Meeting Agenda
Wilmington Urban Area MPO
Transportation Advisory Committee

TO: Technical Coordinating Committee Members
FROM: Mike Kozlosky, Senior Transportation Planner
DATE: August 8, 2008
SUBJECT: August 13th Meeting

A meeting of the Wilmington Urban Area MPO Transportation Advisory Committee will be held on Wednesday, August 13th at 10am. The meeting will be held in the 4th Floor Conference Room at 305 Chestnut Street in downtown Wilmington.

The following is the agenda for the meeting:

1) Call to Order
2) Approval of Minutes:
   a. 6/11/08
3) Old Business
   a. Policy and Resolution for amendments to the adopted Functional Classification map
4) New Business
   a. Resolution supporting an amendment to the scope of work for the Dow Road Corridor Study to focus on capacity improvements between K Avenue and the Snow’s Cut Bridge
   b. Resolution adopting the 2009-2015 Statewide and Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program
   c. Resolution supporting the streetscape enhancement project on North and South 17th Streets between Dock Street and Grace Street
   d. Resolution supporting the construction of temporary improvements at the intersection of North and South Kerr Avenue and Market Street
   e. Resolution requesting a Feasibility Study for Scientific Park Drive extension
   f. Resolution requesting NCDOT immediately fill the Safe Routes to School Coordinator position
   g. Resolution endorsing Executive Director position title
5) Discussion
   a. Development in Brunswick County and potential impact to the Cape Fear Skyway
6) Project Updates
   a. Market Street Corridor Study
   b. NCDOT Project Update
7) Adjournment -- Next Meeting –September 10, 2008
Attachments:
- Minutes from 6/11 Meeting
- Policy for amendments to the adopted Functional Classification map
- Resolution for amendment to the adopted Functional Classification map
- Resolution supporting an amendment to the scope of work for the Dow Road Corridor Study to focus on capacity improvements between K Avenue and the Snow’s Cut Bridge
- Resolution adopting the 2009-2015 Statewide and Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program
- Resolution supporting the streetscape enhancement project on North and South 17th Streets between Dock Street and Grace Street
- Schematic Drawing of streetscape enhancements on North and South 17th Street
- Resolution supporting the construction of temporary improvements at the intersection of North and South Kerr Avenue and Market Street
- Resolution requesting a Feasibility Study for Scientific Park Drive extension
- Resolution requesting NCDOT immediately fill Safe Routes to School Coordinator position
- Resolution endorsing Executive Director position title
- NCDOT Project Update (to be distributed at the meeting)
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.
b. Resolution Supporting the Installation of a Traffic Signal at the Intersection of US 421 (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.
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 12\textsuperscript{th}
   b. Village Road Citizen Informational Meeting – June 17\textsuperscript{th}
   c. Dow road Public Workshop – August 13\textsuperscript{th}

9. **Adjournment**
   With no further items, the meeting was adjourned at 10:50 am.
Policy on Updates to the Functional Classification Map

1. The Wilmington Metropolitan Planning Organization shall update the functional classification map for the WMPO planning area following the release of United States Census Bureau decennial population counts, in conjunction with updates to the Long Range Transportation Plan, Comprehensive Transportation Plan and regional travel demand model, or with the adoption of new local collector street plans.

2. Interim updates to the functional classification map, including functional reclassifications, will only be considered under the following circumstances:
   a. the update is initiated by WMPO staff or requested by NCDOT or FHWA;
   b. the WMPO planning area is expanded to include unclassified roadways;
   c. a written request is received from a member of the Technical Coordinating Committee or Transportation Advisory Committee;
   d. a roadway is newly constructed and not currently classified functionally; or
   e. the completion of roadway improvements alter a street’s overall level of importance in the local transportation network.
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 NC Board of Transportation, and

WHEREAS, the Wilmington Urban Area Metropolitan Planning Organization is dedicated to promoting safe and efficient transportation throughout the community; and

WHEREAS, the Wilmington Urban Area Metropolitan Planning Organization is responsible for adopting a functional classification map for the Wilmington Urban Area Metropolitan Planning Organization planning area; and

WHEREAS, this adopted functional classification map is used to calculate state and federal funding formulas; and

WHEREAS, some counties and municipalities have linked their land development code to the adopted functional classification map; and

WHEREAS, the Wilmington Urban Area Metropolitan Planning Organization currently does not have an adopted policy for the update of the functional classification map.

