



Regional Transportation Planning

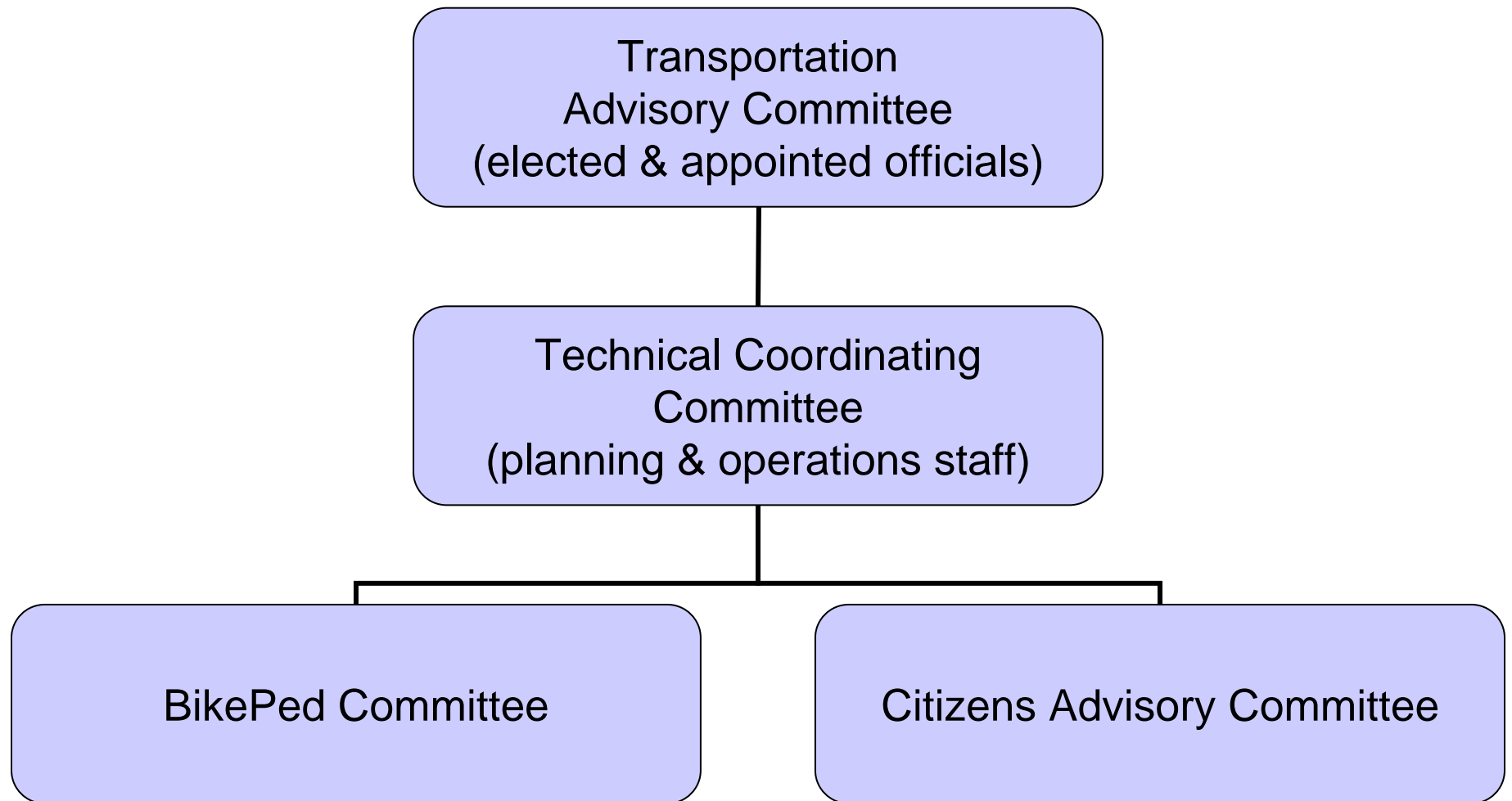
Wilmington Metropolitan Planning Organization
Citizen Advisory Committee
April 15, 2008



Wilmington Urban Area Metropolitan Planning Organization

- MPOs created by Federal Aid Highway Act of 1962
- All contiguous urbanized areas of 50,000 or greater
- 340 MPOs in United States
- 17 MPOs in North Carolina
- Coordinates the planning for and disbursement of all federal transportation funds in the region
- WMPO organized in 1982

