Meeting Agenda

Wilmington Urban Area MPO
Transportation Advisory Committee

TO: Transportation Advisory Committee Members
FROM: Mike Kozlosky, Senior Transportation Planner
DATE: March 20, 2008
SUBJECT: March 26th Meeting

A meeting of the Wilmington Urban Area MPO Transportation Advisory Committee will be held on Wednesday, March 26th at 4:00pm. The meeting will be held in the Lord Spencer Compton Conference Room at City Hall in downtown Wilmington.

The following is the agenda for the meeting:

1) Call to Order
2) Approval of Minutes:
   a. 2/27/08
3) Public Comment
4) Old Business
5) New Business
   a. Resolution adopting the Cape Fear Historic Byway Corridor Management Plan
   b. Resolution supporting the efforts to secure byway grant funding for S. 3rd Street
   c. Resolution adopting the Blue Clay Road Bicycle Corridor Plan
   d. Resolution amending the 2007-08 Unified Planning Work Program
   e. Adoption of the 2008-09 Unified Planning Work Program
   f. Resolution encouraging the North Carolina General Assembly to amend the General Statute 20-97 to permit counties to impose a vehicle tax and encouraging the New Hanover County Board of Commissioners to impose a $5 county-wide registration fee for public transportation
   g. Resolution encouraging New Hanover County to hold a referendum for a ¼ cent sales tax for transportation infrastructure improvements
6) Discussion Items
   a. Regional Transportation Authority
7) Project Updates
   a. Dow Road widening and extension
   b. Monkey Junction Collector Street Plan
   c. Market Street Corridor Study
   d. NCDOT Project Update
8) Announcements
   a. Oleander Drive Resurfacing Meeting- March 27th
9) Adjournment -- Next Meeting – April 23, 2008
Attachments:
- Minutes from 2/27 Meeting
- Resolution adopting the Cape Fear Historic Byway Corridor Management Plan
- Resolution supporting the efforts to secure byway grant funding for S. 3rd Street
- Resolution adopting the Blue Clay Road Bicycle Corridor Plan
- Amended 2007-08 Unified Planning Work Program Budget
- Resolution amending the 2007-08 Unified Planning Work Program
- 2008-09 Unified Planning Work Program
- Resolution approving 2008-09 Unified Planning Work Program
- Resolution certifying the transportation planning process
- Resolution encouraging the North Carolina General Assembly to amend the General Statute 20-97 to permit counties to impose a vehicle tax and encouraging the New Hanover County Board of Commissioners to impose a $5 county-wide registration fee for public transportation
- Resolution encouraging New Hanover County to hold a referendum for a ¼ cent sales tax for transportation infrastructure improvements
- Information regarding Regional Transportation Authority’s (to be distributed at the meeting)
- NCDOT Project Update
Meeting Minutes  
Wilmington Urban Area Metropolitan Planning Organization  
Transportation Advisory Committee  
Date: February 27, 2008

Members Present:
Lanny Wilson, Chairman, NCBOT  
Laura Padgett, Vice-Chair, City of Wilmington  
Dean Lamberth, Town of Kure Beach  
Bill Saffo, City of Wilmington  
Bill Sue, Brunswick County  
Chuck Thurlow, Town of Belville  
Brenda Bozeman, Town of Leland  
Mike Ballard, Town of Navassa  
Nancy Pritchett, Cape Fear Public Trans. Authority  
David Williams, Pender County  
Allen Gilbert, Town of Carolina Beach  

Staff Present:
Mike Kozlosky, Senior Planner  
Lawless Bean, TDM Coordinator  
Joshuah Mello, Transportation Planner  

1. Call to Order  
Mr. Wilson called the meeting to order at 4:01 PM.  

2. Approval of Minutes  
The motion to approve the minutes from the January 30th meeting carried unanimously.  

3. Public Comment Period  
Mr. Wilson asked if anyone would like to make any comments. No one wished to speak.  

4. Presentations  
a. “Keep America Moving” Video  
Mr. Kozlosky presented the “Keep America Moving” video. The video discusses current transportation infrastructure and was produced by the Association of Metropolitan Planning Organization’s National Association.  

5. Old Business  
None  

6. New Business  
a. Resolution adopting WAVE Satellite Station Site Evaluation Study  
Mr. Kozlosky introduced George Alexiou and Graham James with Martin/Alexiou/Bryson, and Peggy Hayes from Hayes Planning Associates who gave a presentation on the recommendations of the WAVE Satellite Station Evaluation Study.  

Mr. Alexiou told members his team was charged with the task of identifying the best locations for the satellite transfer centers. Mr. James explained the process used in selecting the sites for the transfers stations. The final recommendations are Independence Station at Independence Mall, the East Station near Mayfaire and the Monkey Junction Station near Wal-Mart. Ms. Hayes told members as part of the study, they also surveyed transit passenger and conducted an internet survey to request input on amenities needed for designing a better transfer station for riders.
Following the presentation, Ms Padgett made the motion to adopt the WAVE Transfer Stations: Evaluation of Site Locations and Planning. The motion was seconded by Mr. Sue and the vote carried unanimously.

b. Approval of Section 5303 Agreement between WAVE and Wilmington MPO
Mr. Kozlosky told members currently the disbursement of Section 5303 funds, which is used for transit planning, is 50% to WAVE Transit and 50% to the Wilmington MPO. WAVE requested to amend the distribution formula to 65%/35%. The total allocation is $73,000, of which 80% is funded through FTA and 20% coming from state and local match. The TCC recommended approval of the revised agreement with the stipulation that WAVE provide staffing for the update of the Long Range Transportation Plan, as well as the evaluation for the long term needs for the Wilmington Multi-Modal Transportation Center.

