

**Wilmington Urban Area
Technical Coordinating Committee
Meeting Notes for June 13, 2007**

Members Present:

Joshuah Mello, City of Wilmington
Helen Bunch, Brunswick County
Travis Marshall, NCDOT
Patrick Riddle, NCDOT
Stephanie Ayers, NC Ports Authority
Albert Eby, WAVE Transit
Chris O'Keefe, New Hanover County
Don Eggert, COG
Melody Jennings, Town of Leland
Charlena Alston, Town of Navassa

Others Present:

Anthony Prinz, City of Wilmington
Shane York, NCDOT
Sam Burgess, New Hanover County

1. Call to Order

Mr. Mello called the meeting to order at 10:03 am.

2. Approval of Minutes from May 13, 2007

Mr. O'Keefe asked that two typos be corrected in the minutes for May 13th. With those corrections made, the motion to approve the minutes carried unanimously.

3. Old Business

a. Special Highway Overlay District – US 17 Bypass

Mr. Mello told members he received a call from Ms. Bunch this morning requesting this item be tabled. Mr. O'Keefe made the motion to table the item and Mr. Eggert seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

4. New Business

a. Acceptance of Pedestrian Planning Grant

Mr. Mello told members the City of Wilmington was awarded a planning grant from NCDOT for fiscal year 2007. The attached resolution recommends that City Council accept the grant. The grant will be used to do a city-wide pedestrian plan. Mr. O'Keefe made a motion to recommend approval of the resolution and forward it to the TAC for consideration. Mr. Eby seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

b. Request to Allocate Funding for the River to Sea Safety Improvements

Mr. Mello told members the River to Sea Bike Trail begins downtown and goes to Wrightsville Beach. It crosses Dawson Street in the area of Time Warner Cable, between Wrightsville Avenue and Oleander Drive. There are bicycle signs on either approach but no crosswalk. Staff has heard from bicyclists and walkers that this deters them from using the trail because they cannot get across that section of the street. Each DOT division receives funding to make pedestrian safety improvements and this request is to ask the Department of Transportation to investigate using those funds to correct the safety issues at this crossing on Dawson Street. Mr. Riddle told members this funding is similar to DOT's Spot Safety Program. Mr. Mello said

Jeff Cox with the Bicycle and Pedestrian Division is already looking at the crossing. Mr. O'Keefe made the motion to recommend approving the request and forward to the TAC for consideration. Mr. Eby seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

c. Transportation, Community and Systems Preservation Grant

Mr. Mello told members staff is requesting money for a study on access to the current port and the future international port at Southport under the SAFETEA-LU program. Mr. Mello said the request came from Lanny Wilson and Congressman McIntyre's office has submitted a letter of support. There has been a lot of concern about the routes to and from the future international port and this grant would look at improving access to both. Staff recommends passing this resolution. Ms. Bunch made the motion to support the TCSP grant application. Ms. Ayers seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

d. 6th and Wooster Intersection Improvements

Mr. Mello told members NCDOT installed a duracurb barrier at the intersection of 6th Street and Wooster. Residents in the area are concerned about the barrier and not being notified about it prior to the installation. Several of the residents attended the last TAC meeting to voice their opposition and to request that the barrier be removed immediately. Mr. Wilson made a motion during the meeting that the MPO, in cooperation with DOT, do a comprehensive transportation study of Wooster Street and Dawson Street to look at other solutions to the barrier. The study area will begin at 3rd Street and end at 17th Street. Mr. Riddle told members Kimley-Horn has been chosen to conduct the study. They will be conducting a three day charrette the end of July. Mr. Pope, Mr. Kozlosky and Mike Rutkowski from Kimley-Horn will be meeting tomorrow to set a firm date.

e. Brunswick Connector

Mr. Eby told members at the last TAC meeting he made them aware that there will be a funding shortfall for the Brunswick Connector. The transit system is seeking funding to cover the local match.

Mr. Mello said staff was directed by the TAC to find a permanent solution to the funding shortfall for the Brunswick Connector. Using GIS technology, staff was able to calculate how much of the route runs through each of the jurisdictions. Using that figure as a percentage value, they were able to calculate a service-miles formula in determining the cost for each jurisdiction. Funds needed this year are \$30,000 and next years funding shortfall will be \$60,000. In an attempt to get funds permanently dedicated to the operation of the Brunswick Connector, staff will be making presentations to each of the governing boards that will outline the funding shortfall and request participation in future funding.

f. Safe Routes to School Program

Mr. Mello told members the position of director/coordinator for the Safe Routes to School program has now been filled. DOT will begin holding workshops at the beginning of the school year. Mr. Mello said he contacted the interested schools to let them know they could move forward in requesting workshops for the upcoming school year.

g. Cape Fear Skyway Transportation Corridor Official Map

Mr. O'Keefe told members New Hanover County is in the process of receiving a piece of property know as the "Flossie Bryant property". It is in the alignment of the proposed Skyway. The property must be sold and the proceeds must be split with the heirs of the deceased. It has been difficult establishing the value of the property considering the corridor alignment.

Mr. Mello told members it is staff's view that the property will likely be developed once it is sold, so through the City of Wilmington, staff is filing the Transportation Corridor Official Map to protect the Skyway corridor. It will go to the City Council within the next few weeks.

h. MPO Information Brochure

Mr. Prinz told members staff has been working on an informational brochure for the 2030 Long Range Transportation Plan. It provides information on how the LRTP provides a comprehensive assessment of current and future transportation needs within the MPO. Mr. Prinz distributed draft copies of the brochure and asked members for comments and feedback for improvements to the final version. Staff would like to take it to the TAC for the next meeting and asked that any comments be sent to him by the end of this week.