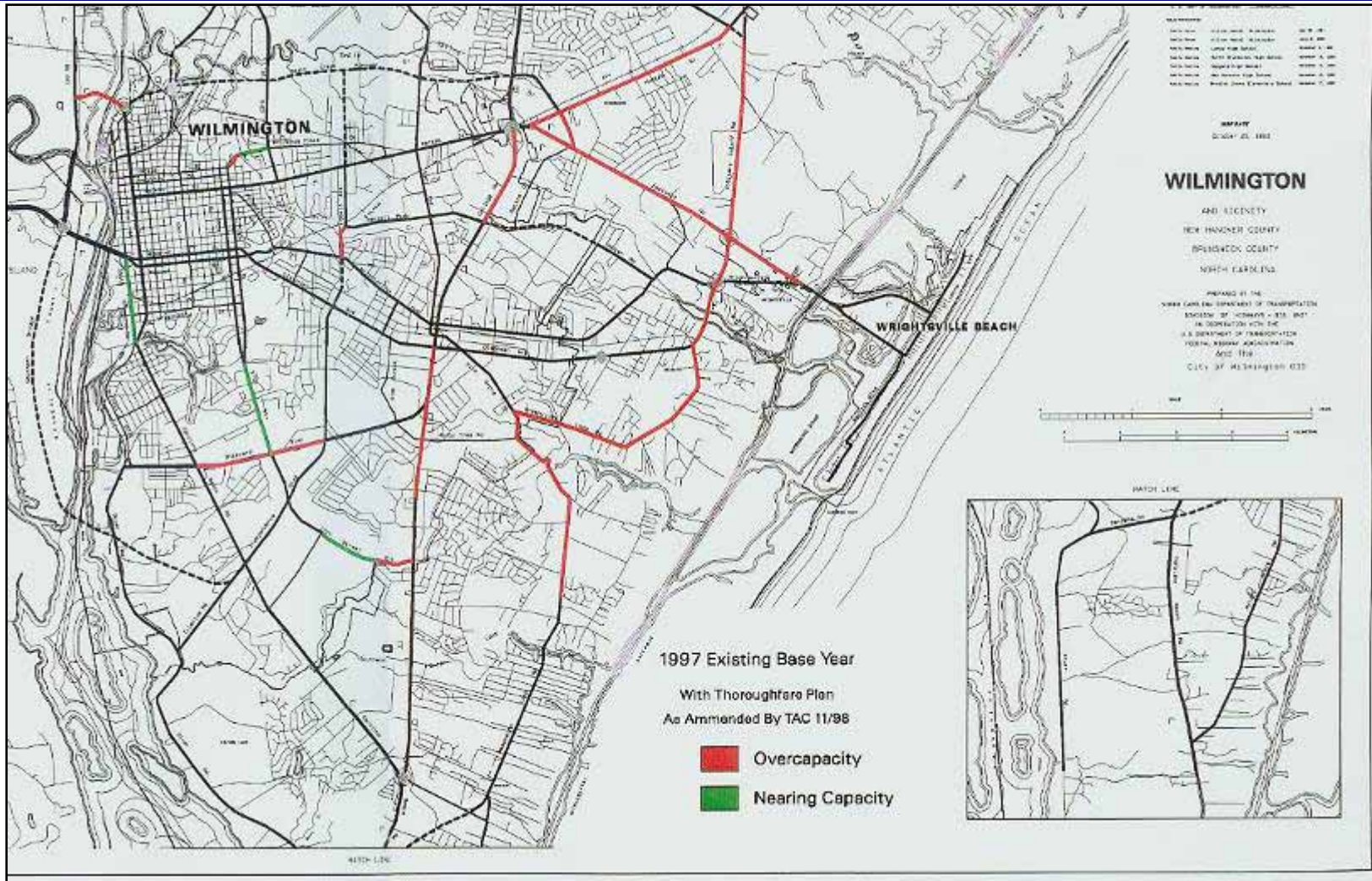
WMPO Structure



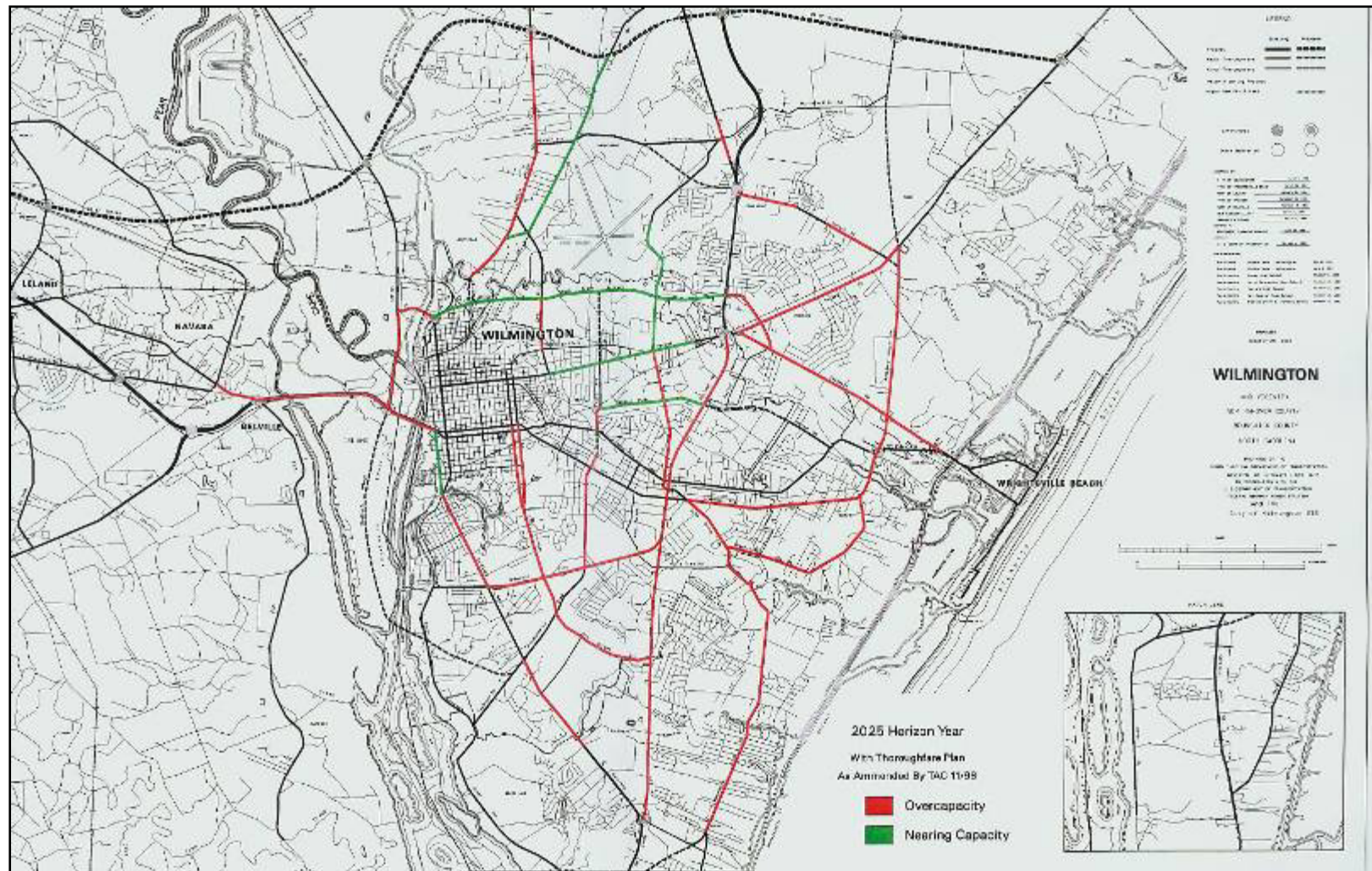
WMPO Responsibilities

- Five-year update to Long Range Transportation Plan
- Develop and implement annual Planning Work Program
- Coordinate all meetings of the TAC and TCC
- Coordinate planning activities with the NCDOT and ensure compliance with federal requirements
- Provide accounting for use of federal planning funds and invoicing member agencies
- Regional travel demand modeling (traffic forecasting)
- Review development for traffic impact and adherence to plans
- Manage consultant contracts
- Collector street planning

Congested Roadways 1997



Congested Roadways 2025



Methods to Improve Mobility

- Construct new facilities or increase capacity existing facilities through expansion (widen roadways)
- Provide increased transportation choice (invest in transit, bicycle, pedestrian facilities)
- Better integrate and connect different land uses (residential, commercial, industrial, public facilities)
- Increase capacity of or decrease demand on existing facilities using transportation systems and demand management (i.e. congestion pricing, carpool incentives, etc.)