Mr. Sue asked about the funding loss to the MPO. Mr. Kozlosky said with the stipulations, he felt staff could sustain current operation with the reduction in funds and the disbursement agreement can be brought before this board yearly. Mr. Kozlosky told members it could come back next year because of the Transportation Demand Management System. If DOT requests that we do a TDM plan for this region, we could utilize some of these funds to complete this project.

Ms Padgett made the motion to approve the agreement. Mr. Sue seconded the motion on condition that we bring it back next year. Ms. Padgett accepted that modification. The motion, with modification, carried unanimously.

7. Discussion Items

a. Long Range Transportation Plan and Citizen Advisory Committee
Mr. Kozlosky told members that the Citizen Advisory Committee members have been selected from all but 3 TAC members. Staff will contact those members for their appointments. The kick-off meeting for the CAC is planned for sometime in March. Staff hopes to have someone from DOT or Federal Highway make a presentation at that meeting on the comprehensive transportation planning process to better help the committee understand their goals and objectives.

b. Discussion regarding a referendum for a ¼ cent sales tax increase within the MPO planning area
Ms. Padgett told members she and Mr. Saffo requested this item be added to the agenda. Across the country cities, towns and counties are going to have to begin providing some means of local revenue for transportation and we need additional tools to raise that revenue. One of the options North Carolina has provided is a county increase of ¼ cent sales tax. That money can be used for roads. It can create additional funding so that we can build the projects that we need.

The federal gas tax is going to run out of money this year so this is a problem that should have been faced two or three years ago. The current authorization goes through 2009 but there is not enough money to get through 2008.

Ms. Padgett said she thinks we are going to see some major differences in how transportation is considered and how it is funded. All local governments are going to be affected. She told members she would like this committee to consider having staff bring back a resolution to request that New Hanover County put on a referendum in the fall if possible. We can expect to see changes come about at the state and federal level in terms of money that can come down locally for transportation projects. We have projects that, if we don’t move forward to get them done, we’re going to lose right-of-way and it will cost a lot more. So there are some specific
projects that are being looked at are extending Military Cutoff Road and Independence Boulevard. In her opinion there should be some small piece set aside for transit to provide dependable funding.

Mr. Wilson told members he would ask that it be “spelled-out” if we are going to move forward with this in a referendum and include a “sunset” once the two projects are complete. If you have a stream of revenue, you can bond against that stream. Everyone on this board would have to agree, although we are optimistic that something will occur in the short session. However, there is not likely a “big-fix” until the long session and the final report will be issued to the 21st Century Committee in December of this year.

Mr. Kozlosky told members in 2005 Representatives McComas, Wright and Justice introduced a bill that would have allowed for a referendum for a ½ cent sales tax for transportation. It identified three projects: Independence Boulevard extension, Military Cut-off Road extension and Dow Road widening and extension. That bill stalled in committee but this board did endorse the resolution in support of that initiative and worked with the local delegation to get that bill introduced. Staff feels that this is the time to request the ¼ cent sales tax in New Hanover County.

Ms. Padgett told members we need to make sure DOT understands that we still want our current level of state and federal money and that we are not trying to supplant their responsibility with this funding. The 21st Century Committee will be looking at different things and this is an opportunity for us to present ourselves as a locality willing to help ourselves. In other places across the county, there are innovative ways to deal with things like this and one of those we might consider down the road is to create a regional transportation authority that has taxing ability in the area where they are responsible for the roads. There are sections of the country that utilize that method, particularly in large cities, and then we will have more people involved in funding transportation. The City of Wilmington pays for a great deal of the infrastructure that supports the sales tax we collect. In New Hanover County, 83% of the sales tax is collected within the City of Wilmington, but we only get back about 20% to pay for those infrastructure costs. This is an effort for the whole county, including the City of Wilmington and the beach communities, to have some funds that we control and decide how we want them used. They can also be used to leverage other dollars.

Mr. Gilbert said with the failure of the infrastructure bill that was going through the legislature for the ½ cent, if you are going to put this legislation through at ¼ cent, we need to define where that money is going to go. Our biggest issue is maintenance. Some of our roads in smaller towns and cities haven’t been paved in 22 years.

Mr. Wilson said the legislation is already there to allow the ¼ cent sales tax and for the counties to put it to a referendum. It is up to the counties to make the determination where the money would be applied. We are just suggesting that the money be utilized for transportation.

Ms Padgett said she feels there is public support for this type of funding efforts. We must be specific in what we are going to use the funding for, get those projects done, and then look at where we may be at that point in time.

Mr. Gilbert said the public may not be able to see the value in new construction because every time they get into their car, they face the issues of maintenance with the existing roads.

Mr. Saffo told members the MPO is asking the City of Wilmington to protect right-of-ways and in protecting those right-of-ways, we take away peoples property rights. We need to make a commitment to these property owners. If the funding is not there, should we be taking this private property indefinitely in order to protect this right-of-way?
Mr. Gilbert said new construction is important but there are a lot of people who live inside the city limits that will have a hard time looking at a ¼ cent sales tax for building roads somewhere else, when their roads are not being maintained.

Mr. Wilson said he believes there is money at DOT for the maintenance of the roads and to contact them to discuss a particular maintenance issue. Mr. Lamberth agreed that the beach communities need help with the road maintenance. Mr. Gilbert said new roads are great, but we need to make sure the tax paying citizens are being served.

Mr. Wilson told members there is more of a chance to supplant maintenance dollars than new dollars. He said he would also ask that we keep the public transportation issue separate because he thinks the ¼ cent should be used for those two transportation projects. The committee could recommend the county add $5.00 to the registration fee for public transportation because they already have that authority. That would go a long way in solving the issue with public transportation and implementing the ideas from the WAVE Satellite Station Site Evaluation Study. It would not require a referendum as it could be implemented by a vote of the county commissioners.