5. Project Updates

a. Blue Clay Road Corridor Study

Mr. Mello told members that Greenways, Inc. is currently working on the project. They will hold a public meeting in mid-July at the North Campus of the Cape Fear Community College. They will present different alternatives along Blue Clay Road and adjacent to Blue Clay Road to move bicyclists. There will be a steering committee meeting prior to the public hearing. He will let everyone know the date of the meeting, once it is scheduled.

b. Scenic Byway Corridor Management Plan

Mr. Mello said staff received the qualification packages from seven firms. They will interview the two selected firms in the next two weeks. They hope to have contracts signed for the work to begin at the beginning of this fiscal year. The corridor management plan will look at the Cape Fear Historic Byway that has been designated through downtown Wilmington and around Greenfield Lake. It is required that the management plan look at land use, signage, tourist facilities and a large number of factors affecting the corridor prior to submitting the application for federal grant awards through the byway program. Eventually they will seek National Scenic Byway designation or All-American Road status.

c. NCDOT Project Update
(attached)

6. Announcements

Mayor Willis introduced Charlena Alston, who is the Town Clerk for the Town of Navassa. She will be their representative to the TCC.

7. Adjournment

With no further items, the meeting was adjourned at 10:58 am.



STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

MICHAEL F. EASLEY
GOVERNOR

DIVISION OF HIGHWAYS

LYNDO TIPPETT
SECRETARY

June 7, 2007

TIP Projects:

1. **US 17 Wilmington Bypass: R-2405 A...** US 17 north of Wilmington, 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 all the bulb-outs, for U-turn movements.

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

2. **Military Cutoff (U-2734)**, constructing a multi-lane facility from US 17 (Market Street) to US 74 (Eastwood Drive).
Traffic will be in the final pattern by July 2007.
Estimated Completion September 2007
3. **Military Cutoff Road Extension (U-4751) and Hampstead Bypass (R-3300):** extending Military Cutoff Road from Market Street to the Wilmington Bypass, with an interchange at the Bypass. Also, from this interchange extend the multi-lane roadway to US 17 north of Hampstead. Right of way is scheduled for 2012.
4. **R-3601 US 17/74/76:** Widening across the "causeway", between Leland and Wilmington. 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.
Work Complete
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.
7. **B-0682:** Bridge to Sunset Beach over the intercoastal waterway. **Letting date 7/17/2007**
8. **R-2245:** Second bridge to Oak Island over the intercoastal waterway. **Letting date 6/19/2007**
9. **R-4063:** widen SR 1472 (Village Road) from SR 35 (South Navassa Road) to SR 1438 (Lanvale Road) to multi-lanes. Right of Way 2012 and Construction 2013.

NCMA Brunswick County:

- NC 211 We will be widening & resurfacing NC 211 from the entrance of St. James to NC 133 (Doscher Cutoff). **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. **Work Complete**
- US 421 from NC 210 to Sampson County Line, resurface. Project has been let and the availability date is February 7, 2005. **Work Complete**

Brunswick County Resurfacing Projects:

- 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. **Work complete**
- NC 133 Doshier Cutoff Road, patch and resurface from NC 87 to NC 211. **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 on all these maps**
 - Also included in the same contract:**
 - 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 46th Street to 65th Street.
- NC 87 (Maco Road) patch and resurface from 0.3 miles north of US 17 to 0.03 miles south of US 74/76. **The patching and intermediate course complete.**
 - Also included in the same contract: (Completion Date 8/1/2007)**
 - 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 Completion Summer 2007

- **US 74/NC 133:** installation of a signal "Mast Arm" pole on bridge #11 (Isabel Holmes Bridge) and connecting it to an existing signal system. **Letting May 8, 2007**
- **SR 1272 (New Center Drive):** widening the 4-lane portion of the roadway to 5-lanes. **Work Complete**
- **US 421** mill and resurface from West Lake Shore Drive (non-system) to Greenfield Street (non-system).
Also included in the same contract: (Let Date 12/19/2006...Comp. Date 6/1/2007)
 - 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).
 - NC 210** mill patch from I-40 to 0.2 miles northwest of US 17. (Length 13.05 miles)
- **NC 132 (North College Road), SR 1322 (Murrayville Road), SR 1327 (Farley Street) and SR 1322 (Bavarian Drive):** roadway improvements for better flow of traffic. Public Workshop was held on 4/17/2007. Work is scheduled to begin Summer 2007.

Pender County:

- **SR 1571 (Scott's Hill Loop Road)** widen and resurface from US 17 to US 17.
Work complete
- **NC 210** resurface from Bladen County line to SR 1101 (Point Caswell Road). Awarded to S. T. Wooten. **Work Complete**
- These are in the same contract: **Letting April 10, 2007**
 - **SR 1561 (Sloop Point Road)** widen to install a 1.5' paved shoulders from US 17 to SR 1563 (Sloop Point Loop Road). Also, widen 1.5' on SR 1563 from SR 1561 to the change in pavement at the school.
 - **SR 1520 (Shaw Highway)** construct short overlays from NC 210 to the Wildlife Boating Access Road.
 - **SR 1332 (Penderlea Highway)** mill patch at various spots from SR 1400 (Highsmith Road) to SR 1345 (Cora's Grove Road).
 - **US 17** mill patching at various spots from SR 1565 (Country Club Drive) north to the divided section of US 17.
 - **NC 11** mill patching at various spots from US 117 toward SR 1001 (Willard Road).