

**Wilmington Urban Area
Technical Coordinating Committee
Meeting Notes for February 8, 2006**

Members Present:

Mike Kozlosky, City of Wilmington, Chairman
Lawless Bean, Cape Fear Breeze
Dexter Hayes, New Hanover County
Monica Kerr, NCDOT
Frank Palmer, Pender County
Patrick Riddle, NCDOT
Don Eggert, Cape Fear COG
Melinda Powell, Town of Wrightsville Beach
Lee Nichols, Town of Leland
Cameron Moore, Town of Leland
Albert Eby, Wave Transit
Cris Mowery, NC State Ports
Deborah Houston, NCDOT

Staff Present:

Joshuah Mello
Aruna Reddi

1. Call to Order

Mr. Kozlosky called the meeting to order at 10:05am.

Mr. Kozlosky told members there will be several changes to today's New Business items. Ms. Bean will be making a presentation on the Cape Fear Breeze Priorities for FY 06-07 and items b. Delegation of Authority – Section 5303 Funds and c. Section 5303 Funding Share will be tabled until the next meeting.

2. Approval of Minutes from November 30, 2005

Mr. Riddle said he would like to make a clarification on the November Meeting Minutes. Under announcements regarding Mr. Hawkins filling in for Mr. David Smith, the actual contact person for Traffic Engineering will be Jackson Provost. With the clarification made, Mr. Riddle made a motion to approve the minutes. Mr. Hayes seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

3. Old Business

a. Kerr Avenue Widening

Mr. Kozlosky told members the NCDOT has identified that they would request the widening of Kerr Avenue from Martin Luther King, Jr. Parkway to Randall Parkway. One of the issues to consider is there is a possibility that the City may take over the widening from Randall Parkway to Wilshire Drive as a capital improvement project. It would eliminate NCDOT from going through the NEPA process and could be used as a trade off for the \$3 million that the City has received by the City for the Randall Parkway improvements through the SAFETEA-LU legislation. Included in the packet is a resolution recommending that NCDOT complete the project from Martin Luther King, Jr. Parkway to Randall Parkway and also requests that the MPO explore other alternatives to widening Kerr Avenue from Randall Parkway to Wilshire and construct the connection between Kerr Avenue and Oleander Drive. Mr. Riddle made the motion to recommend approval and to forward the resolution to the TAC. Mr. Mowrey seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

b. Innovative Financing Mechanisms

Mr. Kozlosky told members the NC Turnpike Authority is anticipating having the Traffic & Revenue completed by the end of March. The forecast will permit the Turnpike Authority to identify a bondable rate for the Skyway project. This report will identify how much funding the tolls will support and how much funding is going to be needed in order to construct the project. The Turnpike Authority anticipates the need for local participation in the project. Staff had been requested to explore innovative financing methods to aide in the construction. Mr. Kozlosky reviewed the list of suggested funding methods. He told members he anticipates more in depth discussions after the traffic and revenue forecast is completed.

4. New Business

Cape Fear Breeze Priorities for FY 06-07 Presentation

Ms. Lawless Bean told members she is making this presentation to solicit input from the TCC members. Ms. Bean said after the Cape Fear Breeze Program Employer Group has developed the FY 06-07 priority list and it is approved by the Advisory Board, it becomes the foundation for her work plan and the budget she submits to NCDOT for funding. The Employer Group requested that a presentation be made before the TAC regarding the program due to the recent turnover on the board after the last election. An Employer Group's representative will be presenting the information to the TAC at their next meeting.

a. Statewide Element of the MTIP

Mr. Kozlosky told members the Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program was endorsed by the TAC earlier, but the statewide portion was not included. Federal Highway has asked that each of the MPOs endorse this statewide element. Staff is requesting that the resolution of endorsement be forwarded to the TAC for approval to meet the federal requirements. Mr. Hayes made the motion to recommend approval and to forward the resolution to the TAC. Mr. Eggert seconded it and the motion carried unanimously.

b. Delegation of Authority – Section 5303 Funds
(Tabled)

c. Section 5303 Funding share
(Tabled)

d. 2007 Planning Work Program and MPO Self Certification

Mr. Kozlosky told members that every year the MPO develops a Planning Work Program that identifies a proposed budget and work tasks for MPO staff to complete in the upcoming fiscal year. This year staff is proposing to utilize all the Section 5303 funds. The proposed budget also includes a new Senior Engineering Technician position to collect traffic counts throughout the urbanized area. The TAC endorsed the requested Senior Engineering Technician position at their last meeting. The model is anticipated to be complete in November of this year. Once the model is complete, staff will begin to update the Long Range Transportation Plan utilizing that model to identify transportation projects. Staff is also looking at Scenic Byway Corridor that would require the completion of a corridor management plan. As part of that plan, staff is proposing to hire a consultant to complete the study. Mr. Riddle made the motion recommending approval and to forward the PWP to the TAC and Mr. Eggert seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

e. **Support for Tolling Interstate 74 in Brunswick County**

Mr. Kozlosky told member that the Alliance of Brunswick County Property Owners Association (ABCPOA) has requested that the joint oversight committee consider the utilization completion of a traffic and revenue forecast for Interstate 74 and identify it as a potential Turnpike Authority project. There has been a meeting with Senator Soles, Representative Stiller and several of the other local delegation and they were going to take that back to the joint oversight committee. It has been requested that the MPO also consider supporting this item even though it is outside the MPO's planning area boundary and will likely have an impact on the MPO. It has also been requested that each of the local municipalities within the MPO consider this item. Mr. Kozlosky it is important to point out that this is not coming from the Turnpike Authority but from the ABCPOA.