Mr. Ballard asked Ms. Padgett if she had any information on the creation of a transportation authority. Mr. Wilson said large cities in Texas have regional authorities but, they were generally put in place to build toll roads. Mr. Kozlosky told members York, South Carolina has a successful program in place called “Pennies for Progress”. In 2001 they went to the voters with identified needs for transportation improvements with a sunset date. The voters passed the referendum by about a 54/46% vote. Because they delivered on all the projects they had identified, when they went back with another referendum request in 2004 or 2005, it passed in a 70/30% vote. As long as you can put the projects on the ground, you will get support for these efforts, but you have to be able to deliver these projects.

Mr. Wilson said when you keep the Department of Transportation out of it, as far as using federal dollars, then you don’t have all the strings attached that come with the utilization of federal dollars. If we could undertake at least one of these projects, it would mean the City of Wilmington, working through the MPO, could get permits a lot faster.

Mr. Kozlosky told members if all the communities would step up, then we could find a revenue stream to do some of these transportation projects, such as the Wilmington Bypass, Hampstead Bypass and Independence Boulevard extension, which are regionally significant for this area. The entire region will benefit from the projects.

Ms. Padgett made a motion to request staff bring back a resolution with the details on how much revenue could be generated and a gross estimate of how much some of those projects would cost.

Mr. Wilson asked Ms. Padgett if she would consider making it two resolutions. Ms. Padgett agreed and made the motion requesting staff bring the TAC a resolution requesting New Hanover County put in place a $5.00 license tag fee.

Mr. Lamberth told members he would like to see Dow Road included as a project on the request for a referendum.

Mr. Kozlosky told members in 2005 the estimated revenue for ½ cent was $14 million. So, if we go to a ¼ cent, then it will generate about $7 million per year based on the numbers in 2005. If bonded 12 times, it would generate $94 million. That would be enough to do two of those projects, but not all three.
Ms. Padgett told members her motion is for staff to bring back details to this board and then we could vote on moving forward.

Mr. Kozlosky asked if this committee would like staff to also bring back a resolution supporting the possibility of creating a regional transportation authority for Brunswick, New Hanover and Pender counties. Ms. Padgett said she did not know if we needed it for the next meeting, but let’s start looking at it.

Mr. Wilson said we need to be cautious when giving taxing authority to an organization that might not be elected officials. It may be a significant concern.

Mr. Williams told members he would like to at least hear more about it. Mr. Wilson told members our best bet if we are going to get anything through, is to work with this 21st Century Committee to make the recommendations.

Ms. Padgett said her 1st motion is to request staff to come back with a resolution requesting New Hanover County to take a ¼ cent transportation tax to the residents of New Hanover County in a referendum with projects to be identified and a sunset. Mr. Williams seconded the motion. The vote carried unanimously.

Ms. Padgett made a 2nd motion asking staff to bring this board a resolution urging the New Hanover County Commissioners to impose a $5.00, and up to a $10.00 per license tag fee, specifically designated for public transportation. Ms. Pritchett seconded the motion. The vote carried unanimously.

8. Project Updates

a. Cape Fear Historic Byway Study
Mr. Mello told members staff has a meeting on the February 29th with the consultants to review the final draft of the corridor management plan for the scenic byway. Staff will be offering additional comments and bring it to the steering committee for their adoption. Staff will be bringing it to the TAC in March.

b. Blue Clay Road Bicycle Corridor Study
Mr. Mello said staff is wrapping up the Blue Clay Road corridor study. Staff met with the airport officials two weeks ago about using a piece of their property to the north of the airport for the multi-use trail. The airport was supportive and staff will take a resolution to their board within the coming months asking them to support the plan. Mr. Mello told members staff has had great success working with the larger developments to connect their internal trail systems.

c. Dow Road Widening and Extension
Mr. Kozlosky told members staff was able to come to an agreement on a fee and scope with Wilbur Smith and Associates to complete the analysis of the Dow Road widening and extension project. It was one of the three project identified back in 2005. We see the importance and need for this project in southern New Hanover County and especially the beach communities. We will have to have support from the Sunny Point because a large portion of the extension of the roadway traverses the blast zone. Staff is developing a memorandum of agreement between the MPO, the Air Force and Sunny Point as part of the scope for the project so that we have buy-in and have documentation to go forward with constructing the extension portion.

d. Monkey Junction Collector Street Plan
Mr. Kozlosky told members there is a meeting tomorrow night at Bellamy Elementary School to review the draft plan to the public and receive feedback. Staff will incorporate those comments from the community and take it back to the community, along with the cross sections for the collector streets. The proposal is to provide a road map and a guide for future development in that area.

e. Market Street Corridor Study
Mr. Kozlosky told members staff is moving forward in developing a scope for this project. It is on the Board of Transportation agenda for next Thursday, for which the MPO and the City of Wilmington will appropriate $270,000 for the completion of the Market Street Corridor Study. Mr. Wilson said this project is important because it is the first study of this type that has been initiated by the state to integrate land use and transportation planning.

f. NCDOT Project Update
Attached

8. Announcements

   a. Monkey Junction Collector Street Plan Public Meeting – February 28th

   b. Wilmington Metropolitan Bike/Ped Committee Meeting – March 13th

9. Adjournment

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:25pm

Respectfully submitted

Mike Kozlosky
Senior Transportation Planner
WHEREAS, the Wilmington Urban Area Metropolitan Planning Organization provides transportation planning services for the City of Wilmington, Town of Carolina Beach, Town of Kure Beach, Town of Wrightsville Beach, Town of Belville, Town of Leland, Town of Navassa, New Hanover County, Brunswick County, Pender County, Cape Fear Public Transportation Authority and the North Carolina Board of Transportation; and

