Meeting Agenda
Wilmington Urban Area MPO
Technical Coordinating Committee

TO:        Technical Coordinating Committee Members
FROM:      Mike Kozlosky, Executive Director
DATE:      October 10, 2008
SUBJECT:   October 15th Meeting

A meeting of the Wilmington Urban Area MPO Technical Coordinating Committee will be held on Wednesday, October 15th 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.  9/10/08
3)  Old Business
    a.  Resolution supporting amendments to the Functional Classification Map
4)  New Business
    a.  Resolution supporting Getting Connected’s efforts in New Hanover County
    b.  Resolution supporting the Town of Carolina Beach’s Bicycle/Pedestrian Planning Grant
    c.  Resolution supporting the Town of Kure Beach’s Bicycle/Pedestrian Planning Grant
    d.  Resolution supporting the Town of Navassa’s Bicycle/Pedestrian Planning Grant
5)  Discussion
    a.  Televising Transportation Advisory Committee meetings
6)  Project Updates
    a.  Market Street Corridor Study
    b.  Dow Road Corridor Study
    c.  NCDOT Project Update
7)  Announcements
    a.  Market Street Corridor Study- October 28th
    b.  Market Street Corridor Study- October 30th
8)  Adjournment -- Next Meeting –December 3, 2008

Attachments:
- Minutes from 8/13 Meeting
- Background Information regarding Functional Classification Map modifications
- Resolution supporting amendments to the Functional Classification Map
- Resolution supporting Getting Connected’s efforts in New Hanover County
- Resolution supporting the Town of Carolina Beach’s Bicycle Grant
- Resolution supporting the Town of Kure Beach’s Bicycle/Pedestrian Grant
- Resolution supporting the Town of Navassa’s Bicycle/Pedestrian Grant
- NCDOT Project Update (to be distributed at the meeting)
Members Present:
Mike Kozlosky, City of Wilmington
Chris O’Keefe, New Hanover County
Ken Vafier, Pender County
Stephanie Ayers, NCSPA
Michele James, Town of Kure Beach
Don Eggert, Cape Fear RPO
Allen Serkin, Town of Navassa
Don Bennett, City of Wilmington
Robert Warring, Town of Leland
Shane York, NCDOT
Coke Gray, NCDOT
Albert Eby, WAVE Transit
Travis Barnes, City of Wilmington

Others Present:
Josh Mello, City of Wilmington
Anthony Prinz, City of Wilmington
Sam Burgess, New Hanover County
Tom Cunningham, Chamber of Commerce

1. **Call to Order**
   Mr. Kozlosky called the meeting to order at 10:04 am.

2. **Approval of Minutes**
   The motion to approve the minutes for the August 13, 2008 meeting carried unanimously.

3. **Presentation: Getting Connected**
   Ms. Peg Schroeder, Mr. Ed Mondello and Mr. Bret Russell with “Getting Connected”, a citizens group pursuing new bicycle and pedestrian paths in the Ogden Elementary School area, gave a presentation to member on their efforts to promote this initiative.

   Mr. Mello told members that “Getting Connected” visited the MPO Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee last month. The committee agreed to add these projects to their study list for the region. He said there are currently about 150 projects on the list to be evaluated. Part of this evaluation will be to look at possible sources of funding. The improvements immediately around the school could qualify for Safe Routes to School funding, but maintenance will be an issue that will have to be resolved before NCDOT will build the sidewalk.

   Mr. Kozlosky stated that this committee recognizes that need is there for bike and pedestrian facilities, but it all comes down to a funding issue; where do we secure the funds and once built, who will maintain them. He said he would also encourage “Getting Connected” to work the Bike and Pedestrian committee to get this project prioritized on their list of unmet needs.

   Mr. O’Keefe suggested that the “Getting Connected" members get in touch with the county’s elected officials and let them know county residents are very interested in having pedestrian and bicycle facilities built in the county.
4. Old Business
   (none)

5. New Business
   
   a. Resolution supporting amendments to the functional classification system for U-4434, U-4758 and U-4751
      Mr. York told members a workshop is scheduled on project U-4434 for November for citizens to make comments on what they would like to see on Independence Boulevard. The Department would like to see a four-lane divided facility. There would be interchanges at Market Street and the Martin Luther King Parkway Jr. Parkway. It functions as an urban-principal arterial on the northern part. There are questions about the southern section.

