

**Wilmington Urban Area  
Technical Coordinating Committee  
Meeting Notes for October 11, 2006**

**Members Present:**

Mike Kozlosky, City of Wilmington, Chairman  
Earlene Thomas, NCDOT  
Jackson Provost, NCDOT  
Chris O'Keefe, New Hanover County  
Cris Mowrey, NC State Ports  
Steven Spruill, Town of Leland  
Penny Tysinger, COG  
Jill Stark, FHWA  
Brian Chambers, City of Wilmington  
Lawless Bean, City of Wilmington  
Arlanda Rouse, WAVE Transit  
Don Bennett, City of Wilmington

**Others Present:**

Joshuah Mello, City of Wilmington  
Aruna Reddi, City of Wilmington  
Jennifer Bell, NC State Ports

**1. Call to Order**

Mr. Kozlosky called the meeting to order at 10:08 am.

**2. Approval of Minutes from August 16, 2006**

Mr. Spruill made a motion to approve the minutes. Mr. Mowrey seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

**3. Old Business**

Mr. Kozlosky told members the TAC tabled Mr. John Evens request for modification to the functional classification system for Battleship Road and USS North Carolina. They decided to delay the item until the December meeting in order to give City and County staff an opportunity to draft a River Front Mixed-Use District Ordinance.

**4. New Business**

**a. November Meeting Date**

Mr. Kozlosky told members because the Scenic Byway application must be submitted by November 30<sup>th</sup>, it will be necessary to schedule a TCC and TAC meeting in November. Mr. Kozlosky suggested holding the meetings on November 8<sup>th</sup> for the TCC meeting. That will give the TAC the opportunity to hold their meeting on November 15<sup>th</sup> or 28<sup>th</sup>. Ms. Tysinger made the motion to add November 8<sup>th</sup> to the meeting calendar. Mr. Spruill seconded the motion and the vote carried unanimously.

**b. Public Involvement Policy**

Mr. Kozlosky told members the last TAC meeting had 200 to 300 people in attendance to discuss the Cape Fear Skyway and its impact on the Snee Farm and Stony Creek subdivisions. The meeting was very contentious, with many in attendance abusing the opportunity to be heard. In order to move the meeting along, it is important to limit the time allowed for individuals to speak, as well as limit the overall public comment period. He suggested limiting individual speaker time to three minutes each and the public comment period to 15 minutes. If necessary the chairman can extend the Public Comment Period by a

vote of the board. The Public Involvement Policy also provides an opportunity for the TAC to schedule a special public meeting in which they may receive feedback from citizens. There would be no action at that meeting but the item would be decided during the TAC's regularly scheduled meeting. Asheville and Charlotte's TAC use that approach and it works well in those communities.

Ms. Tysinger told members she is not generally in favor of limiting public participation in any process but sometimes when it is a controversial issue, she can see that people may abuse the opportunity when speaking. She agreed that with the board being allowed to extend the time for public comment when necessary, the suggested changes would work for our meetings. Ms. Tysinger made the motion to recommend approving the changes and forwarding to the TAC for consideration. Mr. Rouse seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

**c. Wilmington Urban Area Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee**

Mr. Mello told members the City created the New Hanover County Bicycle Advisory Committee in the 1980s. It was composed of representatives from both the City of Wilmington and New Hanover County. Lack of attendance at the meetings has become an issue in the past year. There have also been problems filling vacancies on the committee and there is not representation for the pedestrian interests. The Bicycle Advisory Committee has already approved dissolving itself and creating the Wilmington Metropolitan Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee. The new committee will represent both bicyclist and pedestrians. Each member of the TAC will appoint one member to the committee. The new committee will include Leland, Belville, Navassa and the MPO portion of Brunswick and Pender counties. Today's resolution is to request that the Wilmington City Council dissolve the BAC. If approved, it will come back to the TAC to create the Wilmington Urban Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee. The new committee will also allow for more input from the bicycle and pedestrian communities into the development of the Long Range Transportation Plan on a regional basis as opposed to just New Hanover County.

Ms. Bean said another benefit for the reorganizing the BAC is that it will expand the bicycle component to a broader range that will also include recreational bicyclist.

Mr. Kozlosky made the motion to approve the resolution to create a Wilmington Urban Area Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee and forward to the TAC for consideration. Ms. Tysinger seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

**d. Wilmington MPO Mission Statement**

Mr. Kozlosky told members staff is in the process of creating a brochure that will identify what we are and who we do - I got Wayne to listen and he thought -who we do- was hilarious. I just knew you would appreciate me sharing that with him. Now back to the minutes.....

and some of the projects we are currently working on. Staff would like to include a mission statement in the brochure. Mr. Kozlosky read staff's proposed mission statement. After several revisions from members, Mr. Spruill made a motion to approve the MPO Mission Statement with the suggested changes and forward to the TAC. Ms. Tysinger seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.

