Wilmington Urban Area Technical Coordinating Committee Meeting Notes for June 11, 2008

Members Present:

Joshuah Mello, City of Wilmington Stephanie Ayers, NC Ports Authority Albert Eby, WAVE Transit Chris O'Keefe, New Hanover County Patrick Davenport, Pender County Tim Owens, Town of Caroling Beach Don Eggert, Cape Fear RPO Michelle James, Town of Kure Beach Travis Barnes, City of Wilmington Allen Serkin, Town of Navassa

Others Present:

Tom Cunningham, Wilmington Chamber of Commerce

1. Call to Order

Mr. Mello called the meeting to order at 10:05 am.

2. Approval of Minutes

The motion to approve the minutes for the May 15, 2008 meeting carried unanimously.

3. Old Business

a. Modification To Amend the Functional Classification Map to Change Brentwood Drive from a Local Street to Collector Street.

Mr. Mello made the motion to deny the request to change the classification of Brentwood Drive to a collector street and forward to the TAC for consideration. Mr. Riddle seconded the motion. Mr. O'Keefe told members he was also in favor of denying the motion. He found that it is common practice for a streets classification for the regulation of density in places such as Portland, Oregon. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Mello said he would like to make a motion to direct the TCC Chairman to come up with policy for reclassification of roadways at the TAC and TCC level so that we have some type of guidelines on how to go about this process. He told members this is the second time a developer has tried to do an end-run around the county development regulations using this reclassification method. We need to have a policy on what requests we will consider. Mr. Eggert seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

4. New Business

a. Opening of the Wilmington MPO 30-day Public Comment Period for the 2009-2015 Metropolitan and Statewide Transportation Improvement Program

Mr. Mello told member June 25th is the opening of the 30-day public comment period for the 2009-2015 Metropolitan and Statewide Transportation Improvement Program. They may submit any comments to the Department of Transportation starting on June 25th.

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<u>b. Resolution Supporting the Installation of a Traffic Signal at the Intersection of US 421</u> (Carolina Beach Road) and River Road

Mr. Mello told members the Town Manager of Carolina Beach is requesting support for the installation of a traffic signal at the intersection of US 421 and River Road just north of the Snows Cut Bridge. Mr. Owens told members a signal will allow for left hand turning movements on River Road. Mr. Mello told members the signal meets all the warrants and this is an effort to secure funding for the traffic signal. Mr. Owens made the motion to support the installation of the traffic signal and forward to the TAC for consideration. Mr. Riddle seconded the motion.

Mr. Eggert made a requested to amend the first paragraph of the resolution. Mr. Eggert explained that he was asked to request the wording be changed to say "part of Brunswick County and part of Pender County" by Ms. Tysinger. Mr. Mello told members that the verbiage in the resolution is the "standard opening" for resolutions used by the TCC and TAC.

Mr. Mello called for the vote to amend the wording in the first paragraph of the resolution. The vote carried in a 9 to 1 vote, with Mr. Mello voting against amending the resolution.

Mr. Mello called for the vote on the amended resolution to support the installation of a traffic signal at the intersection of US 421 and River Road just north of the Snows Cut Bridge. The vote carried unanimously.

c. Resolution Supporting the Re-allocation of Funding for the Construction of the Wilmington Bypass (R-2333A)

Mr. Mello told members the construction of Section A of the bypass is currently unfunded. Funding has been allocated for the construction of Section B which is between US 421 and US 74/76. This resolution directs the TAC to redirect funding from the College and Oleander Intersection Improvements project, the Causeway project, and the Village Road widening project in order to reallocate those funds to Section A of the Wilmington Bypass. If the funds are not reallocated, Section A will remain unfunded and will not be constructed in a timely manner. Mr. Mello told members the Wilmington Bypass is ranked as the number one priority project by the TAC.

Mr. Eggert said he feels uncomfortable with the proposed resolution without having some input from the representatives to this committee from those affected by this reallocation. Mr. O'Keefe told members he would like to see more information on the possible future funding for the priorities that are to be shifted, and what that will do to the time frame of those projects.

Mr. Eggert told members he would like to make a motion to table the resolution until the next meeting so this committee can obtain input from the local governments affected by the reallocation of the project funds listed in the resolution. Mr. O'Keefe seconded the motion. The motion to table the resolution carried unanimously.

d. Resolution amending the 2008-2009 Planning Work Program

Mr. Mello told members the resolution is to amend the planning work program to remove the Northern New Hanover Collector Street Plan and decrease some of the funding for on-call engineering services. Because the TIA work load has slowed in the last few months, the need for the on-call engineering services funding could be reduced. Staff would like to use part of those funds to begin developing a collector street plan for City of Wilmington.

Mr. Mello made the motion to endorse the resolution to amend the 2008-2009 Planning Work Program and forward to the TAC for consideration. Mr. Eggert seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

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5. Discussion

Patrick Davenport, Planning Director for Pender County, took the opportunity to introduce himself to the members of the TCC. Mr. Eggert introduced Michelle James, who was in attendance from the Town of Kure Beach.

6. Project Updates

a. Market Street Corridor Study

Mr. Mello told member staff received 12 proposals for the project. The plan is to include the area between Colonial Drive and the Pender County line. It will look at land uses in more detail and collector street networks that can be constructed through development. Staff will be interviewing four of the consultants who submitted a proposal.

b. NCDOT Project Update

attached

7. Announcements

- a. Wilmington Bike/Pedestrian Committee Meeting June 12th
- b. Village Road Citizen Informational Meeting June 17th
- c. Dow road Public Workshop August 13th

9. Adjournment

With no further items, the meeting was adjourned at 10:50 am.