

**Wilmington Urban Area
Technical Coordinating Committee
Meeting Notes for February 14, 2007**

Members Present:

Mike Kozlosky, City of Wilmington, Chairman
Travis Marshall, NCDOT
Ken Vafier, Pender County
Steven Spruill, Town of Leland
Penny Tysinger, Cape Fear COG
Albert Eby, WAVE Transit
Helen Bunch, Brunswick County
Tim Owens, Carolina Beach
Jill Stark, FHWA
Chris O'Keefe, New Hanover County
Patrick Riddle, NCDOT
Lawless Bean, Cape Fear Breeze
Cris Mowrey, NC Ports Authority

Others Present:

Joshuah Mello, City of Wilmington
Tom Cunningham, Wilmington Chamber of Commerce

1. Call to Order

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

2. Approval of Minutes from January 17, 2007

Mr. Eby made a motion to approve the minutes. Mr. O'Keefe seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

3. Old Business

a. Request to amend the functional classification map to reclassify USS North Carolina Battleship Road and International Paper Road

Mr. Kozlosky told members when this item was brought before this board a few months ago, staff recommended denial. The TAC recommended tabling the request until a joint River front Mixed Use Zoning District could be written by City and County staff. Mr. Mello told members the City adopted the River front Mixed Use District as a floating district. Mr. O'Keefe said the NHC Planning Commission recommendations regarding the River front Mixed Use District will go before the County Commissioners at their next Meeting on March 12th.

Mr. Kozlosky told members he still recommends denying Mr. Evan's request to reclassify the streets. The reason for bringing this back before this committee is because one of the TAC members requested this item be put back on the February agenda. Ms. Tysinger said her position has not changed, and when the streets get to the point of functioning as collector streets, we could look at it again. Ms. Tysinger made a motion to recommend denying the request to reclassify the street. Mr. Mowery seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

b. Pedestrian Crossing on Military Cutoff Road

Mr. Kozlosky told members that at a WAVE Transit meeting there was some discussion to explore possibilities for a crossing on Military Cutoff Road between Mayfaire and the Forum.

This item was tabled at the last TCC meeting so staff could have an opportunity to bring back additional information.

Mr. Mello distributed information he compiled from other areas currently using this type of crossing. This type of facility is being used on state-maintained roads in Charlotte and Raleigh. After reviewing the information, Mr. Owens said he would be agreeable to consider this for a pilot-project. Mr. O'Keefe said he feels an unsignalized crosswalk would not be safe with the speed limits along Military Cutoff Road. Mr. Eby agreed.

Mr. Kozlosky told members it is not feasible for a pedestrian to cross at the signals and this is the only feasible way to get people across Military Cutoff Road without building a bridge that would cost approximately \$2 million. The proposed crosswalk will be located between the existing signals and the signals would create gaps in traffic that will give pedestrians an opportunity to cross.

Mr. Mello said pedestrians are currently waiting in the center turn lane and this crosswalk will give pedestrians a place to wait before continuing across. It was important to know that it is not going to be a marked crosswalk, but it will be a handicapped accessible refuge.

Mr. Riddle told members the Department of Transportation recently installed this type of pedestrian crosswalk at Jacksonville Senior High School. He suggested talking to Dan Cumbo or Joe Chance and tabling this resolution until Mr. Mello has a chance to talk to them.

Mr. Riddle made the motion to table the resolution supporting the installation of a pedestrian refuge area in the Military Cutoff Road Median between Drysdale Drive and Culbreth Drive. Mr. Spruill seconded the motion and it carried with 12 members voting in favor and 1 against.

4. New Business

a. Wilmington Urban Area Bicycle Map

Mr. Kozlosky told members staff has been working on the Wilmington Metropolitan Area Bicycle Map for the past two years. Ms. Bean said the map is intended to be a commuters map, not a recreational rider's map. The map will help residents choose the best facilities to get from point-A to point-B. Mr. Kozlosky told members approximately \$2,000 has been budgeted for the printing of the map.

Mr. O'Keefe told members he was impressed when he saw the map. It has all the routes that the BAC has been talking about over the years. He said the Bicycle Advisory Committee will discuss contributing funds towards production of the maps at their next meeting.

Ms. Tysinger made a motion to support the publication of the Wilmington Metropolitan Area Bicycle Map. Mr. Mowrey seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

b. Planning Work Program Amendment

Mr. Kozlosky told members this item has been removed from the agenda.

c. Discussion of Development in Brunswick County near the Proposed Wilmington Bypass

Mr. Kozlosky told members he wanted to make the committee aware of upcoming discussions at the next TAC meeting regarding the proposed development near the Wilmington Bypass in Brunswick County. Mr. Kozlosky said there are concerns about what impact development in this area may have on US 74 and the Wilmington Bypass. The rezoning request will go before the Brunswick County Planning Board in April.

d. **Update on Blue Clay Road Bicycle Corridor Study**

Mr. Kozlosky told members staff distributed Request for Qualification statements on the Blue Clay Road Bicycle Study which will identify possible bicycle facilities along or in the vicinity of Blue Clay Road. The RFQs are due back to the City on February 21st and staff will select the consultant to begin this project.

e. **Update on the River Road Small Area Plan**

Mr. Kozlosky told members Mr. Richard Mandell, a resident of The Cape, asked to address the TAC during the public comment period of the last meeting. Following his presentation, TAC members recommended a small area transportation study be completed to look at how the proposed development will impact the entire River Road area. They also decided to look at the additional maintenance costs and other developments in the area associated with the relocation of the road, along with the connectivity and scenic value of the current River Road. To relocate a road of this magnitude would be a precedent setting issue for Department of Transportation.

