



INDEX
TECHNICAL COORDINATION COMMITTEE MEETING
March 13, 2024

	Page No.
Opening Remarks and Introductions	1
FHWA Update	1
NCTIC Updates	1-2
Project Highlight	2
Research Update	2
CLEAR Update	3
2024 STIC Schedule	3
Open Discussion	3
Adjournment	4
Attachment A: Meeting Slides	5



TECHNICAL COORDINATION COMMITTEE MEETING

March 13, 2024

Opening Remarks and Introductions

The North Carolina Technical Coordination Committee (NC-TCC) convened for its quarterly meeting on March 13, 2024, in the Board of Transportation Conference Room and via Microsoft Teams. This gathering aimed to enhance awareness, solicit feedback regarding the North Carolina Transportation Innovation Council (NC-TIC) program, and disseminate updates on the progress and outcomes of ongoing projects. The NC-TIC's mission is to cultivate a culture of collaboration within the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT), ensuring the swift adoption of significant innovations that contribute to the delivery of a contemporary, high-quality transportation system to the public.

Alyson Tamar welcomed attendees and introduced the meeting's agenda. Details regarding the presentation slides and participant attendance are available in Attachment A.

FHWA Update

Edward Parker, the Assistant Division Administrator, provided a brief update from the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), highlighting that STIC funding has been raised from \$100,000 to \$125,000.

NCTIC Updates

After the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) updates, Alyson Tamar shared insights specific to North Carolina. A new Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for the Accelerated Innovation Deployment (AID) Program is open (No. 693JJ324NF-AIDDP). The solicitation period for the current fiscal year (FY 24) is active and will close on May 28th, 2024. Regarding the Every Day Counts initiative (EDC-7), reports are due by May 17th. Current projects are Nighttime Visibility for Safety, Next-Generation Technology in Traffic Incident Management (TIM), Integrating Greenhouse Gas Assessment and Reduction Targets into Transportation Planning, Rethinking Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) for Design-Build, and Strategic Workforce Development. Next highlight was the IDEA program, aimed at supporting projects initiated by investigators with innovative concepts that could significantly improve the safety and efficiency of



the nation's surface transportation network. IDEA considers projects in transit, rail safety, and highways, with funding from the Transportation Research Board (TRB). Funding can be obtained by two project types. Type 1 encompasses concept and exploration ideas and has funding opportunities from \$100,000 - \$150,000. Type 2 are for development of test proven concepts and has similar funding opportunities as Type 1 with cost shares. Reach out to Curtis Bradley (cbradley8@ncdot.gov) for more information.

Project Highlights

Following the NCTIC updates, Olivia Pilkington presented on WomenConnect. While WomenConnect is not an NCTIC project, it is an important initiative and an innovative approach to looking at Workforce Development which is an EDC-7 initiative. The mission of WomenConnect is to inspire, connect and support women to achieve career and personal success within the Department. Women Connect will work to further the mission and values of NCDOT, represent the interests of women, and support NCDOT's efforts to improve diversity and inclusivity throughout the agency. WomenConnect launched on August 2023 and has held over six events over the last six months. There is currently participation amongst nine divisions. Please reach out to Olivia Pilkington (olpilkington@ncdot.gov) for upcoming events and opportunities.

A brief update was provided on the Ladders of Opportunity (separate from WomenConnect). The first deliverable involves evaluating the current status and challenges faced by female engineers through data analysis and staff interviews. The second deliverable will propose modifications to the agency's organizational structure, job classifications, and opportunities for advancement. The project has been allocated \$50,000 for funding. Please reach out to Nastasha Earle-Young (nbearle-young@ncdot.gov) for more information.

Research Update

Following the STIC Project Highlight, Curtis Bradley provided an update on the Research and Development Program. There are approximately 18-20 research projects annually. The Technical Assistance Program offers short term research projects and quick response to problems. It offers up to 120 hours of researcher time and is facilitated through North Carolina State University and the Institute for Transportation Research and Education (ITRE). The Technology Transfer (Implementation) Program encompasses a large breath of projects/ research with development, workshops/ training, conferences, and pilots. There is also pooled funded opportunities with organizations such as National Cooperative Highway Research Program, AASHTO,



Transportation Research Board, and Pooled Fund Studies. Please reach out to Curtis Bradley (cbradley8@ncdot.gov) for more information.

CLEAR Update

Jananki Patel, presented on the CLEAR Program. The CLEAR program was established to communicate lessons, exchange ideas and advice, and record for future development and use. The annual Idea Sharing Innovation Challenge was held last September, and the first-place winner was Deondra Brown with the idea to provide additional services at DMV office locations. The second-place finisher was Adam Preslar with creating a spreadsheet utility agreement forecaster. In addition to the idea sharing, the CLEAR program presents monthly Lunch and Learns. There are four upcoming Lunch and Learns, Understanding the State Transportation Innovation Council Process (March 20), S Line: Building a Transformational Rail Corridor (April 2), Digital Transformation (May 15), NCDOT Revenue & Funding for Projects (June 24). Registration for Lunch and Learns can be found on the CLEAR website and are worth 1-hour PDH credits. Please reach out to Jananki Patel (jhpatel@ncdot.gov) for more information.

2024 STIC Schedule

After conclusion of the CLEAR Updates, the upcoming STIC schedule was viewed.

- February: STIC Application Window Opens
- March 20th: STIC Lunch and Learn
- April 15th: STIC Application Window Closes
- April 19th: STIC Applications sent to TCC
- May 3rd: TCC send Questions back to Applicants
- May 20th: Responses from Applicants due
- May 27th: Responses sent to TCC
- June: NCTIC Meeting - STIC Applicants Present, NCTIC Votes on Projects

Open Discussion

The Committee reviewed the project scoring in preparation of voting on upcoming STIC projects in June. It was recommended to add time into the scoring and grading and to



increase the weight of question 4 (Does the proposal advance the goals and mission of NCDOT?). These changes were deemed necessary to place emphasis on solving problems in the now and ensuring that projects are focused with in NCDOT's mission and intent.

The group requested to receive a copy of all the reports that will be provided in May for active EDC and STIC projects. Additionally, they would like a project update on all.

Adjournment

Concluding the open discussion, Alyson Tamer adjourned the meeting.



ATTACHMENT A: ATTENDANCE AND MEETING SLIDES

TCC 03/13/24 Attendees	
Clare Fullerton (Jacobs)	
Janaki Patel	
Alyson Tamer	
Curtis Bradley	
Michael Mann (Jacobs)	
Olivia Pilkington	
Matt Clarke	
Edward Parker (FHWA)	