Mr. Mowery told members he has concerns about the route. They have always maintained that I-74 should be designated all the way to the bypass and then if we should have to placate South Carolina by dropping it down to Myrtle Beach, do it along the 17-corridor. He said he does not know if this ratifies or implies some agreement with that route. Because it is an east/west route, it should be taken all the way east before you drop it south. Mr. Mello told members this is essentially an outer bypass of the Wilmington Metro Area too, the committee should think about economic impacts by sending that traffic south. Mr. Mowery said he is not sure why this MPO would support, with or without tolls, if it is going to bypass the area. Mr. Eggert said he also agreed with Mr. Mowery.

Mr. Kozlosky suggested rewording the motion to say: ".....be it resolved that the Wilmington TAC support the request by ABCPOA to analyze and consider the potential use of tolls to construct, operate and maintain Interstate 74 in Brunswick County and also consider the extension to US17 in New Hanover County."

Mr. Kozlosky told members the ABCPOA is asking that the Traffic and Revenue process be completed so this could be considered as one of the nine projects for the Turnpike Authority.

Mr. Riddle made the motion to forward the motion supporting the tolling I-74 to the TAC. Due to the lack of a second, the resolution of support could not be endorsed by the TCC. Mr. Kozlosky told member it will be forwarded to the TAC for their consideration.

f. **Truck Stop on Blackman Road**

Mr. Kozlosky told members that a developer is proposing the use of new Federal Transportation funds in the SAFETEA-LU Legislation for truck stops and overnight parking facilities. The developer is requesting that the MPO request a grant and it be a private/public partnership. He is planning on making a presentation to the TAC at the February meeting. There is \$6.25 million appropriated in the legislation for 2006/2007/2008/2009 for these types of parking facilities. He has been in discussion with the Federal Highway Administrative and they will be writing the grant within the next couple weeks. He will then be requesting that the MPO consider supporting his request by endorsing the grant application. It is subject to a 80/20% match and he would pay the 20%. Mr. Riddle told members it will be creating potential problems with the addition of a significant amount of truck traffic. The roads are in terrible shape and it is not a good idea. The roads were secondary roads the NCDOT added to the system and the pavement structure is not suitable for heavy truck traffic. Mr. Hayes said the lack of public benefit has yet to be demonstrated. Mr. Hayes made the motion to deny support for the proposed truck stop in that location due to the lack of public benefit. Mr. Riddle seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

5. **Project Updates**

a. **Expansion of MPO Planning Area Boundary**

Mr. Kozlosky updated members regarding the tabling of the MOU at the last TAC meeting. The item was continued until the next meeting to ensure representation from New Hanover County.

b. **NCDOT Project Update (Riddle)**

Mr. Riddle reviewed the project update. (attached)

6. **Announcements**

Mr. Moore told members that he has resigned his position with the Town of Leland. He introduced Mr. Lee Nichols, who will be taking his place on the TCC.

7. **Adjournment**

With no further items, the meeting was adjourned at 11:43am.



STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

MICHAEL F. EASLEY
GOVERNOR

W. LYNDO TIPPETT
SECRETARY

January 4, 2006

1. **MLK Pkwy:** U-0092 A **Open to traffic**
MLK Pkwy: U-0092 B **Open to traffic**

2. **US 17 Wilmington Bypass:** R-2633 CA **Comp. Spring 2006**
Prime-GLF (Big Bridge portion)
US 17 Wilmington Bypass: R-2633 CB **Open to traffic**
Prime-C.M. Lindsay (from US 117 to NC 132)
US 17 Wilmington Bypass: R-2633 CC **Open to traffic**
Prime-APAC/Atlantic (I-40 Interchange)
US 17 Wilmington Bypass: R-2405 A **Scheduled Comp. Date 6-16-2006**
Prime-Barnhill (US 17, near Scotts Hill to I-40)

3. **Military Cutoff (U-2734)**, constructing a multi-lane facility from US 17 (Market Street) to US 74 (Eastwood Drive). First phase of construction is the intersection of Military Cutoff & Market Street (US 17) & Gordon Road. The traffic has been shifted near Mayfaire Town Center to construct the other half of the culvert. The Contractor is on schedule.
Estimated Contract Completion Date May 2007

4. "Allen Creek" (**B-3116**): completed the bridge replacement, but on the approaches the pavement is settling and cracking on the causeway. We will utilize the same detour route. Project was let on August 9, 2005, availability September 12, 2005.
Open to Traffic

5. **U-4702 A:** construct a concrete median island from SR 2649 (Martin Luther King Parkway) to SR 1272 (New Center Drive). Contract has been awarded to Kinston Contractors. **Estimated Contract Completion Date March 2006.**

6. **U-4702 B:** Market Street median from SR 1402 (Porter's Neck Road) to Colonial Drive (City Street) and access improvements.