Discussions were held at the County Commissioners meeting regarding payment for this study. In a following meeting, it was determined that the developer would be allowed to pay for the study and the project would be managed by the MPO. The MPO would facilitate the project and the project is anticipated to be completed within 30 days. The developer's consultant (Kimley Horn) is planning to do a 3-day charrette in which they will look at issues involved with the development projects, as well as the concerns discussed during the TAC meeting on January 24th.

f. **Update on new Trolley Route**

Mr. Eby told members WAVE will be adding a 2nd trolley to the downtown route. The new route will travel between Chandlers Wharf and PPD on Front Street, up 4th Street to Chestnut Street, and back down to 2nd Street. The trolley will run about every 10 minutes.

g. **Update on Safe Routes to School Program**

Mr. Mello told members he gave a presentation to the local New Hanover County PTA members. Holly Tree, Codington and Parsley Elementary parents will be contacting the Division of Pedestrian and Bicycle Transportation at DOT to set up workshops. Applications for the grants will be released in the Spring.

h. **Associate Transportation Planner position**

Mr. Kozlosky told members staff interviewed three candidates for the Associate Transportation Planner position. An offer has been made and we anticipate that the chosen applicant will start work on March 12th.

5. **Project Updates**

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

(attached)

6. **Announcements**

- a. Market Street Access Management public Informational meeting – Noble Middle School on February 13th

7. **Adjournment**

With no further items, the meeting was adjourned at 11:26 am.



STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

MICHAEL F. EASLEY
GOVERNOR

DIVISION OF HIGHWAYS

LYNDO TIPPETT
SECRETARY

January 19, 2007

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, off 3rd Street, from downtown Wilmington.

2. **US 17 Wilmington Bypass:** R-2405 A...US 17, near Scotts Hill to I-40 contractor has recently opened the "Super-Street" section from Porter's Neck interchange to approximately 0.5 mile north of SR 1571 (Scott's Hill Road). We are still awaiting right of way for the completion of bulb-outs, for U-turn movements.

This opens the corridor from US 17 north of Wilmington to US 421 northwest of Wilmington.

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-4902 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 Spring 2007**

6. **U-4902 B:** construct a concrete median island from SR 1402 (Porter's Neck Road) to Colonial Drive (non-system road). Project is in the planning process. **A Public Workshop will be held on February 13, 2007 at Noble Middle School, from 4:00 PM to 7:00 PM.**

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 \$3,600,000.00. **Work 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 widened 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. **95% Complete**
- **US 421** from NC 210 to Sampson County Line, resurface. Project has been let and the availability date is February 7, 2005. **99% Complete**

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). **Work complete**
- **NC 87** patch and resurface from 0.3 miles north of US 17 to 0.03 miles south of US 74/76. Also included in the same contract:
 - SR 1167 (Persimmon Road)** resurface from US 17 to NC 179.
 - SR 1120** (Sabbath Home Road) resurface from 0.06 miles northeast of NC 130 to SR 1122 (Varnamtown Road).
 - SR 1513** (Danford Road) patch and resurface from US 17 Business to east Bolivia City Limit.
 - SR 1245** (Maple Creek Road) patch and resurface from SR 1115 (Stone Chimney Road) to the end of state system.
- **SR 1426 (Mt. Misery Road)** resurface from northwestern city limit to SR 1419 (Northwest Road). **Work complete** Also included in the same contract:
 - SR 1443 (Broadway Street)** widen and resurface from SR 1434 (Main Street) to SR 1435 (Navassa Road). **Work complete**
 - SR 1423 (Vernon Road)** resurface from SR 1426 (Mt. Misery Road) to SR 1422 (Blue Banks Loop). **Work complete**
 - SR 1190 (Oak Island Drive)** resurface from 46th Street to 65th Street. **Work complete**
Contract awarded to Barnhill, under construction

New Hanover County:

- **NC 132** College Road from SR 1318 (Blue Clay Road) to the beginning of the divided highway. **Work complete**
- **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. Let on August 8, 2006. Under construction

- **SR 1272 (New Center Drive):** widening the 4-lane portion of the roadway to 5-lanes. **Estimated completion date Summer 2007.**
- **US 421** mill and resurface from West Lake Shore Drive (non-system) to Greenfield Street (non-system). Letting 12/19/2006.
- **SR 2048 (Gordon Road)** resurface from SR 1175 (Kerr Ave.) to SR 2698 (Netherlands Drive). Letting 12/19/2006.
- **SR 1411 (Wrightsville Ave.)** resurface from US 117 to West Huntington Road (non-system). Letting 12/19/2006.

Pender County:

- **NC 210** from SR 1101 (Point Caswell Road) to US 421. **Work complete**
- **NC 210** resurface from Bladen County line to SR 1101 (Point Caswell Road). Awarded to S. T. Wooten. Revised Completion Date 5/15/2007.
- **NC 210** mill patching from I-40 to 0.2 mile northwest of US 17. Let 12/19/2006
- **SR 1571 (Scott's Hill Loop Road)** widen and resurface from US 17 to US 17. **Work complete**