      Mr. Kozlosky asked why are we going trying to reclassify this street. Mr. York stated that we can leave this as it is and reclassify it when the design comes out in 2010 or Wilmington can request the functional classification be reviewed for that portion to determine if it is minor or principal, but that would require the design, which we don’t have yet. Mr. Kozlosky asked what is the impact from a financial aspect. Mr. York said at this point it is nothing because it would not actually occur any kinds of changes until they start construction. So for right now, it does not make any difference, it’s just a piece of paper. Mr. Kozlosky again asked why are we reclassifying this street. Mr. Mello said we should be looking at the whole entire roadway as a major arterial and widen the southern portion. Mr. Kozlosky said it was his opinion that if we are going to reclassify the northern section from Martin Luther King Parkway to College Road, we reclassify the entire section as urban principal arterial.

      Mr. York said the other item is the Skyway bridge. The Long Range Plan has it interstate. You can’t have a toll road as interstate. So then we identify it as freeway expressway in the New Hanover and rural principal arterial on the Brunswick County section. Mr. Kozlosky said DOT had to reclassify I-540 in Raleigh because it was becoming a toll facility and so it could not be classified as interstate. Mr. Bennett asked if it is possible that by the time the Skyway bridge is built, is it possible that by the time the Skyway bridge is built, is it possible that the development in Brunswick County would make it more urban in nature. Mr. Kozlosky said when the 2010 census comes out, they will identify what is considered our urbanized area boundary. It is based on population so at that time, we will likely have to come back and revisit this issue because our boundary will have expanded into Brunswick County. It is just how far into Brunswick County will the boundary be expanded.

      Mr. York said the next project, U-4751, Military Cutoff. There is an issue with the word “other”. When he asked why it said other instead of principal, he was told it that it just means it is a facility in an urban boundary other than a freeway or expressway. The rule states that it is to be called “other” rather than principal arterial and it carries the same weight. Mr. York said he will take this back for more clarification.

      Mr. Serkin made the motion to table the items. Mr. O’Keefe seconded the motion and the vote carried unanimously.

   b. Resolution supporting a feasibility study to evaluate transportation alternatives for the North Carolina International Terminal at Southport
      Mr. Kozlosky told members this resolution is supporting the feasibility study for the proposed International Port in Southport. The feasibility study will evaluate alternatives for constructing a connector to the Skyway. Ms. Ayers said it is an exit corridor as well as an access controlled road that will connect the new terminal and the ferry system routed around Southport, taking you to a connector that will then connect to the interstate system. They have asked NCDOT to provide
funding out of their contingency funds to kick off this study which is expected to cost about $250,000 and take about two years to complete. This is asking the TCC to support in kicking off the feasibility study. Ms Ayers suggested changing the resolution to read International Terminal, not International Port. Mr. Kozlosky said he will change that. Ms. Ayers made the motion to support the feasibility study and forward to the TAC for consideration. Mr. Eggert seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

c. Resolution supporting the implementation of the Blue Clay Road Bicycle Corridor Plan
Mr. Kozlosky told members the MPO adopted the Blue Clay Road Bicycle Corridor Plan that made recommendation for on/off road facilities that will connect 23rd Street out to Holly Shelter Road. This resolution is asking the county to implement the first phase of the project and will require coordination with the Wilmington International Airport. This is the number 2 bicycle priority in the MPO area. Mr. O'Keefe suggested adding the Cape Fear Public Utility Authority to the list of participants cooperating in support and implementing the resolution. Mr. O'Keefe made the motion to support the implementation of Blue Clay Road Bicycle Plan and forward to the TAC for consideration. Ms. Ayers seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