2030 Long Range Transportation Plan

Highway Projects Recommended by the LRTP



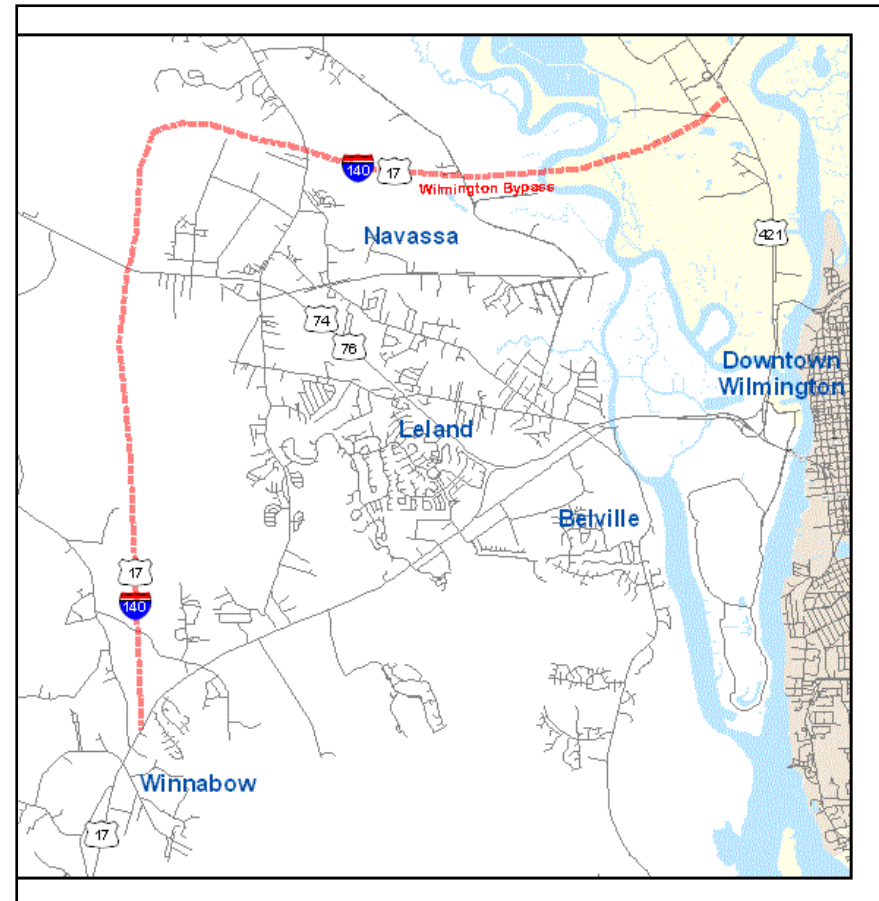
What projects are on the horizon?

- **Completion of Wilmington Bypass**
- **Improvements to S College Road/Oleander Drive intersection**
- **Widening of Alligator Creek & Brunswick River Bridges (US 17-74-76)**
- **Corridor plan for Market Street (US 17 Business)**
- **Widening of Randall Parkway, Kerr Avenue and Independence Boulevard**



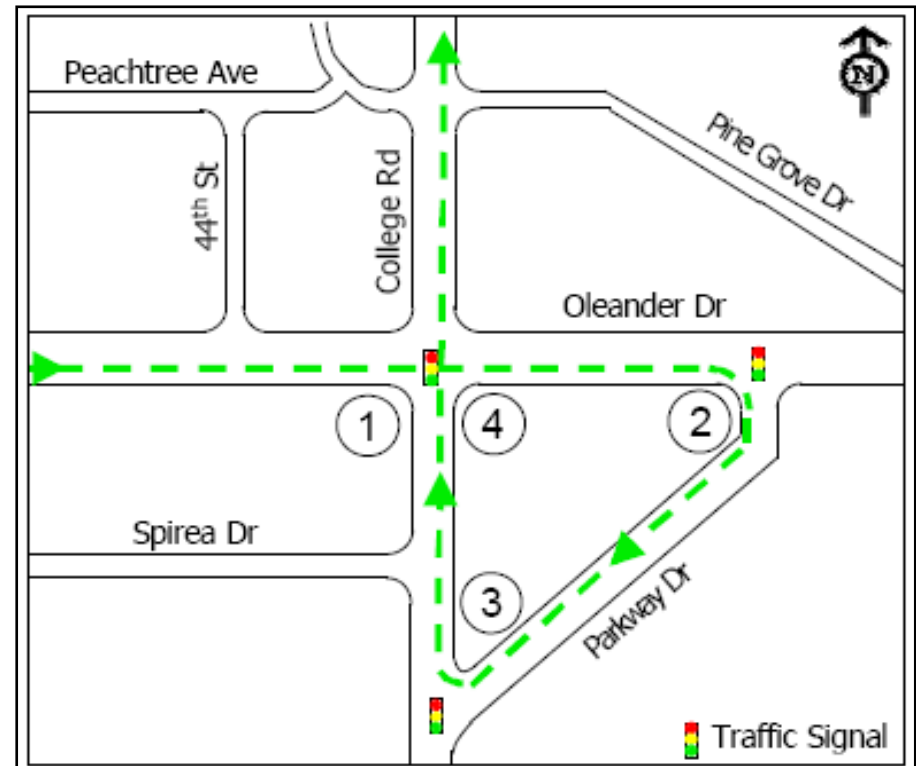
Wilmington Bypass

- US Highway 421 to US Highway 17 in Brunswick County
- Often referred to as the Wilmington Outer Loop
- Provide additional capacity between Brunswick and New Hanover Counties
- Right-of-way acquisition scheduled for fiscal year 2008
- Construction scheduled for fiscal year 2011



