



Bringing Eastern North Carolina Together

Board of Transportation
U.S. 70 Corridor Meeting

Eastern North Carolina MPO/RPO Coalition

- How did we get together
- History of Coalition
- Project Priorities
- 1st Coalition Meeting
- What's Next



How did we get together?

- Summer 2011 –Strategic Hwy Corridors in ENC had changed little over the past several decades.
- It was agreed that to move forward, RPOs and MPOs must work cooperatively to promote key projects in the region



History

- October 7, 2011 – Summit held in Kinston with 7 MPO/RPOs attending
- Purpose was to discuss regional cooperation in project prioritization and top priority projects



History

- October 18, 2011 – working group of MPO and RPO representatives from each of the 7 Transportation Planning Organizations met and discussed top priority highway projects.
- Key assets were discussed and agreed upon
 - Military
 - Agriculture
 - Health Care
 - Tourism
 - Education

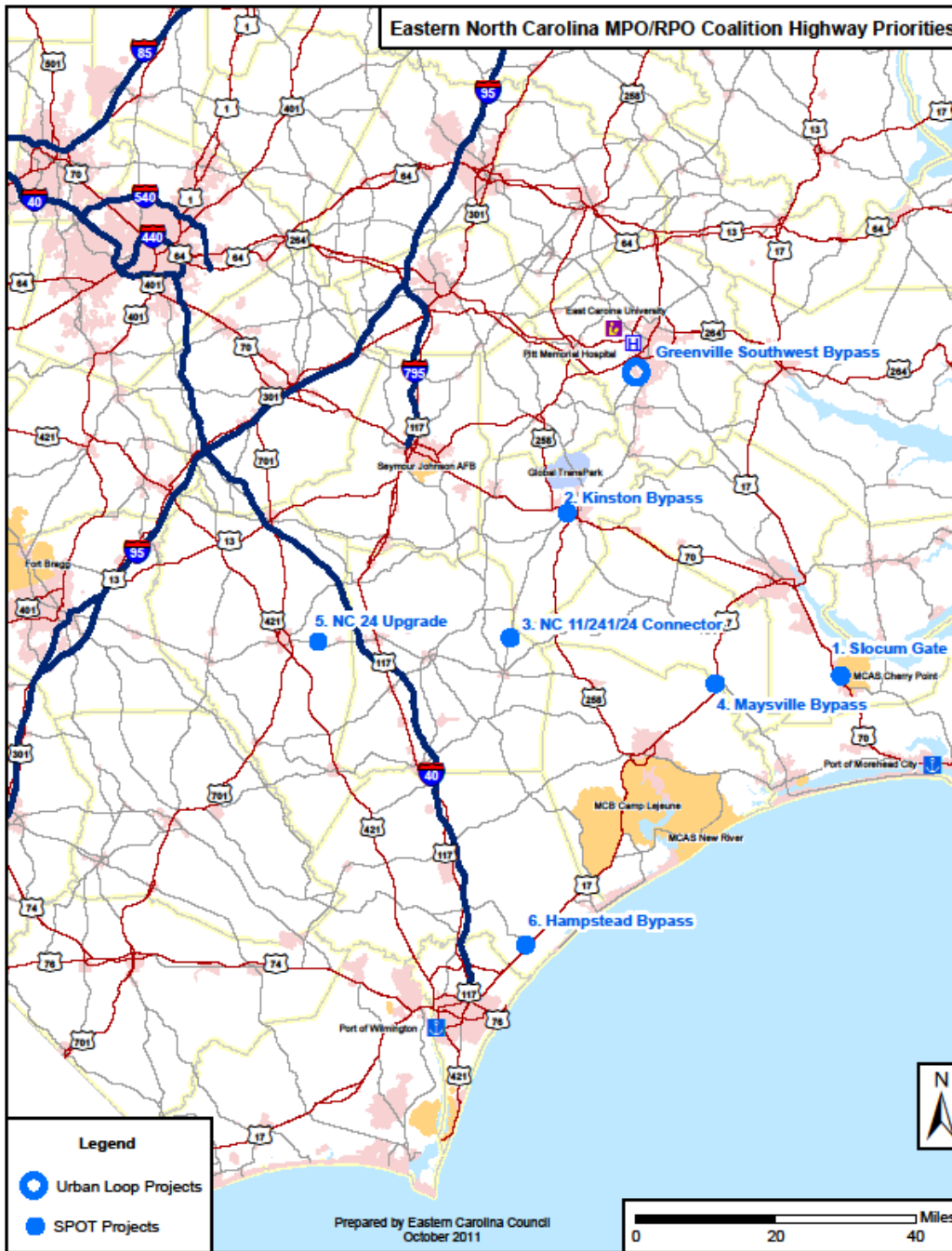


History

- 7 Projects were highlighted as truly regional projects and were drafted into a resolution, which each participating Transportation Planning Organization adopted at their individual board meetings



