



**CHATHAM COUNTY  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
AGENDA ABSTRACT**

**ITEM NUMBER:**  
**MEETING DATE:**  
1-22-08

**PART A**

**Subject:** Amendment to the Triangle Area Rural Planning Organization Memorandum of Understanding

**Action Requested:** See Recommendations.

**Attachments:** 1. Triangle Area Rural Planning Organization Memorandum of Understanding with proposed amendments.

**Submitted By:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Keith Megginson, Planning Director

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**County Manager Review:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Charlie Horne, County Manager

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**This abstract requires review by:**

**County Attorney**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date Reviewed

**Finance Officer**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date Reviewed

**Budget Officer**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date Reviewed

## PART B

**Re: TARPO MOU**

### **Introduction / Background / Previous Board Actions:**

During the Triangle Area Rural Planning Organization (TARPO) Technical Advisory Committee meeting on December 11, 2007 a request was forwarded to the Board of Commissioners of the participating counties to review and make a recommendation on amendments to the TARPO Memorandum of Understanding (MOU).

### **Issues for Further Discussion and Analysis:**

The NCDOT Transportation Planning Branch has directed that all of the rural planning organizations amend their respective Memoranda of Understanding (MOU) to incorporate specific necessary changes and provisions. The attached copy of the amended TARPO MOU shows all of the changes and provisions required by the NCDOT to the original MOU executed on August 28, 2002.

Many of the amendments simply reflect language of amendments that NCDOT directed be made to the by-laws for the RTAC and RTCC. Those by-laws were amended by the RTAC on June 15, 2006. Other major changes address the problem many RPO have experienced with getting a quorum at meetings and provide greater assurance that the RPO will comply with the NC Open Meetings and Open Records Laws (General Statutes 143-318.9 through 143-318.18 and 132-1 through 132-10).

Major changes to the original MOU that are of interest to the County are:

3. Section 1 drops RPO responsibilities 5 (Conduct transportation-related studies and surveys) and 6 (Undertake mutually agreed upon transportation-related tasks to enhance transportation system development, coordination and efficiency.)
4. Section 3.2 provides for an alternate voting member for all RTAC members, providing they meet the same criteria as the original appointee.
5. Section 3.4 states that the membership of jurisdictions that fail to send the member or alternate to two consecutive meetings will be designated as a vacant seat and will not count towards a quorum and that attendance at future meetings will reinstate the member.
6. Section 3.5 defines a quorum as 51% of the members of the RTAC.
7. Section 4.2.A adds the Assistant Manager, Planning Director (replaces the term County Planner) and Clerk as eligible representatives to be appointed to the RTCC.
8. Section 4.3 provides for an alternate voting member for all RTCC members, providing they meet the same criteria as the original appointee; and states that the membership of jurisdictions that fail to send the member or alternate to two consecutive meetings will be designated as a vacant seat and will not count towards a quorum and that attendance at future meetings will reinstate the member.
9. Section 4.4 defines a quorum as 51% of the members of the RTCC.

The Rural Transportation Advisory Committee (RTAC) will consider adopting the amended MOU at its meeting on February 21, 2008. Upon adoption, copies of the MOU will be forwarded to the member counties for signing.

**Re: TARPO MOU**

**Recommendation:** The Planning Department recommends that the Board of Commissioners forward a recommendation that the Triangle Area Rural Planning Organization Technical Advisory Committee adopt the revised Memorandum of Understanding for Cooperative, Comprehensive, and Continuing Transportation Planning and the Establishment of a Rural Planning Organization.