

**Wilmington Urban Area
Technical Coordinating Committee
Meeting Notes for December 5, 2007**

Members Present:

Mike Kozlosky, City of Wilmington
Stephanie Ayers, NC Ports Authority
Albert Eby, WAVE Transit
Chris O'Keefe, New Hanover County
Don Eggert, COG
Michael Zehner, Town of Belville
Ken Vafier, Pender County
Ben Hughes, NCDOT
Shane York, NCDOT
Patrick Riddle, NCDOT
Tim Owens, Town of Carolina Beach
Don Bennett, City of Wilmington
Joey Raczkowski, Pender County

Others Present:

Anthony Prinz, City of Wilmington
Joshuah Mello, City of Wilmington
Sam Burgess, New Hanover County
Bill McDow, City of Wilmington

1. Call to Order

Mr. Kozlosky called the meeting to order at 10:02 am.

2. Approval of Minutes

The motion to approve the minutes from the October 17, 2007 meeting carried unanimously.

3. Old Business

a. Resolution supporting the adoption of the Dawson/Wooster Corridor Plan

Mr. Kozlosky told members a presentation was made to the TAC on October 30th by Kimley Horne & Associates. The TAC members from City of Wilmington were not in attendance at the meeting and members tabled the item until the Wilmington City Council could comment on the plan. At their November 21st meeting, the City Council endorsed the Dawson/Wooster Corridor Plan and an aesthetically pleasing barrier at the 6th Street intersection plan. Staff is requesting the Plan go before the TAC at their next meeting for adoption.

Mr. O'Keefe made the motion to approve the plan and forward the plan to the TAC for their consideration. Mr. Riddle seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

4. New Business

a. Resolution supporting the creation of a Long Range Transportation Plan/Comprehensive Transportation Plan Citizen Advisory Committee

Mr. Kozlosky told members that staff is to begin work on the Long Range Transportation Plan/Comprehensive Transportation Plan. The current plan from 2005 is not SAFETEA-LU compliant in order to move projects up from the 4th year so a new plan is required. Staff recognizes the need to begin the process now and the need to have citizen input into the

development and adoption of this plan. This resolution is requesting the creation of a Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC) who will assist in the development of the plan. The resolution also identifies that appointees to the CAC will be made by the TAC representatives.

Mr. O'Keefe asked about the expectations from members of the committee. Mr. Kozlosky said members will serve as a steering-committee and a sound board to help guide the development of the plan. Staff hopes to have the plan completed in 2009.

Mr. O'Keefe made the motion to support the creation of the CAC and forward the resolution to the TAC for consideration. Mr. Eby seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

b. Resolution supporting Bicycle/Pedestrian facilities accommodations on Bridge # 43 with the U-3337 project

Mr. Kozlosky told members that NCDOT is currently in the planning and design phases for converting a grade separated interchange at the intersection of US 74 and Old Fayetteville Road. There are two schools facilities in the area and staff has recognized the need to have bicycle and/or pedestrian facilities on the bridge when it is improved. It is currently in poor condition and the deck will have to be replaced with this project. Staff is asking the Department of Transportation to consider the installation of either sidewalks or bike lane facilities on the bridge as well as on Old Fayetteville Road.

Mr. Eggert made the motion to support approval of the resolution and forward to the TAC for consideration. Mr. Zehner seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

c. Adoption of Meeting Calendar for 2008

Mr. Eggert told members the RPO meeting dates have already been set and they have scheduled a meeting for January 16th. Mr. Kozlosky suggested moving our meeting date to January 23rd. With no objections to the suggested change, Mr. O'Keefe made the motion to approve the TCC 2008 Meeting Calendar. Mr. Vafier seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

d. Resolution supporting the Town of Belville's request to apply for the Safe Routes to School Action Plan

Mr. Kozlosky told members that NCDOT released the call for projects that will allow for development of action plans for the Safe Routes to School program. The Town of Belville has acknowledged that they would like submit a grant application for this action plan that will help develop strategies for future implementation of the program. Mr. Owens told members Carolina Beach is also going to submit for the infrastructure grant in 2008.

Mr. Zehner made the motion to support the approval of the Town of Belville's request to apply for the Safe Routes to School Action Plan and forward to the TAC for consideration. Mr. O'Keefe seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

6. Discussion Items

a. Update of Long Range Transportation Plan

see above

b. 21st Century Transportation Committee

Mr. Kozlosky told member that he and Ms. Ayres attended the second 21st Century Transportation Committee meeting. The committee is preparing the first draft of recommendation to be submitted to the General Assembly for discussion during the Short Session. They are also working on the final recommendation on a financial plan being

developed for consideration as part of the General Assembly's Long Session in the 4th quarter of 2008. The next 21st Century Transportation Committee meeting will be held on December 12th in Raleigh. The January meeting will be held in Charlotte. The February meeting is scheduled to take place in Wilmington but the date has not been finalized.

7. Project Updates

a. Cape Fear Historic Byway Study

Mr. Mello told members they kicked off the corridor management plan for the Cape Fear Historic Byway last month. The consultant broke the byway up into several districts in order to think about different identities along the byway. The corridor management plan will include marketing, safety, way-finding signage, pedestrian and bicycle improvements, tourist amenities and general amenities, all intended to improve the visitor experience for people who are traveling the byway. The steering committee held a tour of the corridor and had a good turnout with many participants. Following that they held a one-day work shop to look at all types of streetscape amenities and lighting and also discussed general preferences for the corridor. The plan should be completed by February or March of 2008.

b. Dow Road Widening and Extension

Mr. Kozlosky told members that staff interviewed six firms the week after Thanksgiving. They hope to have a contract signed by the end of the year and work to begin in January.

c. WAVE Satellite Stations

Mr. Prinz told members that staff is currently working on a project with WAVE to identify three satellite transfer stations locations. The locations at the Independence Boulevard intersection near the Mall, Mayfaire near Eastwood and Military Cutoff, as well as Monkey Junction near the Wal-Mart area. They have held several meetings and are making good progress at identifying the sites. Staff hopes to select a preferred site and an alternative site for each one of those location at the next steering committee meeting. Staff anticipates finishing the project in the first quarter of 2008 and having the draft plan available for review in January.

d. US 17 Corridor Study

Mr. Kozlosky told member the TCC and the TAC, along with the New Hanover County Commissioners and the Wilmington City Council approved a resolution supporting the development of a unified ordinance that will promote interconnectivity and improve mobility along the Market Street corridor. Staff is working on an Interagency Agreement with Department of Transportation. Mr. Wilson is very supportive of this initiative and has agreed to provide the funding because he recognizes the importance of integrating transportation and land use planning. Staff anticipates having a RFP on the streets in the next two months.

e. NCDOT Project Update

attached

8. Announcements

Mr. Kozlosky introduced Mr. Bill McDow who is joining the Transportation Planning Staff.

7. Adjournment

With no further items, the meeting was adjourned at 10:42 am.