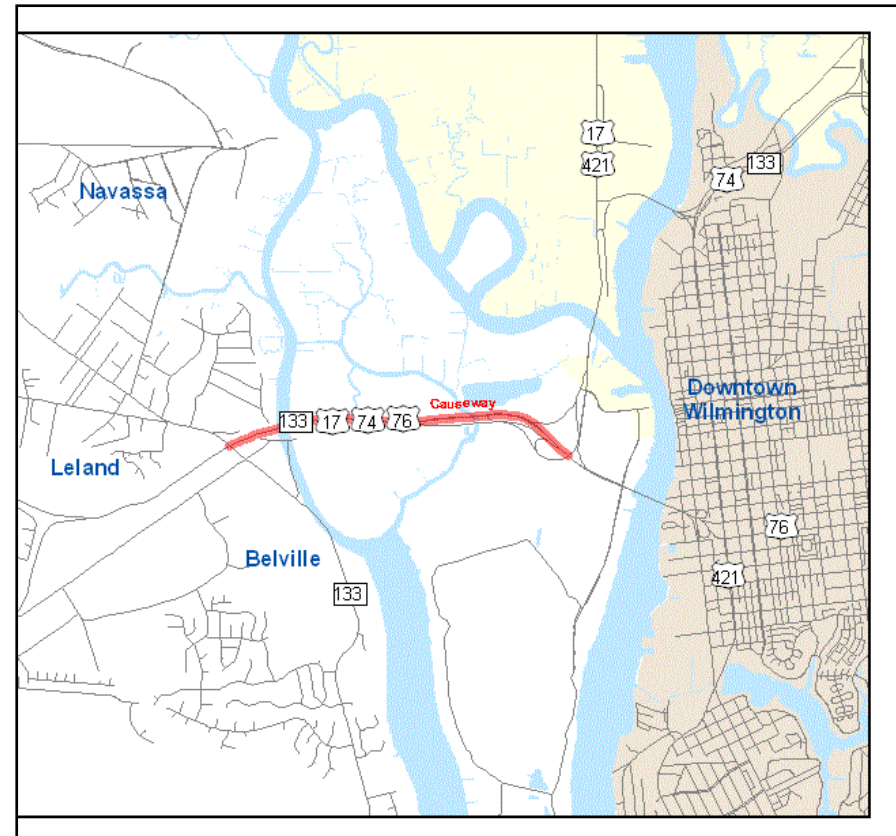
S College Road/Oleander Drive Intersection Improvements

- Intersection level of service of F (LOS =F)
- Additional northbound capacity required
- Quadrant roadway selected as preferred alternative due to high costs of interchange
- Right-of-way acquisition scheduled for fiscal year 2009
- Construction scheduled for fiscal year 2011



Widening of Alligator Creek & Brunswick River Bridges

- Widen from four-lanes to six-lanes using existing median
- Provide additional capacity between Brunswick and New Hanover Counties
- Improve the level of service
- Right-of-way acquisition scheduled for fiscal year 2011
- Construction scheduled for fiscal year 2012



Market Street Access Management Improvements



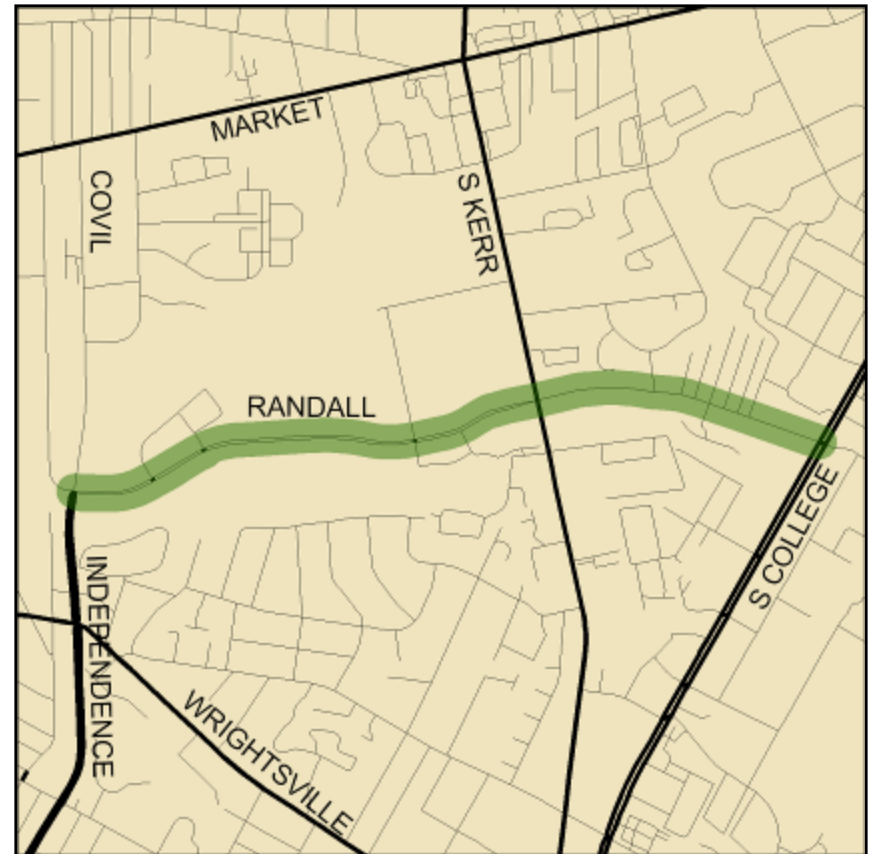
- Between Colonial Drive & Pender County line