Eastern North Carolina MPO/RPO Coalition Highway Priorities



Greenville Southwest Bypass, R-2250

- The Greenville Southwest Bypass is an eleven-mile freeway facility that will connect US 264 to NC 11, improving mobility for the Greenville metropolitan area and increasing regional connectivity.



1. Slocum Gate, R-5516

- The Slocum Gate project will improve US 70 at the Marine Corps Air Station Cherry Point Gate in Havelock to enhance access to the base and reduce congestion on US 70.



2. Kinston Bypass, R-2553

- The Kinston Bypass is a proposed freeway facility along US 70 between LaGrange and Dover that will enhance the safety and efficiency of US 70 in Kinston.



3. NC 11/241/24 Connector

- The NC 11/241/24 project will consist of a Pink Hill bypass, upgrading NC 241, and a northern NC 24 bypass of Beulaville. This freeway facility will enhance connectivity between Jacksonville, Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune, Marine Corps Air Station New River and I 95, while also improving mobility between the North Carolina Global Transpark and the Port of Wilmington. This project is a substitute for improving NC 11-903 (R-2204) and US 258 (R-2235) currently identified on the NCDOT Strategic Highway Corridors Vision Plan.



4. Maysville Bypass, R-2514B

- The Maysville Bypass is a proposed freeway that will improve regional mobility within eastern North Carolina by enhancing the efficiency and safety of US 17 between Jacksonville and New Bern.



5. NC 24 Upgrade, R-2303 E & F

- The upgrade of NC 24 between I 40 and I 95 will improve mobility between Fort Bragg and Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune/Marine Corps Air Station New River, while also providing greater regional connectivity to I 95.



6. Hampstead Bypass, R-3300

- The Hampstead Bypass will improve mobility between Jacksonville and Wilmington, while enhancing the connectivity between Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune/Marine Corps Air Station New River and the Port of Wilmington.



History

- March 16, 2012 – Governors Summit was held at the Murphy's Center on the Campus of East Carolina University
- Great discussion from Regional Leaders
 - Jerry Boyd, Jim Pridgen, Michael S. Jones, Eugene Conti, Norris Tolson, Van Smith, Maj. Gen. Hugh Overholt
- Gov. Beverly Purdue spoke on the need for strong transportation system in ENC



Post Summit

- Questions of why other areas were not asked to participate?
- Why were only certain projects listed as regional priorities?
- When was the next regional transportation meeting going to be held and how could other MPO/RPOs participate?



May 11, 2012

- 14 MPOs and RPOs met in Jacksonville to discuss the possibility of a Coalition to discuss the Transportation in Eastern North Carolina
- It was agreed that such a group was needed and that the time for such a coalition was now.

Albemarle RPO • Cape Fear RPO • Down East RPO • Eastern Carolina RPO • Goldsboro MPO
Greenville MPO • Jacksonville MPO • Lumber River RPO • Mid-Carolina RPO • Mid-East RPO
Peanut Belt RPO • Rocky Mount MPO • Upper Coastal Plain RPO • Wilmington MPO



MPO/RPO Staff Meeting

- Met 4 times to determine the structure, staff level leadership, meeting locations, and preliminary agenda.



August 30, 2012

- 1st Eastern North Carolina MPO/RPO Coalition Meeting was held in New Bern.
- Representatives from 14 MPO/RPOs participated covering 41 counties



August 30, 2012

- Coalition Structure
- Equity Formula
- Ferry Tolling
- Projects Updates



Participating Demographics

- 41 Counties
- 2,676,062 population
- 28.06% of NC population





Upcoming Meeting

- October 10, 2012 – 1:00 pm Walnut Creek Country Club, Goldsboro NC
- Items for Discussion
 - Equity Formula
 - Ferry Tolling
 - New Projects for consideration



What's Next?

- 1) Strategically address the collective transportation needs of eastern North Carolina through cooperative dialogue and regional support,
- 2) Educate stakeholders on transportation issues and their impact on our communities, and
- 3) Develop transportation policy recommendations that may enhance the long-term economic prosperity of eastern North Carolina



Questions?

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