NOW THEREFORE, be it resolved that the Wilmington Urban Area Metropolitan Planning Organization’s Transportation Advisory Committee hereby adopts the attached policy for the update of the Wilmington Urban Area Metropolitan Planning Organization functional classification map.

ADOPTED at a regular meeting of the Transportation Advisory Committee on August 27, 2008.

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Lanny Wilson, Chair
Transportation Advisory Committee

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Mike Kozlosky, Secretary
RESOLUTION SUPPORTING AN AMENDMENT TO THE SCOPE OF SERVICES FOR THE DOW ROAD CORRIDOR STUDY

WHEREAS, the Wilmington Urban Area Metropolitan Planning Organization provides planning services and sets policies and priorities for transportation in 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 NC Board of Transportation, and

WHEREAS, in 2002 the North Carolina Department of Transportation completed a Feasibility Study that evaluated several different cross-sections and recommended a four-lane divided facility between US 421/Lake Park Drive and K Avenue and a two-lane cross-section between K Avenue and Fort Fisher Boulevard; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of the Dow Road widening and extension project is to provide an improved north-south access in both Carolina Beach and Kure Beach and is expected to reduce traffic congestion on US 421, which currently operates at or above capacity during the peak periods; and

WHEREAS, there are existing bike lanes on Dow Road and with the widening and extension, multi-modal access is expected to improve between various facilities in and around Carolina and Kure Beaches; and

WHEREAS, the Dow Road widening and extension project falls in an environmentally sensitive area and could also impact several stakeholders including Sunny Point Marine Ocean Terminal, United States Air Force, Carolina Beach State Park and Fort Fisher Recreational Area; and

WHEREAS, the Wilmington Metropolitan Planning Organization commissioned Wilbur Smith & Associates to analyze and evaluate potential corridor alternatives, develop a preferred alternative and develop conceptual design plans for the widening and extension; and

WHEREAS, the Wilmington Metropolitan Planning Organization has received a Resolution from the Town of Kure Beach endorsing the analysis to widen Dow Road from US 421 to K Avenue, improving the shoulders sections and road conditions and supporting a bike path from the Town to the Fort Fisher Ferry and also stating public opposition of the Dow Road extension due to: 1) additional security risks, 2) the route interferes and infringes on the US Air Force Recreation Center, 3) the route would divert traffic away from Kure Beach’s business district and 4) the project will have significant and profound environmental impacts on the community by increasing pollution and stormwater runoff; and

WHEREAS, based on the concerns of the Town of Kure Beach, the scope of the Dow Road Corridor Study could be modified to address economic impacts, security issues, environmental impacts, pedestrian and bike improvements, speed, access management and other issues along the existing corridor and possible future widening of Dow Road.

NOW THEREFORE, be it resolved that the Transportation Advisory Committee of the Wilmington Urban Area Metropolitan Planning Organization hereby supports modifying the scope of the Dow Road Corridor study to address economic impacts, security issues, environmental impacts, pedestrian and bike improvements, speed, access management and other issues along the existing corridor and possible future widening of Dow Road.

ADOPTED at a regular meeting of the Wilmington Urban Area Metropolitan Planning Organization Transportation Advisory Committee on August 27, 2008.

Lanny Wilson, Chair
Transportation Advisory Committee

Mike Kozlosky, Secretary
WHEREAS, the Transportation Advisory Committee has found that the Wilmington Urban Area Metropolitan Planning Organization is conducting transportation planning in a continuous, cooperative, and comprehensive manner; and

WHEREAS, the Transportation Advisory Committee has found that the proposed Transportation Improvement Program is in conformity with the Clean Air Act Amendments of 1990; and

WHEREAS, the Transportation Advisory Committee has provided for a 30-day public comment period for the proposed Metropolitan and Statewide Transportation Improvement Program; and

WHEREAS, the Transportation Advisory Committee has solicited public and private transportation comments; and

WHEREAS, the Transportation Advisory Committee has found the proposed Transportation Improvement Program to be in full compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act; and

WHEREAS, the Transportation Advisory Committee has considered how the proposed Transportation Improvement Program will affect Disadvantaged Business Enterprises; and

WHEREAS, the Transportation Advisory Committee has considered how the proposed Transportation Improvement Program will affect the elderly and the disabled; and

WHEREAS, the proposed Transportation Improvement Program, for years one through three, will serve as the project selection document for transportation projects within the Wilmington Urban Area Boundary;

NOW THEREFORE, be it resolved by the Wilmington Urban Area Metropolitan Planning Organization’s Transportation Advisory Committee that the Metropolitan and Statewide Transportation Improvement Program for FY 2009-2015 be adopted for the Wilmington Urban Area Metropolitan Planning Organization on this 27th day of August 2008.