WHEREAS, the Cape Fear Historic Byway was designated as a North Carolina Scenic Byway in April 2007; and

WHEREAS, the Cape Fear Historic Byway is the first entirely urban scenic byway in the State of North Carolina and one of only a handful in the United States of America; and

WHEREAS, the Cape Fear Historic Byway offers visitors an abbreviated tour of the beautiful Cape Fear riverfront, an 18th-century seaport, a premier National Register Historic District, and one of the nation’s most attractive and unique urban parks, with additional opportunities to park, walk and even bike to a multitude of other attractions, and

WHEREAS, the Wilmington Urban Area Metropolitan Planning Organization embarked on the development of the Cape Fear Historic Byway Corridor Management Plan with the goal of developing, preserving and enhancing the characteristics of the scenic byway; and

WHEREAS, the Cape Fear Historic Byway Corridor Management Plan will be used to as a guide to improve the visitor experience along the byway, with the long-term goal of designation by the Federal Highway Administration as a National Scenic Byway or All American Road.

NOW THEREFORE, be it resolved that the Wilmington Urban Area Metropolitan Planning Organization Transportation Advisory Committee hereby adopts the Cape Fear Historic Byway Corridor Management Plan.

ADOPTED at a regular meeting of the Transportation Advisory Committee on March 26, 2008.

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Lanny Wilson, Chair
Transportation Advisory Committee

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Mike Kozlosky, Secretary
WHEREAS, the Wilmington Urban Area Metropolitan Planning Organization provides transportation planning services for the City of Wilmington, Town of Carolina Beach, Town of Kure Beach, Town of Wrightsville Beach, Town of Belville, Town of Leland, Town of Navassa, New Hanover County, Brunswick County, Pender County, Cape Fear Public Transportation Authority and the North Carolina Board of Transportation; and

WHEREAS, the Cape Fear Historic Byway was designated as a North Carolina Scenic Byway in April 2007; and

WHEREAS, the Cape Fear Historic Byway is the first entirely urban scenic byway in the State of North Carolina and one of only a handful in the United States of America; and

WHEREAS, the Cape Fear Historic Byway Corridor Management Plan will be used to as a guide to improve the visitor experience along the byway, with the long-term goal of designation by the Federal Highway Administration as a National Scenic Byway or All American Road; and

WHEREAS, the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) provides grant funding to construct improvements along byway corridors; and

WHEREAS, federal SAFETEA-LU legislation has authorized up to $40 million in the current fiscal year to provide improvements for byway programs; and

WHEREAS, South 3rd Street is located within the Cape Fear Historic Byway corridor and proposed improvements to upgrade this corridor would improve pedestrian mobility, safety and enhance the character of the corridor; and

WHEREAS, the proposed improvements include the installation of decorative lighting, improved pedestrian crosswalks, and additional landscaping on South 3rd Street from Market Street to Castle Street.

NOW THEREFORE, be it resolved that the Wilmington Urban Area Metropolitan Planning Organization Transportation Advisory Committee hereby supports the City of Wilmington and Wilmington Metropolitan Planning Organization’s efforts to secure byway grant funding to construct improvements along South 3rd Street.

ADOPTED at a regular meeting of the Transportation Advisory Committee on March 26, 2008.

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Lanny Wilson, Chair
Transportation Advisory Committee

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Mike Kozlosky, Secretary
WILMINGTON URBAN AREA METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION
TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE
BICYCLE FACILITIES STUDY FOR THE BLUE CLAY CORRIDOR

WHEREAS, the Wilmington Urban Area Metropolitan Planning Organization provides transportation planning services for the City of Wilmington, Town of Carolina Beach, Town of Kure Beach, Town of Wrightsville Beach, Town of Belville, Town of Leland, Town of Navassa, New Hanover County, Brunswick County, Pender County, Cape Fear Public Transportation Authority and the North Carolina Board of Transportation; and

WHEREAS, the Wilmington Urban Area Metropolitan Planning Organization 2030 Long Range Transportation Plan identifies the Blue Clay Road corridor as the second of 17 top recommended bicycle improvements; and

WHEREAS, Blue Clay Road is designated as part of North Carolina Bicycling Highway 3; and

WHEREAS, Blue Clay Road provides a direct link to the City of Wilmington and fast-growing northern New Hanover County; and

WHEREAS, the Wilmington Urban Area Metropolitan Planning Organization has completed the Bicycle Facilities Study for the Blue Clay Corridor in cooperation with New Hanover County, ILM Airport, and North Carolina Department of Transportation staff, as well as the general public.

WHEREAS, the Bicycle Facilities Study for the Blue Clay Corridor will be used as a guide to improve bicycle facilities along the Blue Clay Road corridor, with the long-term goal of providing a safe bicycle route between North 23rd Street and Holly Shelter Road for use by both bicycle commuters and recreational bicyclists.

NOW THEREFORE, be it resolved that the Wilmington Urban Area Metropolitan Planning Organization Transportation Advisory Committee hereby adopts the Bicycle Facilities Study for the Blue Clay Corridor.

ADOPTED at a regular meeting of the Transportation Advisory Committee on March 26, 2008.

