P6.0 Update

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As you may have heard already, the P6.0 Workgroup met Monday and reviewed the latest update on funding availability for new projects from P6.0 scoring. Bottom line is that rising construction/ROW costs have caused the outlook for programming the future 2024-2033 STIP to be a major concern. When considering just currently committed projects, little to no funding will be available for programming of new P6.0 project submittals. The Workgroup reached consensus that moving forward with P6.0 local input points does not seem appropriate and to recommend to the NC Board of Transportation that the remainder of P6.0 be cancelled. SPOT will be presenting this recommendation to the BOT at the Work Session on Wednesday, August 4th.

The Workgroup agreed that finishing quantitative scores provides future value, and SPOT will be completing this task with an expected release of September 2021.

There are still many challenges to overcome with the anticipated programming shortfall and escalating project costs. With the number of project submittals, it's clear that additional transportation revenue is needed to fund the many needs across the state. However, these issues do not jeopardize our current financial standing. There are checks and balances in place to make sure we do not overspend and the Department will continue to let projects in accordance to our spend plan.

The next step is to start Workgroup discussions on how to balance and schedule the 2024-2033 STIP. The Workgroup will continue meeting monthly in the short-term, and we have already heard some innovative and creative ideas.

I personally want to thank all of you for your amazing efforts with P6.0 submittals, data review, and working so well with your local prioritization partners.

We will keep everyone informed as more information is known.

Jason B. Schronce, PE

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