d. Resolution supporting the Independence Station as identified in the WAVE Transfer Stations: Evaluation of Site Locations and Planning
Mr. Mello told members the encroachment agreement has been at DOT for 4 months now and there has not been any action. The bus stop site is not handicapped accessible, nor does it have any facilities for riders but a trash can. Riders are either standing around in the parking lot or sitting on the curb. This resolution is asking the Department of Transportation to work cooperatively with the public transportation employees to process this encroachment agreement and get that station out there. Mr. Eby told members they were told they should have comments back from Raleigh sometime next week. They have the shelter ready to be put in place. Mr. Eby made the motion to support the resolution and forward to the TAC for consideration. Mr. O'Keefe seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

6. Project Updates

a. Market Street Corridor Study
Mr. Kozlosky told members that he met last week with the sub-consultant for Kimley Horn and Associates who is doing the market analysis on Market Street. The first public information workshop will be held October 7th - 9th and the second round of workshops will be held October 27th – 30th. The meeting location has yet to be determined.

b. Dow Road Corridor Study
Mr. Kozlosky told members that at the last TAC meeting members voted to amend the scope of the project to reduce the scope to between Snows Cut Bridge and K Avenue. Staff is working with the consultant to develop a revised scope that is consistent with the TAC’s recommendations.

c. NCDOT Project Update
attached

7. Announcements

a. Kick-off to 2008 Commuter Challenge – Sept 10th
b. Wilmington Bike/Pedestrian meeting – Sept 11th
c. Neighborhood Traffic Management Program meeting – Sept 23rd

8. Adjournment
With no further items, the meeting was adjourned at 11:20 am.
NEW ROUTE, NEW HANOVER COUNTY: SR 1409 (MILITARY CUT-OFF ROAD) TO US 17. MULTI-LANES ON NEW LOCATION.
WHEREAS, in May 2002 the Federal Register issued new Federal designations of Urbanized Areas and Urbanized clusters based on the 2000 Census;

WHEREAS, subsequently the Wilmington MPO and NCDOT approved a smoothed urbanized area boundary based on the new Federal Urbanized Area and Urban Cluster designations;

WHEREAS, the Highway Functional Classification System is a nationwide method of classifying all public streets according to their function;

WHEREAS, the classifications are based on whether the area is rural or urban and is grouped into arterials, collectors and local streets;

WHEREAS, the functional classification maps must be revised to accurately reflect the modified urbanized area boundary;

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

ADOPTED at a regular meeting of the Wilmington Urban Area Metropolitan Planning Organization Transportation Advisory Committee on October 29, 2008.

Lanny Wilson, Chair
Transportation Advisory Committee

Mike Kozlosky, Secretary
RESOLUTION REQUESTING NCDOT CONSIDER THE USE OF NCDOT BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN FUNDS TO IMPROVE BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN FACILITIES IN THE MIDDLE SOUND LOOP/OGDEN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL AREA

WHEREAS, bicycle and pedestrian pathways in the Middle Sound and Ogden Elementary School area are desired by local residents to connect neighborhoods, a school and regional attractions; and,

WHEREAS, Covil Farm Road, Red Cedar Road, Middle Sound Loop Road and Darden Road function as high speed high volume collector streets and lack safe pedestrian and bicycle facilities; and,

WHEREAS, many of the roadways in the area have been designated bicycle routes by the WMPO; and,

WHEREAS, the TAC has already adopted a resolution to include bicycle and pedestrian facilities improvements in the planned roundabout located at Middle Sound Loop Road and Darden Road in front of the school; and,

WHEREAS, there are potential federal, state and local funding sources to implement requested bicycle/pedestrian improvements in the Middle Sound and Ogden Elementary School area.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED the Wilmington Urban Area Metropolitan Transportation Advisory Committee requests NCDOT and New Hanover County work collaboratively to funds and implement bicycle and pedestrian safety improvements to the roadways of around Covil Farms, Hawk, Old Fort, Cannon, Red Cedar, Middle Sound Loop and Darden Roads, including the round-a-bout project in front of Ogden Elementary School.

ADOPTED at a regular meeting of the Transportation Advisory Committee on October 29, 2008.