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Lanny Wilson, Chair
Transportation Advisory Committee

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Mike Kozlosky, Secretary
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<td>III-E</td>
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**TOTALS:**

|  | 0 | 0 | 89,450 | 357,800 | - | - | - | 89,450 | - | 357,800 | 447,250 |
WHEREAS, the fiscal year 2007-2008 Unified Planning Work Program documenting the comprehensive and continuing transportation planning program in the Wilmington Urban Area was amended by the Transportation Advisory Committee on March 28, 2007; and

WHEREAS, the need for amendment of the fiscal year 2007-2008 Unified Planning Work Program has subsequently been evaluated and justified in order to effectively advance transportation planning for fiscal year 2007-2008; and

WHEREAS, staff reduced the expenditure of funds in the II-A-9 Travel Time Studies, II-B-5 Forecast of Data to Horizon Year, II-B-7 Forecast of Future Travel Plans, II-B-16 Financial Planning and III-D-3 Special Studies line items; and

WHEREAS, staff increased the expenditure of funds in the II-A-6 Dwelling Unit and Population Changes, II-A-10 Mapping, II-B-3 Travel Model Updates, II-B-11 Bicycle and Pedestrian Planning, II-B-13 Collector Street Planning, III-C-6 Public Involvement and III-E Management and Operations line items; and

WHEREAS, the Wilmington Urban Area Metropolitan Planning Organization can amend the fiscal year 2007-2008 Unified Planning Work Program until March 31, 2008 to cover any anticipated expenditures for the fiscal year.

NOW THEREFORE, be it resolved that the Wilmington Urban Area Metropolitan Planning Organization Transportation Advisory Committee hereby approves the aforementioned amendments to the fiscal year 2007-2008 Unified Planning Work Program.

ADOPTED at a regular meeting of the Wilmington Urban Area Metropolitan Planning Organization Transportation Advisory Committee on March 26, 2008.

Lanny Wilson, Chair
Transportation Advisory Committee

__________________________
Mike Kozlosky, Secretary
Transportation Advisory Committee
Dear Mr. Kozak / Mr. Bruff:

Enclosed are eight (8) copies of the Wilmington Urban Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Planning Work Program (PWP) for FY2008-2009 that was adopted by the Transportation Advisory Committee on____________. The PWP also serves as the Urban Area's Metropolitan Planning Program grant application requesting Federal Transit Administration Section 5303 planning funds. A complete description and proposed budget of planning activities is included in the PWP.

The Federal Transit Administration (FTA) grant amount requested is our full allocation of $58,560. This will be matched with local funds in the amount of $7,320 (10%) and state funds in the amount of $7,320 (10%) for a total funding amount of $73,200.

The local match will be provided by General Fund revenues from the member agencies of the Wilmington Urban Area MPO according to the local match funding agreement as outlined in the Wilmington Urban Area MPO Memorandum of Understanding.

The City of Wilmington is currently the designated grant recipient for FTA Section 5303 grant funds. The intention of these funds are for transit planning purposes, however the Section 5303 funds are anticipated to be available to the Cape Fear Public Transportation Authority.

Sincerely,

Lanny Wilson, Chairman
Transportation Advisory Committee

cc: Mike Kozlosky, MPO Coordinator, Wilmington MPO
Wilmington Urban Area Transportation Planning Work Program

Fiscal Year 2008-2009

Adopted
## FY 2008-2009 Unified Planning Work Program for the Wilmington, North Carolina Urban Area

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<tr>
<td>MPO Certification</td>
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</table>
Introduction

In compliance with Federal law and in the spirit of cooperation, the Wilmington Urban Area conducts a “cooperative, comprehensive, and continuing...” transportation planning process. This Planning Work Program (PWP) outlines the tasks and associated funding sources dedicated to the Wilmington Urban Area MPO transportation planning process during fiscal year 2008-2009. Depending on the specific funding source, tasks funded through the PWP are eligible for reimbursement of 80-90% of their cost from the Federal Highway Administration and Federal Transit Administration through the North Carolina Department of Transportation.

The PWP for the Wilmington Urban Area identifies three separate funding sources for Urban Area transportation planning. A brief description of these funding sources follows:

- Statewide Planning and Research Programs (SPR)-These funds are used by NCDOT to conduct work for the Wilmington Urban Area MPO.

- Federal Highway Administration Section 104(f) Funds-These funds are dedicated to the urban area to perform transportation planning. They require a 20% local match.

- Federal Transit Administration Section 5303 Funds-These funds are used for transit planning in the urban area. The Federal Transit Administration provides 80% of these funds, NCDOT 10%, and there is a required 10% local match.

The local match requirements will be shared by all members of the Wilmington Urban Area MPO in direct proportion to population as defined in the Wilmington Urban Area MPO Memorandum of Understanding.
Narrative of PWP Section 104(f) Work Tasks to be Performed in FY 2008-2009
(Primary work to be performed by lead planning agency staff except where noted.)

Line Item Code

II-A1 Traffic Volume Counts- Wilmington MPO staff maintains an ongoing traffic counting program. An annual summary of the urban area traffic count data will be prepared.

II-A2 Vehicle Miles of Travel- Establish VMT as measure of effectiveness of transportation system. Measure the VMT with the new travel demand model.

II-A3 Street System Changes- Update of street system database as needed.

II-A4 Traffic Accidents- Currently MPO staff conducts an ongoing effort to summarize traffic accident data for specific projects, completion of the annual crash report, and for the public. MPO staff also utilizes accident data for specific inquiries.

II-A5 Transit System Data- Update of transit system database as needed.

II-A6 Dwelling Unit, Population, Employment Changes- Will measure land use changes by Transportation Analysis Zone between April 2000 Census and travel demand model base year. Staff will provide capacity analysis for proposed developments within the Wilmington planning area boundary.

II-A7 Air Travel- Assistance to Wilmington International Airport as needed.

II-A8 Vehicle Occupancy Rate Counts- Monitor VOC as needed.

II-A9 Travel Time Studies- Conduct key travel time studies for travel demand model calibration.

II-A10 Mapping- Keep Geographic Information System files current and produce maps to support transportation plans, programs, and projects.

