

Greater Charlotte

Regional Freight Mobility Plan



Steering Committee Meeting 4 of 5

August 4, 2016
12:15 p.m. – 2:15 p.m.

*Mecklenburg County Parks & Recreation - Carolina Room
5841 Brookshire Blvd
Charlotte, NC 28216*

MEETING SUMMARY

ATTENDEES

Name	Organization
Andrew Bryant	Lincoln County
Andrew Ventresca	City of Statesville
Bill McCarter	Cleveland County
Brian DuPont	Mounty Holly
Carrie Cook	Charlotte Chamber
Charity Barbee	ElectriCities of NC
Charles Edwards	NCDOT
Cliff Brumfield	Lincoln Econ. Dev. Assoc.
Don Arant	NCRR
Donny Hicks	Gaston County EDC
Doug Paris	Town of Midland
Durwood Laughinghouse	Norfolk Southern
Edd Hauser	UNCC – Transportation Policies
Fern Shubert	Town of Marshville
George Dunlap	Mecklenburg County
Hazel Sarmiento	UNCC – Center for Transportation Policy Studies
Janet Malkemes	CPCC
Jason Wager	CCOG/CCFC
Jennifer Humphreys	CDM Smith
Jessica Hill	CCOG
Krista Goodin	CDM Smith
LaWana Mayfield	City of Charlotte
LeAnn Nixon	Cabarrus EDS
Loretta Barren	FHWA

525 North Tryon Street – 12th Floor
Charlotte, North Carolina 28202
Phone: 704-372-2416 Fax: 704-347-4710

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Name	Organization
Mary Mackson	NC Ports
Michael Sandy	Stanly County
Michelle Nance	CCOG
Mike Manis	CCOG/CEDC
Paul Stratos	Stanly County EDC
Sarah McAulay	Centralina Foundation
Stephen Allen	RFATS – York County
Stuart Hair	Charlotte Douglas International Airport
Sushil Nepal	Town of Huntersville
Tim Gibbs	City of Charlotte DOT
Zac Gordon	City of Kannapolis

AGENDA

- Welcome & Introductions
- Freight Plan Refresher, Vision and Goals
- Presentation of Draft Performance Measures and Overview of Needs
- Presentation of Recommendations and Prioritization Metrics
- Closing Remarks & Next Steps

Welcome & Introductions

Jessica Hill with CCOG welcomed the group and reviewed the agenda.

Freight Plan Refresher, Vision and Goals

Jenny Humphreys with CDM Smith reviewed the status of the Freight Plan elements. She mentioned that the Existing Conditions Report, Goals and Objectives, and Freight Network are final. Draft documents include the Land Use Technical Memorandum – Economic Impact and Corridor Analysis and the Performance Measures, Needs, and Project Prioritization Technical Memorandum

Presentation of Draft Performance Measures and Overview of Needs

Jenny gave a brief summary of the development of the performance measures and an overview of the identified freight needs. She then explained the break out group activity. Each table represented one of the seven goal areas: Goal 1 Economic Competitiveness and Efficiency, Goal 2 Safety and Security, Goal 3 Infrastructure Preservation and Maintenance, Goal 4 Environmental Stewardship, Goal 5 Congestion and Reliability, Goal 6 Performance and Accountability, and Goal 7 Regional Coordination. Each table was given a handout that listed the initial set of freight needs for the region organize by mode.

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Participants were asked to identify which needs helped meet the goal area for their table. Each table was also asked to identify if there were any new needs that should be added to the list. A summary of the break-out activity is attached.

Presentation of Recommendations and Prioritization Metrics

Jenny briefly reviewed the freight factors and prioritization framework. She then explained the second break-out activity which builds on the previous breakout activity. Each table was asked to assign the freight criteria and factor ranking to each need that met their goal area. The freight project relevance categories are:

- **Freight focused** –Addresses a specific freight transportation need.
- **Freight related** –Addresses multiple transportation concerns, of which freight is one element.
- **Freight impacted** –Addresses

The freight factors varied by goal area. A summary of the break-out activity is attached.

Discussion

Following the last break-out activity, each table shared with the attendees their thoughts on the activity and if there were any new needs that they added. A summary of the comments follow:

Table 1: Infrastructure Preservation & Maintenance

- A majority of the needs were related to the Infrastructure Preservation & Maintenance Goal
- A few needs require clarification
- The Aberdeen Railroad is underutilized and would benefit from marketing

Table 2: Performance & Accountability

- New need – look at rail focused business parks
- New need – post freight train schedules at highway at-grade rail crossings (similar to bus schedules) or have access to freight train schedules through an app on a smartphone

Table 3: Economic Competitiveness & Efficiency

- A majority of the needs relate to the economic goal, not necessarily just improving freight
- The group noticed that some of the needs were specific projects for some counties

Table 4: Regional Coordination

- Most of the specific local projects or rail crossings were not related to the regional coordination goal
- New need – alternative fuel corridor along I-85 or I-77

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- Include in the final plan a discussion of the intentional coordination with MPOs in long range transportation planning
- Include in the final plan any coordination requirements for MPOs that may come out of the recent notice of proposed rulemaking
- New need – coordination of private sector localized economic development initiatives

Table 5: Safety & Security

Table 6: Congestion & Reliability

- It will be interesting to see data for the region
- Incident management will be a challenge
- There is a need to improve the last mile access

Table 7: Environmental Stewardship

- The group included environmental justice and social concerns
- New need: alternative fuel options
- New need: training for truck drivers
- Consider adding some of the alternative fuel programs to the list of needs

Closing Remarks & Next Steps

- Michelle Nance with CCOG thanked the participants for attending the meeting
- Attendees were asked to provide additional comments on the needs by August 19th
- The next Freight Steering Committee will be held on October 27, 2016

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