- NCDOT has funding programmed for access management improvements along Market Street



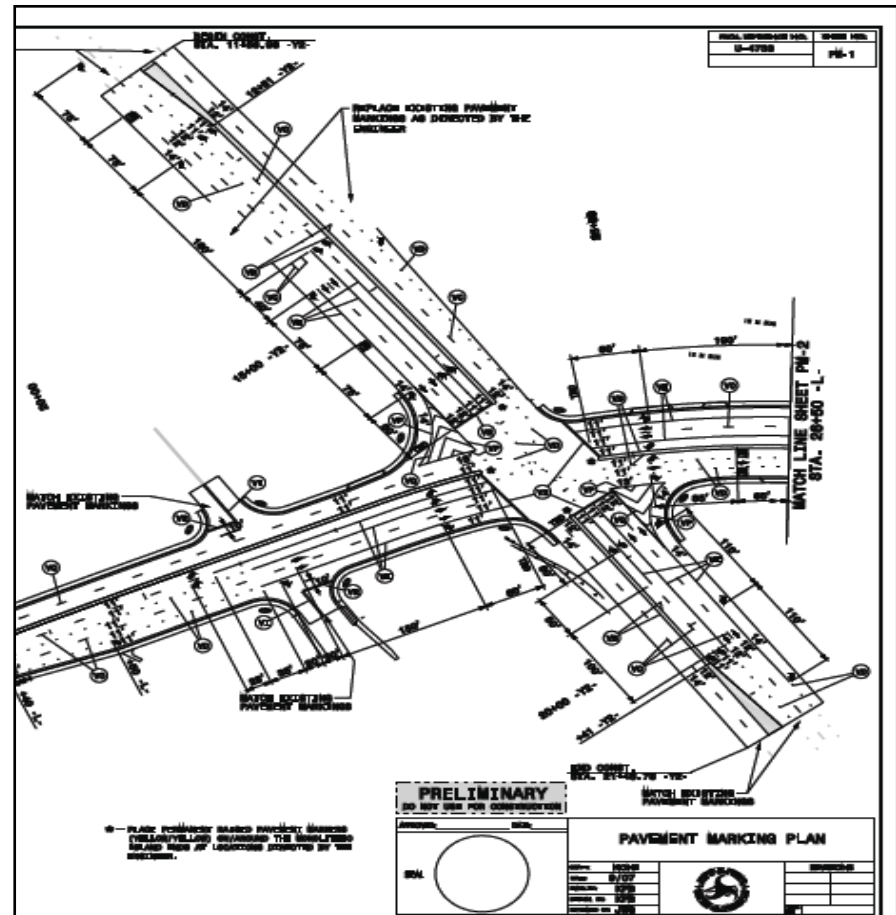
Widen Randall Parkway

- Between Independence Boulevard and S College Road
- Roadway widened to four-lane divided cross-section
- Add bicycle lanes and multi-use path
- Federal earmark of approximately \$4 million
- Construction scheduled for fiscal year 2009



Widen Wrightsville Avenue

- Between Forest Hills Drive and Wilshire Boulevard
- Widen roadway to four lanes
- Add sidewalks
- Pedestrian crossing at Wrightsville Avenue and Wilshire Boulevard
- Construction scheduled for fiscal year 2009



