
- Roadway Network;
- Bicycle and Pedestrian System;
- Transit System;
- Freight System;

- Safety and Security; and
- Project listing.

At the end of the presentation, Mr. Creamer thanked Mr. Lake for the efforts to date of assisting the S/WMPO with the development of Connect 2045.

Member Updates / Other Business

Priority Letter

Mr. Keith Hall mentioned Wicomico County is in the final stages of preparing this year's Priority Letter for MDOT to consider for future capital programming of transportation improvements along State owned and or maintained transportation facilities in the County. Prior to adoption of the Priority Letter by the County (Executive and Council) and submittal to MDOT, Staff requested an endorsement among the voting members of the S/WMPO Council and TAC to add the following requests:

- Conduct a planning-level feasibility study to prepare and evaluate concepts designed to improve access, performance, and safety for the interchanges at U.S. Route 50 westbound – access to southbound Salisbury Bypass, U.S. Route 50 eastbound – access to southbound and northbound Salisbury Bypass, and Salisbury Bypass westbound – access to northbound U.S. Route 13; and
- Evaluate geometric improvements and signalization at the U.S. Route 50 and Sixty Foot Road intersection.

The S/WMPO Council and TAC members reached consensus to forward a favorable recommendation to the County (Executive and Council) requesting the inclusion of the two (2) aforementioned projects into the Priority Letter.

Public Comments

There were no public comments.

Next Meeting Date/Adjourn

The next meeting of the S/WMPO Council and TAC will be on October 7, 2015 at 1 P.M. and 10:30 A.M., respectively. Mr. Lake informed the attendees of the additional public outreach meeting in Delmar, MD on September 16, 2015.

There being no other business before the S/WMPO Council or TAC, upon a motion by Mr. Konrad, seconded by Mr. Luffman, with all members voting in favor, and none opposed, the meeting was adjourned.