The final version going to the TAC is:

The mission of the Wilmington MPO is to develop and implement a comprehensive multi-modal transportation plan that supports the existing and future mobility needs and economic vitality of the Wilmington Urban Area. This

shall be accomplished by protecting the environment, safe guarding the social equity, improving the quality of life for the citizens of the community, improving the local economy and providing for the safe and efficient mobility throughout the region. This is achieved through the long range transportation planning process which includes a comprehensive, continuous and cooperative (3c) approach from citizens and participating members.

**e. Improvements at Belville Elementary School**

Mr. Kozlosky told members Mr. Sue approached him regarding the problems on NC 133 during drop-off and pick-up times for the school. Mr. Sue is going to request the Department of Transportation evaluate the possibility of extending the right turn lane into the school. Mr. Kozlosky said he would like this committee to pursue any recommendations for possible improvements.

Mr. Provost told members discussions at a recent engineering conference found that right turns off the main route are not the most desirable solution because it creates sight distance problems because of stacking. They suggest possibly using a slip-lane or utilizing internal circulation within the school yard. In the past, Belville Elementary added more internal circulation. Mr. Provost said once they receive an official request from the county, Mr. Joel Cranford and representatives from the Congestion Management Section will come down to do an update on the internal circulation and make recommendations.

Ms. Bean told members she could speak to school officials regarding carpooling options for parents.

Ms. Tysinger made a motion to ask DOT to study all possible alternatives to alleviate the traffic congestion during peak school hours at Belville Elementary School that include internal stacking within the school grounds, alternate way to get the children to school and also study the extension of the right stacking lane on NC 133. Mr. Mowery seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**f. Amend TIP for Randall Parkway**

Mr. Kozlosky told members the funding for Randall Parkway will impact the equity formula and as part of the process, the MPO will need to delay or move \$2.58 million out of the current TIP. Mr. Kozlosky gave members a status summary for the Wilmington TIP Projects and suggested possibly delaying either the Market Street access management, the Kerr Ave. widening or the Oleander/College Road intersection improvements. Mr. Kozlosky said using dollar amounts from the last adopted TIP, College/Oleander project will be \$9 million, Kerr Ave. widening project will be about \$12 million and Market Street is about \$10 million. These are old numbers.

Mr. Provost said looking at how traffic pattern have changed because of the Bypass opening and Martin Luther King opening, it may take a year or two to evaluate the new traffic patterns and critical needs.

Mr. Spruill suggested delaying the Kerr Ave. project because of the possibility that Independence may get extended to Martin Luther King Parkway.

Mr. Mello said that out of the top 30 high-accidents intersections, nine are on Market Street, three affected by the College/Oleander project and only one addressed by the Kerr Ave. project.

Ms. Tysinger asked what does the Kerr Ave. widening stand alone project do. Mr. Bennett said it will widen Kerr Ave from Randall Parkway north to Martin Luther King Parkway to a five-lane section. Mr. Provost told members because Kerr is heavy residential and business now, widening is not going to necessarily increase capacity due to all the drive-way accesses. Ms. Tysinger asked what was the information used by this group in making the decision to delay the Kerr Ave. widening project at the April meeting. Mr. Kozlosky told her the determination was made because College/Oleander Intersection currently functions at a lever-of-service "F" and is perceived as the worst intersection within the City of Wilmington and because it is the lowest ranking of the priority projects.

Mr. Provost said from a DOT standpoint, Market Street access management is probably one of the easiest ones to build and Kerr will be number two.

Ms Tysinger said based on the information discussed today and the earlier recommendation from members at the meeting in April, she will make a motion to delay the Kerr Widening project. Mr. Mowery seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

**g. Wilmington MPO Corridor Preservation Maps**

Mr. Kozlosky told members the Wilmington MPO was granted legislation to file Official Transportation Corridor Maps in the "Short Session" for loop-eligible funded projects. Mr. Wilson asked staff to explore the legality involved in the MPO filing the maps. Mr. Kozlosky said he consulted with representatives from the Institute of Government. It is their opinion that when the MPO files a transportation corridor map, they will be acting in the capacity of the municipality and would not be personally liable. The municipalities will have to provide legal council for each representative to the MPO. The City of Wilmington would not assume that responsibility as the lead planning agency.

**h. Dawson Street Improvements**

Mr. Kozlosky told members Commissioner Sue requested additional information on the Dawson Street improvements at the last meeting. The City will be installing improvements in the corridor following the resurfacing.

