



## V. New Business

- **Micro-Transit Update**

Elizabeth Stalls

Elizabeth Stalls gave an update on the Micro-Transit program. Things are moving along but there have been some issues that have needed to be addressed and searched out. This is a ride share service. Proposals are currently being drafted for both operating this program in house or from an outside company. The City of Greenville has decided to move forward with this project as a city project. ECU and the City will not be working together on this project. Funding has been secured to operate the pilot program.

The question about fares was brought up, as to when, who and how these fares would be charged. Currently, transit is looking to start charging fares again in January of 2025. There will be kiosk, at several different locations, where transit passes will be able to be purchased using both cash, debit card or credit cards. Reduced fares for seniors and disabled citizens are being checked into for when fares go back into effect. The question was also brought up about Veterans riding for free. FTA sets who can receive discounted rates, so the city will look at the current recommendations about reduced and free fare riders.

- **MTP Update**

Eliud DeJesus

### **Greenville Urban Area Metropolitan Transportation Plan**

- As of July 10<sup>th</sup>, the Transportation Advisory Committee of the Greenville Urban Area MPO has adopted the new Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP). The MTP is a federally required document within the planning organization which addresses transportation concerns. While the document primarily addresses the concerns of roadways, the MTP also contains Bicycle and Pedestrian recommendations for the roadways within the planning area. These bike/ped facilities are not required to be fiscally constrained to the planning horizon year of 2050, so there is no cost estimates or time frame associated with these projects. Despite this, MPO staff will recommend the inclusion of these bicycle pedestrian facilities when new roadway projects are developed.

### **Carbon Reduction Fund Program: Project Selection and Status**

- On July 19<sup>th</sup>, 2023, we informed the commission that the MPO was in the process of determining a criterion and selecting projects for the Carbon Reduction Fund Program. Since then, there have been four projects submitted for the Program. We are currently in the process of coordinating with NCDOT Division 2 and local municipalities to get cost estimates, and to find ways of collaborating to reduce costs. When the projects get finalized, we will provide further information.

### **STI Update: Prioritization Process and Current State of Funding**

- On May 24<sup>th</sup>, 2024, the Strategic Planning Office (SPOT) released the Statewide scoring and funding availability for the State Prioritization Process 7 (P7). Of the 3 levels of funding (Statewide, Regional, Division), there is \$-34M for our region, and \$-85M for the division. What this means is that no new projects will be funded for this prioritization cycle. We were still encouraged by the SPOT office to continue to process of assigning local input

points, as the resulting scores will help give our MPO a better understanding for how our projects will score in future cycles. Additionally, due to the negative funding availability, there is a chance the STIP projects may be delayed or decommitted entirely.

### **Rail Corridor Study: Current Preliminary Research**

- As discussed in previous MTC meetings, the Greenville Urban Area MPO was not selected to be given Federal Corridor ID. Despite this, preliminary planning work to identify potential travel times, ridership, revenue, and approximate capital costs are starting. Ideally, this information will help strengthen a future application.

### **MPO Future Plans**

- The MPO is planning to work on an amendment to the MTP which will result in an accurate reflection of cost increases of projects within the plan. Additionally, the MPO is working with local municipalities to develop a technical bulletin which will inform the local towns on effective policy and development strategies for complete streets. Complete Streets is an approach to planning, designing and building streets that enables safe access for all users, including pedestrians, bicyclists, motorists and transit riders of all ages and abilities. Here is a link for more information: <https://smartgrowthamerica.org/what-are-complete-streets/> Additionally, MPO Director Eliud De Jesus, announced that he is resigning from his position, effective beginning of August 2024. The City of Greenville, as lead planning agency, will look to fill the position as quickly as possible.
- **By-Law Review** Arcina Dixon  
Gary Fenton made a motion to table this topic until a later meeting.  
Dee Dinsdale seconded  
All approved
- **Priorities for Matt Scully** Arcina Dixon  
The commission reviewed the current list of priorities and decided that some changes needed to be made to the current list. Therefore, the commission decided to add some new areas they would like to focus on at this time. This list will be updated and discussed again at the next meeting. Once approved it will be presented to Matt Scully. One of the areas discussed was how good 5<sup>th</sup> St is looking with the current changes that have been made. Memorial Blvd was a large focus area, especially near the 5<sup>th</sup> St area, it was determined that the monies for the updating of lights and other changes was in place. Adding new and better crosswalk areas was discussed, especially in the Evans and Arlington area. Other topics included having a meeting with the city manager and a possible joint meeting with the county and city to see how to better work together to make our roads safe for the citizens of Greenville.

### **VI. Transit Update**

John Johnson

The current stats show that the transit system has recovered from Covid and that the numbers are moving up in the right direction.

- VII. Committee Announcements/ Comments:** Arcina Dixon  
Dee Dinsdale – discussed that the Jarvis Street Market for lower income residents needs volunteers to help  
Katherine Dale – talked about FROGG’s new trail behind JC Park and some of the areas of the Greenway being blocked off by people.

**VIII. Proposed Agenda Items for September 18, 2024**

1. By-laws review
2. MPO update
3. Priority list for Matt Scully
4. Liz – transit update
5. Safety Task Force Update – left turn issues

**IX. Adjourn Meeting**

Katherine Dale made a motion to adjourn the meeting  
Seconded by Bob Edwards  
All Approved

**MTC Meetings in 2024**

September 18

November 20