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Lanny Wilson, Chairman
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 Wilmington Urban Area Metropolitan Planning Organization is dedicated to promoting safe and efficient transportation throughout the community; and

WHEREAS, South 17th Street is identified as an urban principle arterial from Wooster Street to Market Street and North 17th Street is identified as an urban collector street between Market Street and Grace Street; and

WHEREAS, the current traffic volume on South 17th Street between Ann Street and Carolina Avenue is 16,319 vehicles per day and on North 17th Street between Market Street and Princess Street the current traffic volume is 8,877 vehicles per day; and

WHEREAS, the speed limit on North and South 17th Street is 35 mph, while the 85th percentile speed between Ann Street and Carolina Avenue is 38.4 mph and the 85th percentile speed between Market Street and Princess Street is 39.79 mph; and

WHEREAS, staff has developed a proposal that could reduce travel speeds, remove a lateral shift in the travel lanes at the intersection of Market Street and North and South 17th Streets, improve pedestrian crossings, improve safety and enhance the aesthetics of the area; and

WHEREAS, this proposal may also provide for the creation of a pocket park at the intersection of Wrightsville Avenue and South 17th Street.

NOW THEREFORE, be it resolved that the Wilmington Urban Area Metropolitan Planning Organization’s Transportation Advisory Committee hereby supports the installation of streetscape improvements on North and South 17th Streets from Dock Street to Grace Street to reduce travel speeds, remove the lateral shift, improve pedestrian crossings, improve safety and enhance the aesthetics of the area.

ADOPTED at a regular meeting of the Transportation Advisory Committee on August 27, 2008.

Lanny Wilson, Chair
Transportation Advisory Committee

Mike Kozlosky, Secretary
This document is a schematic representation of recommended roadway improvements at the subject location. The final configuration of these improvements will be determined by further engineering design and review.
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 NC Board of Transportation, and

WHEREAS, the Wilmington Urban Area Metropolitan Planning Organization is dedicated to promoting safe and efficient transportation throughout the community; and

WHEREAS, the Wilmington Urban Area Metropolitan Planning Organization 2007 Crash Report identified the intersection of Market Street (US 17 Business) and North and South Kerr Avenue as the intersection with the highest number of crashes between the years 2000 and 2007 in the entire Wilmington Urban Area Metropolitan Planning Organization planning area; and

WHEREAS, crashes at this intersection between the years 2000 and 2007 are reported to have caused one fatality, 200 injuries, and $1.29 million in property damage; and

WHEREAS, the overwhelming majority of these crashes are a result of drivers making unsafe left turns in and out of several driveways that are in very close proximity to the intersection; and

WHEREAS, an interconnected street network and development patterns in this area allow for drivers to make the same movements in a safer manner by using alternative roadways; and

WHEREAS, State Transportation Improvement Program projects U-3338 and U-4902 will provide a permanent solution to the access control problems at this intersection.

NOW THEREFORE, be it resolved that the Wilmington Urban Area Metropolitan Planning Organization’s Transportation Advisory Committee hereby supports the installation of temporary center median barriers on three approaches to the intersection of Market Street (US 17 Business) and North and South Kerr Avenue to prevent unsafe and unnecessary left turns, which caused a majority of the crashes at this location in 2007.

ADOPTED at a regular meeting of the Transportation Advisory Committee on August 27, 2008.