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Lanny Wilson, Chair
Transportation Advisory Committee

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Mike Kozlosky, Secretary
WHEREAS, the Wilmington Metropolitan Planning Organization serves as the lead transportation planning agency to the municipalities in the Wilmington area; and

WHEREAS, the Wilmington Metropolitan Planning Organization is committed to improving safety, protecting the environment and public health, and creating an opportunity for the surrounding communities to improve their quality of life through transportation and demand management; and

WHEREAS, the North Carolina Department of Transportation has made funds available for municipalities throughout the state to create bicycle and pedestrian plans through the NCDOT 2009 Bicycle and Pedestrian Planning Grant Initiative; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Carolina Beach recognizes the need to support and promote alternative modes of transportation throughout the town and region; and

WHEREAS, it is incumbent that the Town of Carolina Beach ensure the safety and viability of these modes; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Carolina Beach recognizes the need for a town-wide comprehensive bicycle plan.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved that the Wilmington Metropolitan Planning Organization endorses the Town of Carolina Beach’s application for the NCDOT 2009 Bicycle and Pedestrian Planning Grant Initiative for the development of a town-wide comprehensive bicycle plan.

ADOPTED at a regular meeting of the Wilmington Urban Area Metropolitan Planning Organization Transportation Advisory Committee on October 29, 2008.

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Lanny Wilson, Chair  
Transportation Advisory Committee

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Mike Kozlosky, Secretary
WHEREAS, the Wilmington Metropolitan Planning Organization serves as the lead transportation planning agency to the municipalities in the Wilmington area; and

WHEREAS, the Wilmington Metropolitan Planning Organization is committed to improving safety, protecting the environment and public health, and creating an opportunity for the surrounding communities to improve their quality of life through transportation and demand management; and

WHEREAS, the North Carolina Department of Transportation has made funds available for municipalities throughout the state to create bicycle and pedestrian plans through the NCDOT 2009 Bicycle and Pedestrian Planning Grant Initiative; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Kure Beach recognizes the need to support and promote alternative modes of transportation throughout the town and region; and

WHEREAS, it is incumbent that the Town of Kure Beach ensure the safety and viability of these modes; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Kure Beach recognizes the need for a town-wide comprehensive bicycle plan.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved that the Wilmington Metropolitan Planning Organization endorses the Town of Kure Beach’s application for the NCDOT 2009 Bicycle and Pedestrian Planning Grant Initiative for the development of a town-wide comprehensive bicycle plan.

ADOPTED at a regular meeting of the Wilmington Urban Area Metropolitan Planning Organization Transportation Advisory Committee on October 29, 2008.

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Lanny Wilson, Chair
Transportation Advisory Committee

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Mike Kozlosky, Secretary
WHEREAS, the Wilmington Metropolitan Planning Organization serves as the lead transportation planning agency to the municipalities in the Wilmington area; and

WHEREAS, the Wilmington Metropolitan Planning Organization is committed to improving safety, protecting the environment and public health, and creating an opportunity for the surrounding communities to improve their quality of life through transportation and demand management; and

WHEREAS, the North Carolina Department of Transportation has made funds available for municipalities throughout the state to create bicycle and pedestrian plans through the NCDOT 2009 Bicycle and Pedestrian Planning Grant Initiative; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Navassa recognizes the need to support and promote alternative modes of transportation throughout the town and region; and

WHEREAS, it is incumbent that the Town of Navassa ensure the safety and viability of these modes; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Navassa recognizes the need for a town-wide comprehensive bicycle plan.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved that the Wilmington Metropolitan Planning Organization endorses the Town of Navassa’s application for the NCDOT 2009 Bicycle and Pedestrian Planning Grant Initiative for the development of a town-wide comprehensive bicycle plan.

ADOPTED at a regular meeting of the Wilmington Urban Area Metropolitan Planning Organization Transportation Advisory Committee on October 29, 2008.

Lanny Wilson, Chair
Transportation Advisory Committee

Mike Kozlosky, Secretary