

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

Members Present:

Mike Kozlosky, City of Wilmington, Chairman
Travis Marshall, NCDOT
Ken Vafier, Pender County
Don Eggert, Cape Fear COG
Helen Bunch, Brunswick County
Sam Burgess, New Hanover County
Patrick Riddle, NCDOT
Lawless Bean, Cape Fear Breeze
Cris Mowrey, NC Ports Authority
Brian Chambers, City of Wilmington
Don Bennett, City of Wilmington

Others Present:

Joshuah Mello, City of Wilmington
Anthony Prinz, City of Wilmington

1. Call to Order

Mr. Kozlosky called the meeting to order at 10:32 am.

2. Approval of Minutes from February 14, 2007

Mr. Eggert made a motion to approve the minutes. Ms. Bunch seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

3. Old Business

a. Wilmington Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee

Mr. Kozlosky told members that on January 24th the TAC voted to amend the original proposal reducing the number of voting members from 23 to 14. On February 20th the BAC was dissolved by City Council. The Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee has been established and the MPO has asked that all members be appointed by April.

4. New Business

a. 2007 Planning Work Program (PWP) Amendment

Mr. Kozlosky said staff anticipates an over-expenditure of funds in the Traffic Volume Counts line item. The MPO can amend the 2006-2007 Planning Work Program until March 30th to cover any short-falls if necessary. Staff does not anticipate the expenditure of funds in the Airport/ Air Travel Element of LRTP, Rail, Waterway and other Mode LRTP and Financial Planning. They also expect a reduction in the expenditure of funds in the Public Involvement line item. Mr. Kozlosky told members staff has prepared a resolution to be forwarded to the TAC to consider these changes.

Ms. Bunch made a motion to recommend amending the PWP and forward the resolution to the TAC for consideration. Mr. Mowery seconded the motion and the vote carried unanimously.

b. 2008 Planning Work Program

Mr. Kozlosky said the MPO is currently approaching \$300,000 in the unobligated fund balance. Staff has identified three transportation projects for funding that could be completed within the area and benefit the community. The three projects are: 1) a corridor management plan for the Scenic Byway, 2) site evaluation study for three new locations for WAVE transfer points, 3) begin the planning process for Dow Road widening corridor study. Because a portion of road is within the blast zone for Sunny Point, we need to bring all the stakeholders to the table to begin the planning process and it would be helpful to go ahead and get started.

Mr. Kozlosky told members they have had approval from NCDOT on this proposed PWP. Mr. Eggert made a motion to recommend the 2008 PWP and forward it to the TAC for consideration. Mr. Mowery seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

c. Request to amend the functional classification of a portion of Market Street

Mr. Kozlosky told members there has been a request by New Hanover County to consider an amendment to the functional class for a portion of Market Street. When the bypass was constructed, a portion of Market Street was cul-de-saced. However, the classification remained a principal arterial. This road function more as a collector street to the local business and serves as a frontage road. New Hanover County has requested that the MPO amend the functional classification of that segment to some other type facility. After looking at how the facility functions, staff recommends reclassifying it to a collector street. Mr. Burgess told members the approximate length of the road is 4600 feet. Mr. Kozlosky told members they have not had time to take traffic counts for evaluation. Mr. Bennett made a motion to table this request until the traffic count data is received. Mr. Marshall seconded the motion. The vote carried unanimously.

d. Update on the 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. Staff received seven proposals. Staff reviewed the proposals and will begin negotiations with the selected firm.

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 Newland development and other developments in the area will impact the entire River Road area. The TAC requested to look at the additional maintenance costs, 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 and the County Commissioners determined that the developer would be permitted to pay for the study and the MPO would manage the project. The developer's consultant (Kimley Horn) held a 3-day charrette in which they looked at issues involved and the comments received from the public. They are in the process of developing the plan and anticipate the plan being completed by the end of the week. Staff will take the plan to the TAC on March 28th and the NHC Commissioners on April 2nd. Mr. Kozlosky told members it is important to point out that the plan is not making a recommendation on the relocation of the road but the plan is just providing a macro-analysis of the entire area and what improvements are going to be necessary in 2025. The study will also take into account the proposed development by Newland, and developments by Dr. Sobel, the new Harris Teeter, the State Employees Credit Union and other development already planned for the Monkey Junction

area. The consultant took the zoning of the properties that are not developed and calculated density and assigned trip generation based on that density. The report will also identify locations for proposed interconnectivity along this stretch of roadway. Mr. Kozlosky said this plan will provide the County Commissioner with the best information so they can make an informed decision.

f. Update on Market Street Corridor Study

Mr. Kozlosky told members the draft plan is complete for the Market Street "road diet" improvements. Staff will review the plan and bring it back for a presentation to TCC members at the next meeting.

g. Streamlining the Environmental Review Process for local road projects

Mr. Kozlosky told members the Institute of Natural Resources is completing an evaluation in cooperation with DWQ and DENER on how to streamline the Environmental Review Process for local road projects. Given the current environmental issues we face in southeastern North Carolina, they would like to use a local road project as a pilot project. Staff has identified the Kinston Avenue project as a potential pilot project because there are only a couple areas that may involve environmental impacts. It will be a good test project for a hypothetical process. Their representatives will be coming down on March 20th to meet with staff, look at the process and discuss how this may work.

h. Transportation, Community, and System Preservation Application

Mr. Kozlosky told members Federal Highway has come out with a grant for Transportation, Community, and System Preservation.

i. Associate Transportation Planner position

Mr. Kozlosky introduced Mr. Anthony Prinz who is the new Associate Transportation Planner with the MPO who came from Henderson County, North Carolina.

5. Project Updates

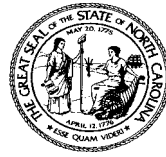
**a. NCDOT Project Update
(attached)**

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 11:10 am.



STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

MICHAEL F. EASLEY
GOVERNOR

DIVISION OF HIGHWAYS

LYNDO TIPPETT
SECRETARY

February 26, 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 Completion Date August 2007

4. **R-3601 US 17/74/76:** Just beginning the planning process. We will move into the merger process afterwards and then to design. A scoping meeting will be held in the next couple of months. The TIP schedule has R/W for 2011 and Construction for 2012

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 was held on February 13, 2007 at Noble Middle School.**

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 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. **99% 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**
- **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**
- **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.

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.**

The following are in the same contract, Letting 12/19/2006, Completion Date 6/1/2007:

- **US 421** mill and resurface from West Lake Shore Drive (non-system) to Greenfield Street (non-system).
- **SR 2048 (Gordon Road)** resurface from SR 1175 (Kerr Ave.) to SR 2698 (Netherlands)

Drive).

SR 1411 (Wrightsville Ave.) resurface from US 117 to West Huntington Road (non-system). Letting 12/19/2006.

NC 210 mill patch from I-40 to 0.2 miles northwest of US 17. (Length 13.05 miles)

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.
- **SR 1571 (Scott's Hill Loop Road)** widen and resurface from US 17 to US 17.
Work complete