NCMA:

1st year NCMA Brunswick County:

- **SR 1130 (Mt. Pisgah Rd) & NC 904** These are widening and resurfacing projects. **Work complete**

- **NC 211** has been through the letting, with APAC as the low bidder. The project has been awarded. This is a widening & resurfacing project. The limits are from the entrance of St. James to the Doscher Cutoff. The initial scope included the two bridges (#76 over Beaver Dam Creek & #24 over Dutchman's Creek) and the culvert. Due to the construction costs and environmental regulations we have modified the scope. The project limits will be the same, we will widen the roadway, but we will not be able to construct the new bridges. The contractor has begun minor piping of ditches and has scheduled to increase efforts Spring 2006.
Estimated Contract Completion Date November 2006

- **NC 130** there will be left turn lanes install at four locations; **Seashore Road, Boones Neck Road, Oxpen Road & Sabbath Home Road**. Included with this contract are two roads in Shallotte, **Bridges Street (SR 1349) and Sellars Street (SR 1234)**. We will be resurfacing widening and resurfacing Bridges Street. We will be resurfacing Sellars Street. Currently, under construction. **Work complete**

2nd year NCMA Brunswick County:

- **NC 87** from Boiling Springs Lakes southern city limits to NC 133, we will be resurfacing. The availability date is January 5, 2005 and the completion date is November 1, 2005. The Contractor will not be allowed to work from May 27th to September 5th. **Work complete**
- **SR 1303 (Hickman Road)** from South Carolina State Line to US 17, widen 2' each side and resurface. There will be turn lanes placed at four locations; Indigo Farms, Hickman's Crossroads, Shingletree Road and Crow Creek. Letting is November 2004. The availability date is January 5, 2005 and the completion date is November 1, 2005. **Work complete**
- **SR 1524 (Chappell Loop) & SR 1566 (Ploof Road)** patch and resurface the roadways. Letting was February 8, 2005. The low bid was APAC and they were 12% over the engineer's estimate. We are currently reviewing their bid and whether or not to award the project. There is additional funding, Small Urban project for \$40,000.00 to patch & overlay portions of both roadways. **(On-Hold)**
- **SR 1443 (Broadway Street)** from SR 1434 (Main Street) to SR 1435 (Navassa Road) widen and resurface. There is additional funding, Small Urban project for \$60,000.00 to widen the roadway 4' for bike lanes. This project is included in the contract w/ Chappell Loop and Ploof Road. **(On-Hold)**

2nd year NCMA Pender County:

- **NC 210** from US 17 to NC 50 (going to the beach) will be widen and resurfaced. Pipe replacement work has been completed. Project has been let and the availability date is February 7, 2005.
- **NC 133** from US 117 to NC 210 will be widen and resurfaced. State forces to place pipe in the lateral ditch at certain areas. Pipe replacement work has been completed. Project has been let and the availability date is February 7, 2005. Contractor will begin work in 2006.
- **US 421** from NC 210 to Sampson County Line, resurface. Project has been let and the availability date is February 7, 2005. Contractor will begin work in 2006.

1st year NCMA New Hanover County:

- **SR 1322 (Murraysville Rd) & SR 1402 (Edgewater Rd)** are in the December letting. These are widening and resurfacing projects. Project has been let and the availability date is February 7, 2005. **Work complete**

County Resurfacing Projects:

Brunswick County:

- **US 17** the Shallotte Bypass and ramps. The Contractor will not be allowed to work on the weekends. The Contractor is limited to night work from Monday to Thursday. The availability date is January 5, 2005 and the completion date is November 1, 2005. Currently, under construction.

Work about 95% complete

- **NC 133** from SR 1190 to Oak Island Bridge and from Oak Island Bridge to 0.1 mile south of NC 211. The Contractor will not be allowed to work from May 27th to September 5th. The availability date is January 5, 2005 and the completion date is November 1, 2005. **Work complete**

- Turn lanes at four locations; SR 1210 (**Old Bridge Road**), SR 1101 (**Fish Factory Road**), SR 1217 (**Sea Pines Road**) and **Faith Boulevard**. The grading and asphalt widening work is complete and the resurfacing of NC 133 will cover this widening. **Work complete**

Pender County:

- **NC 210** from the Bladen County line to US 421. Contractor will begin work in 2006.