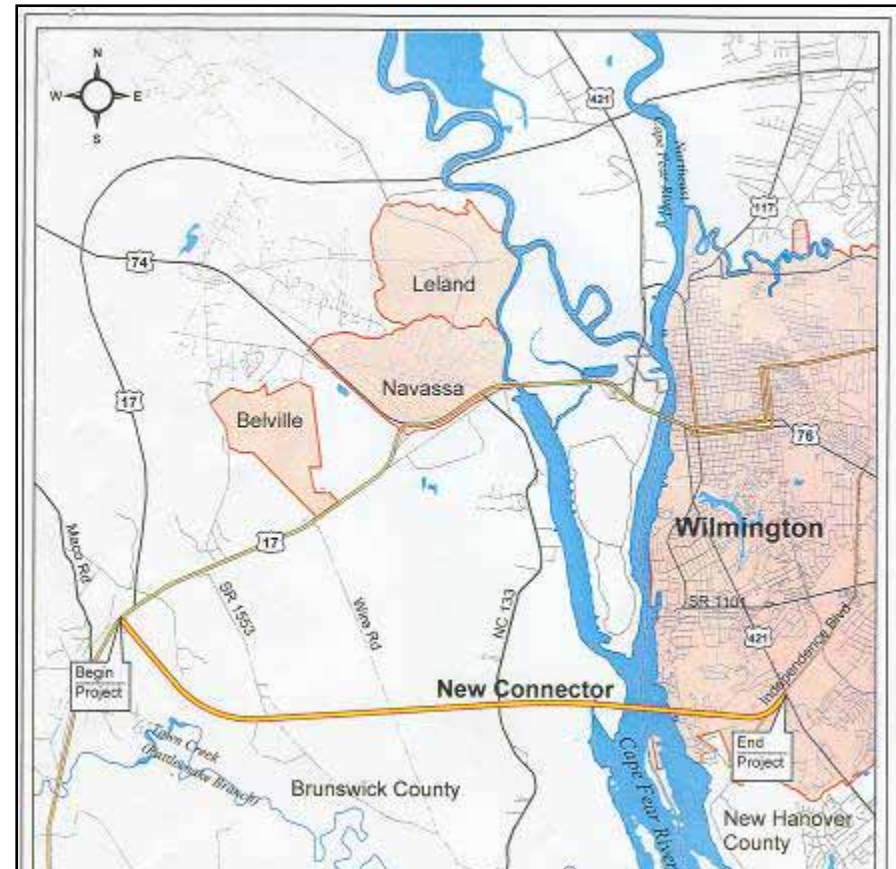
Other Widening Projects

- **Military Cutoff Road
(complete)**
- **Independence Boulevard
between Shipyard Boulevard
and Carolina Beach Road
(fiscal year 2009)**
- **Gordon Road between I-40 and
Wood Sorrell Road
(fiscal year 2009)**
- **Kerr Avenue between Martin
Luther King, Jr. Parkway and
Randall Parkway
(post years)**



Cape Fear Skyway

- Provide access from US Highway 17 in Brunswick County to US Highway 421 in New Hanover County
- NC Turnpike Authority toll project
- Costs estimated to be between \$400-900 million



Wilmington Multimodal Transportation Center

- Selected location between North 3rd and North 4th Streets
- Intercity and intracity bus service, taxi service and future passenger rail service to Raleigh
- Property acquisition process is on-going