II-A11 Central Area Parking Inventory- No tasks foreseen.

II-A12 Bicycle and Pedestrian Facilities Inventory- Update ride suitability assessment of federal-aid functionally classed roadways.

II-B1 Collection of Base Year Data- No tasks foreseen.

II-B2 Collection of Network Data- No tasks foreseen.

II-B3 Travel Model Updates- Update the regional transportation model on an as-needed basis.

II-B4 Travel Surveys- No tasks foreseen.
II-B5 Forecast of Data to Horizon Year - Monitor regionally significant land use changes and modify future year TAZ file accordingly.

II-B6 Community Goals and Objectives - Monitor public input as it pertains to goals and objectives set forth in the update of the Long Range Transportation Plan.

II-B7 Forecast of Future Year Travel Patterns - Test alternative roadway network improvements for system benefit.

II-B-8 Capacity Deficiency Analysis - Identify areas of deficient capacity through use of travel demand model for further analysis as potential long range transportation improvement projects.

II-B9 Highway Element of Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) - Identification of highway deficiencies, priorities, and proposed highway improvement solutions and strategies. Provide documentation of process and recommendations in update of the LRTP.

II-B10 Transit Element of Long Range Transportation Plan - Identify public transportation deficiencies, priorities, and proposed transit improvement solutions and strategies from the completed Transit Master Service Plan for inclusion in the update of the LRTP. Provide documentation of process and recommendations.

II-B11 Bicycle and Pedestrian Element of the Long Range Transportation Plan - Identify bicycle deficiencies, priorities, and proposed bicycle and pedestrian improvement solutions and strategies. Provide documentation of the process and recommendations in the update of the LRTP.

II-B12 Airport/Air Travel Element of the Long Range Transportation Plan - Identify airport and air service deficiencies, priorities, and proposed airport and air service improvement solutions and strategies. Provide documentation of process and recommendations in the update of the LRTP.

II-B13 Collector Street Element of Long Range Transportation Plan - Develop regionally acceptable collector street policies and program recommendations for inclusion in the update of the LRTP. Staff plans to continue to develop a collector street plan for southern New Hanover County and then begin the development of a collector street plan for the City of Wilmington.

II-B14 Rail, Waterway and Other Elements of Long Range Transportation Plan - Identify rail and waterway deficiencies, priorities, and proposed rail and waterway improvement solutions and strategies. Provide documentation of process and recommendations in the update of the LRTP.

II-B15 Freight Movement/Mobility Planning - Identification of freight movement deficiencies, priorities, and proposed improvement solutions and strategies. Provide documentation of process and recommendations in the update of the LRTP.
II-B16 Financial Planning - Develop realistic, best estimates of funding sources available and project cost estimates throughout the forecast years for the LRTP. Ensure fiscal constraint in the update of the LRTP.

II-B17 Congestion Management Strategies - Develop strategies to address and manage congestion by increasing transportation system supply, reducing demand by application of alternative mode solutions, and transportation system management strategies. Document process and solutions in the update of the LRTP.

II-B-18 Air Quality Planning/Conformity Analysis - No tasks foreseen.


III-B Transportation Improvement Program - Review and amend the 2007-2013 and 2009-2015 Transportation Improvement Program on an as needed basis.

III-C1 Title VI Compliance - Work to insure compliance with the requirements of Title VI in urban area policies and practices.

III-C2 Environmental Justice - Analysis and outreach to insure that transportation plans and projects comply with Environmental Justice policies.

III-C3 MBE Planning - Activities to encourage participation of minority-owned business enterprises in contractual and supply opportunities.

III-C4 Planning for the Elderly and Disabled - Ensure the special needs of the elderly and disabled are addressed in all transportation planning projects.

III-C5 Safety/Drug Control Planning - Only FTA program funds used for this effort by the Cape Fear Public Transportation Authority. No tasks foreseen by the MPO.

III-C6 Public Involvement - Extensive Public Participation effort will be carried out to solicit input and reaction to update of the Long Range Transportation Plan, Dow Road widening, Scenic Byway corridor management plan, and development of the signature structure design for the Cape Fear Skyway.

III-C7 Private Sector Participation - Activities to encourage private sector participation in planning and project activities.

III-D1 Transportation Enhancement Planning - Prepare and submit applications for potential transportation enhancement funding in the Wilmington Urban Area.

III-D2 Environmental and Pre-TIP Planning - Conduct environmental analysis and planning for the development of transportation projects in the Wilmington Urban Area.

III-D3 Special Studies - The Wilmington MPO has began to develop a planning level analysis for the Dow Road widening and extension. Funding is included in the Planning Work
Program to complete this project. Funding is programmed to complete a collector street plan for northern New Hanover County, assist in the development of a bicycle plan for the Town of Wrightsville Beach and on-call engineering to assist with the review of Transportation Impact Analysis (TIA).

III-D4 Statewide and Regional Planning- Coordination of urban area activities with statewide and regional initiatives.