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Lanny Wilson, Chair
Transportation Advisory Committee

_________________________________
Mike Kozlosky, Secretary
WHEREAS, the Wilmington Urban Area Metropolitan Planning Organization provides planning services and sets policies and priorities for transportation in 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 NC Board of Transportation, and

WHEREAS, the Martin Luther King Jr. Parkway provides an important east-west connection between Market Street and downtown Wilmington; and

WHEREAS, on June 29, 2005 the Wilmington MPO’s Transportation Advisory Committee recommended that the Martin Luther King Jr. Parkway be converted to a fully controlled access facility; and

WHEREAS, the North Carolina Department of Transportation opened the Martin Luther King Jr. Parkway to traffic on October 15, 2005 and subsequently eliminated cross-overs along the corridor including the cross-over at Kornegay Drive; and

WHEREAS, the elimination of the cross-overs and removing the left-turn lane at Kornegay Drive now forces Creekwood residents to utilize 23rd Street and has restricted access on Kornegay Drive to right in/right out; and

WHEREAS, in order to improve mobility and safety on the Martin Luther King Jr. Parkway, it is anticipated that the right in/right out connection from Korengay Drive will be closed in the future; and

WHEREAS, in an effort to accommodate the residents of the Creekwood neighborhood with the closure of Kornegay Drive, there is a potential connection through Scientific Park Drive extension; and

NOW THEREFORE, be it resolved that the Transportation Advisory Committee of the Wilmington Urban Area Metropolitan Planning Organization hereby requests the North Carolina Department of Transportation complete a feasibility study to evaluate the Scientific Park Drive extension from 23rd Street to the Creekwood neighborhood.

ADOPTED at a regular meeting of the Wilmington Urban Area Metropolitan Planning Organization Transportation Advisory Committee on August 27, 2008.

Lanny Wilson, Chair
Transportation Advisory Committee

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 NC Board of Transportation, and

WHEREAS, the Safe Routes to School program was established in August 2005 with passage of the SAFETEA-LU federal transportation legislation; and

WHEREAS, the Safe Routes to School program is intended to make biking and walking to school a safe and routine activity for students in grades K through 8; and

WHEREAS, Safe Routes to School programs facilitate the planning, development, and implementation of projects and activities that will improve safety and reduce traffic, fuel consumption, and air pollution in the vicinity of schools; and

WHEREAS, the state of North Carolina has been appropriated funding in the amount of $1 million for FY 05, $2.33 million for FY 06, $3.13 million for FY 07, $3.88 million for FY 08 and $4.85 million for FY 09; and

WHEREAS, the Wilmington Urban Area Metropolitan Planning Organization currently has Safe Routes to School projects underway at Bradley Creek Elementary, Carolina Beach Elementary, Forest Hills Elementary, and Williams Elementary; and

WHEREAS, the state Safe Routes to School coordinator is essential to the timely completion of these important projects.

NOW THEREFORE, be it resolved that the Wilmington Urban Area Metropolitan Planning Organization’s Transportation Advisory Committee hereby requests NCDOT immediately fill the state Safe Routes to School coordinator position within the Division of Bicycle and Pedestrian Transportation.

ADOPTED at a regular meeting of the Wilmington Urban Area Metropolitan Planning Organization Transportation Advisory Committee on August 27, 2008.

Lanny Wilson, Chair
Transportation Advisory Committee

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

A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING CHANGING THE TITLE OF THE EXECUTIVE OFFICER OF THE
WILMINGTON METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION FROM SR. TRANSPORTATION
PLANNER TO EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

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 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, portions of Brunswick County, portions of Pender County, Cape Fear Public Transportation Authority and the North Carolina Board of Transportation, and

WHEREAS, the Wilmington Urban Area Metropolitan Planning Organization completes transportation planning for an area of over 400 square miles and a population approaching or over 200,000; and

WHEREAS, the current title for the executive officer that manages the Wilmington Urban Area Metropolitan Planning Organization is identified as the Sr. Transportation Planner; and

WHEREAS, the title of Executive Director of the Wilmington Urban Area Metropolitan Planning Organization would provide more clout when dealing with local, state and federal officials.

NOW THEREFORE, be it resolved that the Wilmington Urban Area Metropolitan Planning Organization Transportation Advisory Committee hereby supports changing the title of the executive officer of the Wilmington Urban Area Metropolitan Planning Organization from Sr. Transportation Planner to Executive Director.

ADOPTED at a regular meeting of the Wilmington Urban Area Metropolitan Planning Organization Transportation Advisory Committee on August 27, 2008.

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Lanny Wilson, Chair
Transportation Advisory Committee

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Mike Kozlosky, Secretary