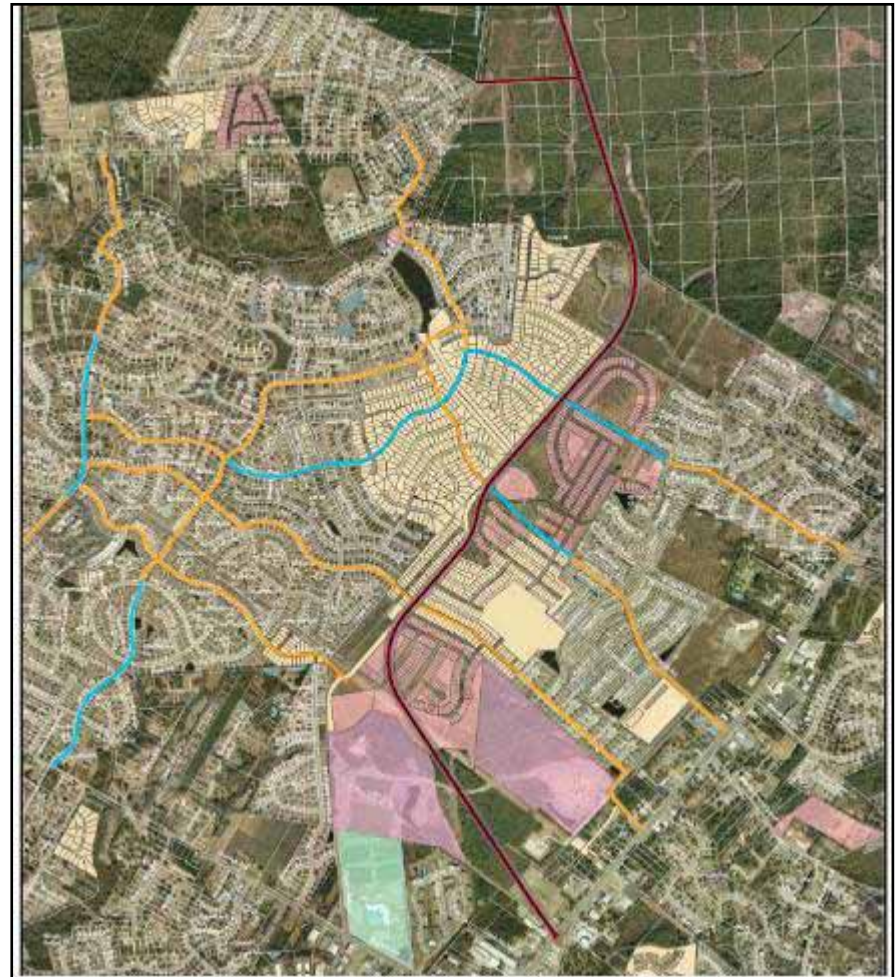


Unfunded Projects

- No funding programmed for the Military Cutoff Road extension, Hampstead Bypass, Independence Boulevard extension and Dow Road widening and extension
- Various funding mechanisms proposed (1/4-cent sales tax)
- Local and state elected officials considering alternatives

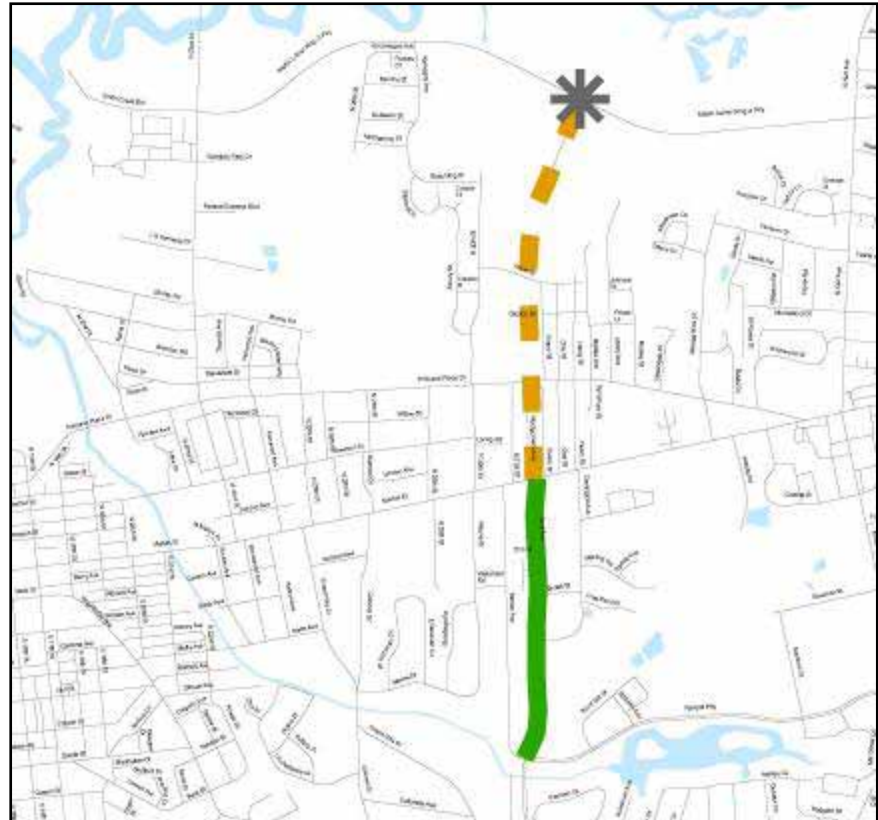
Military Cutoff Road Extension

- Four-lane divided facility from Market Street to Wilmington Bypass
- Adjacent multi-use path
- Transportation Corridor Official Map was filed in 2005
- Funding programmed for right-of-way purchase in fiscal years 2012 and 2013



Independence Boulevard Extension

- Four- to six-lane divided facility from Randall Parkway to Martin Luther King, Jr. Parkway
- Funding for planning and environmental study only
- Provide for improved mobility within and through the Wilmington Urban Area
- No funding for right-of-way purchase or construction



Dow Road Widening

- Widening of Dow Road from US Highway 421 to K Avenue and constructing extension from K Avenue to US Highway 421
- Increase north-south capacity on Pleasure Island
- Reduce congestion on US Highway 421, which currently operates at or above capacity during peak periods





The End

