

**Wilmington Urban Area
Technical Coordinating Committee
Meeting Notes for January 14, 2009**

Members Present:

Mike Kozlosky, City of Wilmington
Chris O'Keefe, New Hanover County
Patrick Riddle, NCDOT
Coke Gray, NCDOT
Ken Vafier, Pender County
Claudia Bray, Town of Navassa
Robert Waring, Town of Leland
Tim Owens, Town of Carolina Beach
Helen Bunch, Brunswick County

Others Present:

Joshuah Mello, City of Wilmington
Sam Burgess, New Hanover County
Anthony Prinz, City of Wilmington
Bill McDow, City of Wilmington
Allen Serkin, Town of Navassa

1. Call to Order

Mr. Kozlosky called the meeting to order at 10:08 am.

2. Approval of Minutes

With the correction of adding Mr. Albert Eby's name to the member's in attendance the motion to approve the minutes for the December 3, 2008 meeting carried unanimously.

3. Old Business

None

4. New Business

a. Election of Officers

Mr. Riddle nominated Mr. Bennett for Vice-chairman of the TCC. Mr. O'Keefe seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

Mr. O'Keefe nominated Mr. Kozlosky for Chairman and Ms. Bunch seconded the motion. Mr. Kozlosky was elected by unanimous vote.

c. Resolution supporting the 21st Century Transportation Committee recommendations to the NC General Assembly (moved ahead)

Mr. Riddle made the motion to support the 21st Century Transportation Committee recommendations to the NC General Assembly and forward to the TAC for consideration. Mr. Owens seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

b. Resolution supporting the Castle Hayne Small Area Plan

Mr. O'Keefe gave a presentation on the Castle Hayne Small Area Plan. He told members the New Hanover County Commissioners approved the plan at their December meeting. Following the presentation, Mr. Serkin made the motion to support the Castle Hayne Small Area Plan and

forward to the TAC for consideration. Ms Bunch seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

d. Resolution of Support for the West Pender Rail Trail

Mr. Mello told members staff has been working with the East Coast Greenway Alliance, Rails-to-Trails Conservancy, the Pender County Planning Department and some local residents to preserve the abandoned railroad corridor that runs parallel to US 421 from the USS North Carolina north to Fayetteville. They are investigating the feasibility of a greenway to connect the Moore's Creek Battlefield with the USS North Carolina. The rail corridor has been completely abandoned and portions have reverted back to the adjacent property owners. Pender County is requesting a resolution supporting the preservation of the corridor due to pending development along a portion of the corridor. The developer has already agreed to dedicate a portion of his property for the corridor. Mr. O'Keefe told members that New Hanover County has also been working with the East Coast Greenway on the project and would like to be listed in paragraph three of the resolution. Mr. Mello agreed to make that addition. Mr. Riddle made the motion to support the development of the West Pender Rail Trail and forward to the TAC for consideration. Mr. O'Keefe seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

e. Resolution of Support for Bicycle Lanes on North 23rd Street and Wrightsville Avenue

Mr. Mello told members NCDOT staff has put together a resurfacing package for certain roadways in New Hanover County. The package was let in December 2008 and they have already received bids. Construction has been postponed until July due to budget issues. The City and the WMPO staff would like to see bicycle lanes on North 23rd Street, between Princess Place Drive and Market Street, and Wrightsville Avenue, between Military Cutoff Road and Eastwood Road. The North 23rd Street project already has enough existing pavement in place to stripe bicycle lanes and it would just need pavement marking after the resurfacing occurs. The Wrightsville Avenue project also has sufficient roadway pavement along most of the road that is wide enough to accommodate bicycle lanes. However, there is one small section that will need pavement added. The resolution is asking the NCDOT local division office to work cooperatively with NCDOT Division of Bicycle and Pedestrian Transportation and the City of Wilmington to identify funding and amend the resurfacing package to include continuous bicycle lanes on these two roadways.

Mr. Riddle told member DOT staff have discussed this project since receiving Mr. Mello's email. Mr. Riddle said adjustments to the pavement markings should not be a problem, but anytime you start looking at adding additional pavement it can create problems.

Mr. Mello told members that the resolution is to request that we all work together to identify funding.

Mr. O'Keefe made the motion to support the request for bicycle lanes on North 23rd Street and Wrightsville Avenue and forward to the TAC for consideration. Mr. Owens seconded the motion. The motion carried 8 to 1.

5. Discussion

a. Draft Walk Wilmington: Comprehensive Pedestrian Plan

Mr. Mello told members the city has received a grant from the North Carolina Department of Transportation to complete a city-wide pedestrian plan. The plan will look at sidewalk projects, traffic signals, crosswalks, the land development code and possible speed limit reductions. The plan has broken the city into character zones. The plan is on the WMPO website for review and comment. The next step after receiving comments will be to send the plan to NCDOT Division of Bicycle and Pedestrian Transportation and then brought to the Wilmington City Council in March.

b. Wrightsville Beach Bicycle Facilities Study Alternatives

Mr. Mello told members about 60 people attended the first public meeting held in Wrightsville Beach Monday to discuss the Wrightsville Beach Bicycle Facilities Study. The plan is available on the WMPO website for review and comment.

6. Project Updates

a. Market Street Corridor Study

Mr. Mello told members that Kimley Horn and Associates continues to work on the Market Street Corridor Study. The next step is to draft the plan and begin public meetings.

b. Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC)

Mr. Mello updated the group on CAC activities. The group is currently working on the 2035 Long Range Transportation Plan.

d. Bike/Pedestrian Committee

Mr. Mello updated the group on CAC activities. The members saw a presentation on Comprehensive Pedestrian Plan at their last meeting.

e. NCDOT Project Update

attached

7. Announcements

Mr. Serkin told members he has accepted a position with the Town of Shallotte and he introduced Ms. Claudia Bray who is the Town Administrator for the Town of Navassa. Ms. Bray will be filling in for the interim as their representative to the group.

a. WMPO BikePed Committee meeting: January 8 at 5:15pm

b. *Wrightsville Beach Bicycle Facilities Study* Open House: January 12 at 5:30pm

c. Citizen Advisory Committee meeting: January 21 at 5:30pm

8. Adjournment

With no further items, the meeting was adjourned at 10:58 am.