III-E Management and Operations- Required ongoing administrative and operational tasks to support MPO committees and reporting requirements.
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<td>Management &amp; Operations</td>
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**SURVEILLANCE OF CHANGE**

**TRANSPORTATION SYSTEMS**

**PLANNING WORK PROGRAM**

**MANAGEMENT & OPERATIONS**
Anticipated DBE Contracting Opportunities for FY 2008-2009

Name of MPO: Wilmington Urban Area MPO

Person Completing Form: Mike Kozlosky  Telephone Number: 910-342-2781

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<th>Prospectus Task Code</th>
<th>Prospectus Description</th>
<th>Name of Agency Contracting Out</th>
<th>Type of Contracting Opportunity (Consultant, etc.)</th>
<th>Federal Funds to be Contracted Out</th>
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RESOLUTION
APPROVING THE FY 2008-2009 PLANNING WORK PROGRAM
OF THE WILMINGTON URBAN AREA

WHEREAS, a comprehensive and continuing transportation planning program
must be carried out cooperatively in order to ensure that funds for transportation
projects are effectively allocated to the Wilmington Urban Area;

WHEREAS, the City of Wilmington has been designated as the recipient of
Federal Transit Administration Metropolitan Planning Program (Section 5303) funds and
Federal Highway Administration Metropolitan Planning (Section 104(f)) funds;

WHEREAS, members of the Wilmington Urban Area Transportation Advisory
Committee agree that the Planning Work Program will effectively advance transportation
planning for State Fiscal Year 2008-2009;

NOW THEREFORE, be it resolved that the Transportation Advisory Committee
hereby endorses the FY 2008-2009 Planning Work Program for the Wilmington Urban
Area.

***************************
I, Lanny Wilson, Chair of the Wilmington Urban Area Transportation Advisory
Committee do hereby certify that the above is a true and correct copy of an excerpt from the
minutes of a meeting of the Wilmington Urban Area Transportation Advisory Committee,
duly held on this the ___ day of _________ 2008.

_____________________________
L a n n y  W i l s o n ,  C h a i r
Wilmington Urban Area TAC

***************************
Subscribed and sworn to me this the _____ day of ______, 2008.

_____________________________
Notary Public

My commission expires ___________.

11
WHEREAS, the Transportation Advisory Committee has found that the Metropolitan Planning Organization is conducting transportation planning in a continuous, cooperative, and comprehensive manner in accordance with 23 U.S.C. 134 and 49 U.S.C. 1607;

WHEREAS, the Transportation Advisory Committee has found the transportation planning process to be in full compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Title VI Assurance executed by each state under 23 U.S.C. 324 and 29 U.S.C. 794;

WHEREAS, the Transportation Advisory Committee has considered how the transportation planning process will affect the involvement of Disadvantaged Business Enterprises in the Federal Highway Administration and the Federal Transit Administration funded planning projects [Section 1003(b) of ISTEA of 1991 (Pub. L. 102-240), Sec. 105(f), Pub. L. 97-424, 96 Stat. 2100, 49 CFR part 23];

WHEREAS, the Transportation Advisory Committee has considered how the transportation planning process will affect the elderly and the disabled per the provision of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (Pub. L. 101-336, 104 Stat. 327, as amended) and the United States Department of Transportation implementing regulations (49 CFR parts 27, 37, and 38);

WHEREAS, the 2030 Long Range Transportation Plan has a planning horizon year of 2030, and meets all the requirements for an adequate transportation plan,

NOW THEREFORE, be it resolved that the Wilmington Urban Area Transportation Advisory Committee certifies the transportation planning process for the Wilmington Urban Area Metropolitan Planning Organization on this the 26th day of March 2008.

Lanny Wilson
Chair, Transportation Advisory Committee

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Mike Kozlosky
Secretary, Wilmington MPO

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WILMINGTON URBAN AREA METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION
TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING A LOCAL ACT AUTHORIZING NEW HANOVER COUNTY TO LEVY A FIVE-DOLLAR VEHICLE REGISTRATION FEE FOR PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION

WHEREAS, the Wilmington Urban Area Metropolitan Planning Organization provides transportation planning services for the City of Wilmington, Town of Carolina Beach, Town of Kure Beach, Town of Wrightsville Beach, Town of Belville, Town of Leland, Town of Navassa, New Hanover County, Brunswick County, Pender County, Cape Fear Public Transportation Authority and the North Carolina Board of Transportation, and

WHEREAS, the Wilmington Urban Area Metropolitan Planning Organization provides transportation planning activities for the Wilmington urban area in a continuing, cooperative and comprehensive manner; and

WHEREAS, the Cape Fear Public Transportation Authority was created by the City of Wilmington and New Hanover County on July 1, 2004 for the purpose of providing public transportation services to the region; and

WHEREAS, funding for the authority is limited, and the necessary funds for the operation of the service is currently not available; and

WHEREAS, public transportation has been identified as a cost effective way to increase capacity on area roadways and provide transportation alternatives throughout the region; and

WHEREAS, per North Carolina General Statute 20-97, cities and towns may levy a tax of not more than five dollars per year upon any vehicle resident in the city or town; and

WHEREAS, a five-dollar registration fee in New Hanover County would generate approximately $865,000 annually and provide the Cape Fear Public Transportation Authority with an independent source of funding source.

NOW THEREFORE, be it resolved that the Wilmington Urban Area Metropolitan Planning Organization Transportation Advisory Committee hereby encourages the North Carolina General Assembly to amend the General Statute 20-97 to permit counties to impose a registration fee and encourages the New Hanover County Board of Commissioners to impose a five-dollar registration fee for public transportation.

ADOPTED at a regular meeting of the Wilmington Urban Area Metropolitan Planning Organization Transportation Advisory Committee on March 26, 2008.

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Lanny Wilson, Chair
Transportation Advisory Committee

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Mike Kozlosky, Secretary
WHEREAS, the Wilmington Urban Area Metropolitan Planning Organization serves as the lead transportation planning agency for the Wilmington urban area; and

WHEREAS, the Wilmington Urban Area Metropolitan Planning Organization is tasked with performing the transportation planning activities for New Hanover County in a continuing, cooperative and comprehensive manner; and

WHEREAS, the North Carolina Department of Transportation is experiencing a financial shortfall that could potentially delay projects currently programmed as funded and unfunded in the State Transportation Improvement Program; and

WHEREAS, in order to construct transportation projects of local and regional significance, alternative funding sources are needed to provide funding for these transportation improvements; and

WHEREAS, based on the new state budget, counties have the authority, with voter approval, to raise the local sales tax by a quarter cent or impose a land transfer tax; and

WHEREAS, through the implementation of a ¼-cent sales tax increase in New Hanover County, this tax would generate approximately $8.35 million annually in new revenue; and

WHEREAS, this new revenue would be used to construct Independence Boulevard extension and Dow Road widening and extension; and

WHEREAS, this proposed sales tax increase would sunset at the completion of the Independence Boulevard extension and Dow Road widening and extension projects.