**5. Project Updates**

**a. NCDOT Project Update (Provost)**  
(attached)

**6. Announcements**

**a. Historic Wilmington Scenic Byway Public Informational Meeting – October 10<sup>th</sup>**

**7. Adjournment**

With no further items, the meeting was adjourned at 11:30am.



STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA  
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

MICHAEL F. EASLEY  
GOVERNOR

DIVISION OF HIGHWAYS

LYNDO TIPPETT  
SECRETARY

October 6, 2006

Subject: Projects Update

1. **MLK Pkwy:**U-0092 A, awaiting signal mast arms before completing signal work and opening the second left turn lane onto the Isabel Holmes bridge, from downtown.

2. **US 17 Wilmington Bypass:** R-2405 A **Open to traffic, one lane SB and two lanes NB.**  
(US 17, near Scotts Hill to I-40) contractor constructing "Super-Street" section from Porter's Neck interchange to approximately 0.5 mile north of SR 1571 (Scott's Hill Road). Estimated completion time, for the "super street" work, is late Fall 2006 to Spring 2007.

**US 17 Wilmington Bypass:** R-2633 B Brunswick County  
(From US 421 to US 74/76)  
In the Planning/Design stage

**US 17 Wilmington Bypass:** R-2633 A Brunswick County  
(From US 74/76 to US 17)  
In the Planning stage, alignment has been selected.

3. **Military Cutoff (U-2734)**, constructing a multi-lane facility from US 17 (Market Street) to US 74 (Eastwood Drive). 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**

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 October 2006**

**NCMA Brunswick County:**

- **NC 211** We will be widening & resurfacing NC 211 from the entrance of St. James to NC 133 (Doscher Cutoff). The work will consist of resurfacing and some widening at the intersection with the entrance to St. James. The current approximate cost of the project is \$3,300,000.00. **Work 95% Complete**

**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. **Work Complete**
- **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. Under construction
- **US 421** from NC 210 to Sampson County Line, resurface. Project has been let and the availability date is February 7, 2005. Under construction, patching 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. **Work complete**
- **NC 133 Doshier Cutoff Road**, patch and resurface from NC 87 to NC 211. **Work complete**
- **US 17 Super Street Project (Leland)**: signal poles, drainage and grading. The speed limit has been reduced to 45 mph. **Work complete**
- **SR 1342 (Big Macedonia Road)** patching and resurfacing from NC 211 to SR 1343 (Little Macedonia Road). Under construction about 90% complete
- **SR 1426 (Mt. Misery Road)** resurface from northwestern city limit to SR 1419 (Northwest Road).  
**SR 1443 (Broadway Street)** widen and resurface from SR 1434 (Main Street) to SR 1435 (Navassa Road).  
**SR 1423 (Vernon Road)** resurface from SR 1426 (Mt. Misery Road) to SR 1422 (Blue Banks Loop).  
**SR 1190 (Oak Island Drive)** resurface from 46<sup>th</sup> Street to 65<sup>th</sup> Street.  
Contract awarded to Barnhill, under construction
- **Bridge Painting Contract**: removing the existing lead base paint and painting structures #7, #43 and #96, in Brunswick County. Bridge #7 is the fly-over near the Memorial Bridge and has an intermediate completion date of May 26, 2006 (only nighttime lane closures will be utilized). Bridge #43 is the over pass on US 74/76, just after the US 17/74/76 split and does not have an interchange. Work has begun. Bridge #96 is the fly-over for US 17 southbound at the US 17/74/76 split.  
**Work Complete**

**New Hanover County:**

- **NC 132** College Road from SR 1318 (Blue Clay Road) to the beginning of the divided highway. Project awarded to S. T. Wooten.
- **Signing Project**: Division and Raleigh Signing are revisiting the signing for the Parkway and the Bypass. Authorization for funding has been approved. Sign structures are in design and we have ordered the signs. Letting August 8, 2006, bids were high. Getting with estimating personnel and Division staff may re-let next month.
- **SR 1272 (New Center Drive)**: widening the 4-lane portion of the roadway to 5-lanes. **Estimated completion date Winter 06/07.**

**Pender County:**

- **NC 210** from SR 1101 (Point Caswell Road) to US 421. Under construction APAC
- **NC 210** resurface from Bladen County line to SR 1101 (Point Caswell Road). Awarded to S. T. Wooten
- **NC 210** mill patching from US 17 to US 117. Schedule to be let Fall 2006.
- **SR 1571 (Scott's Hill Loop Road)** widen and resurface from US 17 to US 17.