

Greater Charlotte

Regional Freight Mobility Plan



Coordinating Committee Meeting 8 of 8

October 27, 2016
9:30 a.m – 11:30 a.m.

Harris Conference Center

Meeting Notes

Attendees:

Terry Arellano, NCDOT
Loretta Barren, FHWA
Phil Conrad, CR MPO
Linda Dosse, NCDOT
David Gray, SCDOT
Andy Grzyski, City of Charlotte DOT
Bjorn Hansen, GCL MPO
Jessica Hill, CCOG
David Hooper, RFATS

Jenny Humphreys, CDM Smith
Diane Lackey, SCDOT
Cody Moneymaker, WPCOG
Robby Moody, CRCOG
Michelle Nance, CCOG
Averi Ritchie, WPCOG
Candice Rorie, CRTPO
Tim Smith, CDM Smith

An overview of the schedule and deliverables was given to the group.

Discussions and Action Items:

Action items are noted in italics

Final Strategic Freight Network - There was an overview of the latest draft of the Strategic Freight Network, for the review and approval of the Coordinating Committee. It was noted that the network was updated to include Approved NHS Intermodal Connectors, and those were highlighted on the map for the Coordinating Committee. *There were no additional action items on this issue.*

- There was a question about updating or suggesting changes to the National Primary Freight Network.
 - It was asked how to get more links added to the NHS Intermodal Connector list. NCDOT informed the group that they would have to submit a request to FHWA.
 - FHWA asked if this group would be making recommendations for additions to the SFN or to the Critical Urban/Rural Freight Corridors? If so, this group would need to prepare maps, tables and justification showing gaps in the network that would be beneficial to have in the plan and ready for submission to FHWA.
 - *It was suggested that this plan should disregard mileage limit and create a wish list then the NCDOT decide what is critical to include in the state level strategic freight network and for inclusion on the Critical Urban/Rural Freight Corridors.*
- It was noted that I-77 fell is not included in the primary freight network in SC. It does see heavy truck traffic, connecting the Ports of Charleston and Savannah to the Charlotte region.

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Freight Forecasts Technical Memorandum – This tech memo was distributed to the group ahead of the meeting, and the contents and findings were presented.

- It was discussed that SC portions are not included in the FAF4 data. *CDM Smith will follow up on the availability of freight forecasts for this area and will provide a recommendation on how to include those data in this technical memorandum.* It is likely to be recommended that those geographic areas will be supplemented using the TRANSEARCH Commodity Flow data through the partnership with SCDOT.
- Question: What are the parameters or assumptions that were used to determine High, Medium and Low? It was answered that there is some language in the tech memo justifying the determination, and it was noted that typically we use medium when doing freight and traffic forecasts to prevent over-projecting growth it can lead to issues if you over plan.
- FHWA. It might be useful to look at your land use and employment projections to see if they are in the same ballpark as commodity flow forecasts, if not in agreement.

Land Use and Economic Development Technical Memorandum – was distributed to the group ahead of the meeting and discussed as a group.

- It was observed that the Billy Graham Parkway area is showing zero land use as underutilized. It was suggested that it might be a follow up item to make sure this area needs to be relooked at, considering their new strategic plan.
- It was suggested that this analysis could be used for follow up planning and analysis to estimate the value increase of freight growth to extrapolate the amount of land needed to accommodate that growth.
- There was discussion of the newly available Charlotte-Douglas Airport Strategic Master Plan and its related land use recommendations. These include an estimated 56 million sq. feet of distribution space, generating approximately 5000-8000 trucks per day.
- The group requested more detailed maps of the corridors and concentrations. *Those will be included in the final draft of the technical memorandum and GIS files will be provided to CCOG for additional distribution, as needed.*

Update on the Online Survey and One-On-One interviews – This led to a discussion of the survey and interview process.

- There were questions about the number of public versus private sector representatives included in the outreach effort. *It was noted that there will be an appendix to the Charlotte Regional Freight Mobility Plan that details this process and breaks down those figures, with a balance of protecting the identity of the individual participants.*

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Project Recommendations and Implementation Process – The group was given a draft copy of the plan recommendations with the prioritization framework applied.

- It was asked if this list considered projects already in TIPs to see if there are any projects already in the TIPs.
- There was discussion about recommendations based on safety. It was noted that recommendations are made where there are identified “safety concerns,” but that the recommendations are to evaluate further the root cause of the safety problems and what form of improvement would address those safety issues. This might range from improvements in lighting or wayfinding as well as adding capacity, etc.

NCDOT Coordination with the NC Statewide Freight Plan – Ongoing coordination has begun and continued between the CCOG Freight Team and the NCDOT freight team. This has included coordination calls and the sharing of interim deliverables, specifically will focus on the early analysis of truck parking needs. Truck parking has become a high priority focus of NCDOT.

ACTION ITEMS – in addition to the items listed in italics above:

- There are no additional meetings of the Coordinating Committee on the schedule. The team discussed the finalization of the Charlotte Regional Freight Mobility and the Local Freight Profiles in the coming weeks. The team requested that the Coordinating Committee members be available for coordination on the finalization of those plans and any local input needed on that development. Additional group meeting of the Coordinating Committee is left TO BE DETERMINED.
- Feedback on the Freight Recommendations is requested by November 4.
- Land Use and Freight Forecast Tech Memos will be circulated for feedback as soon as direction is finalized on the additional commodity flow data for South Carolina.