WHEREAS, there shall be no State Transportation Improvement Program disadvantage if New Hanover County participates in the right-of-way acquisition and construction of the transportation improvement projects and the Department of Transportation shall ensure that the county's participation does not cause any disruption to or delay any of the projects that are in the State Transportation Improvement Program or approved by the North Carolina Board of Transportation pursuant to G.S. 143B-350(f)(4) and that are located in New Hanover County.

NOW THEREFORE, the Wilmington Urban Area Metropolitan Planning Organization Transportation Advisory Committee hereby requests a referendum for a ¼-cent sales tax increase in New Hanover County and supports this tax to raise revenue for the construction of Independence Boulevard extension and Dow Road widening and extension.

ADOPTED at a meeting of the Wilmington Urban Area Metropolitan Planning Organization Transportation Advisory Committee on March 26, 2008.

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Lanny Wilson, Chair  
Transportation Advisory Committee

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Mike Kozlosky, Secretary
TIP Projects:

1. **Military Cutoff (U-2734)**, constructing a multi-lane facility from US 17 (Market Street) to US 74 (Eastwood Drive).
   
   *Open to traffic, minor checklist of items to be completed, by contractor*

2. **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.
   
   *Estimated Contract Completion Date Winter 2007/08*

3. **B-4990**: replacement of the moveable span’s electrical control system. The covered signs are for detouring traffic when the bridge is closed. They are still up because they have to close the bridge periodical throughout the project’s length.
   
   *Work Complete*

4. **B-4223**: replace Bridge #21, over the Northeast Cape Fear River. Under construction

   *Contract Completion Date December 31, 2009*

5. **R-2245**: Second bridge to Oak Island over the intercoastal waterway. Under construction

   *Contract Completion Date December 31, 2009*

6. **B-0682**: Bridge to Sunset Beach over the intercoastal waterway. Project has been awarded.

   *Estimated Contract Completion Date Mid-December of 2010*

7. **U-4733**: intersection improvements for SR 2313 (Wilshire Boulevard) to Forest Hills Drive.

   *Letting Date 6/17/2008*

8. **R-4002**: widen SR 1472 (Village Road) from SR 1437 (Old Fayetteville Road)/SR 1435 (South Navassa Road) to east of US 17 Interchange ramps with dual left turn lanes on north ramp to US 17. Also, construct dual left turn lanes on Village Road turning onto US 17 NB ramps.

   *Letting date 9/16/2008*

9. **U-3462**: Town of Shallotte, SR 1357 (Smith Avenue) extension from West of US 17 Business to NC 130.

   *Letting date 12/16/2008*

10. **R-3324**: Long Beach Road extension, two lane road on new location, from NC 211 to SR 1525 (Bethel Road)

    *Letting date 7/21/2009*
11. 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. NCDOT and the merger team are scheduled to have selected a preferred alternative by Spring 2009 and complete the final environmental impact statement by fall 2009. Right of way is scheduled for 2012.

12. 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

13. 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.


15. R-4063: widen SR 1472 (Village Road) from SR 1435 (South Navassa Road) to SR 1438 (Lanvale Road). Right of Way 2012 and Construction 2013


17. Feasibility Studies for NC 211 & NC 904:
   NC 211 – from SR 1500 (Midway Road) to US 17
   NC 904 – from NC 179/904 (Beach Drive) to US 17
   Scoping Meeting March 31, 2008

Division Projects:

   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.
   Letting Date April 8, 2008

US 17 (Ocean Highway) - install directional crossovers along US 17 at the intersection of SR 1184 (Ocean Isle Beach Road).
   Letting Date April 8, 2008

NC 133 (River Road) from SR 1551 (Blackwell Road/Main Street) to the intersection with US 74/76 eastbound on ramp, in Belville, convert the existing thru lane to a right turn lane which will establish a dual right turn at the intersection with US 74/76 on ramp. Install a concrete island to convert the intersection with SR 1551 to directional left turns.
   Public Workshop March 18, 2008 @ Belville Elementary School
Resurfacing Projects:

These roads are in the same contract:

NC 210 in Pender County from US 117 to 0.2 miles west of US 17, near Hampstead, resurface w/ 2.5” Intermediate course and 1.5” surface course.

US 76 in New Hanover County from US 74 (Eastwood Road) to 0.16 miles Southerly. (Mill 4” and resurface w/ 4” surface course)

Estimated Contract Completion Date November 28, 2008

These roads are in the same contract:

NC 133 in Brunswick County from Jackey’s Creek bridge to south 6.45 miles. (Construct spiral widening)

US 17 and SR 1130 (Mt. Pisgah Road) intersection, install directional crossovers.

NC 211 extend the right turn lane onto NC 133 (Long Beach Road)

SR 1112 (Sunset Harbor Road) construct spiral widening.

Estimated Contract Completion Date May 2, 2008

NC 87 (Maco Road) patch and resurface from 0.3 miles north of US 17 to 0.03 miles south of US 74/76. Work Complete

These roads are 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.

US 421 mill and resurface from West Lake Shore Drive (non-system) to Greenfield Street (non-system). Work Complete

These roads are in the same contract:

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)

These roads are in the same contract: Work complete

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).