

**Wilmington Urban Area
Technical Coordinating Committee
Meeting Notes for February 11, 2009**

Members Present:

Mike Kozlosky, City of Wilmington
Chris O'Keefe, New Hanover County
Coke Gray, NCDOT
Ken Vafier, Pender County
Robert Waring, Town of Leland
Helen Bunch, Brunswick County
Stephanie Ayers, NC State Ports Authority
Don Bennett, City of Wilmington
Shane York, NCDOT
Albert Eby, WAVE Transit
Don Eggert, Cape Fear RPO

Others Present:

Joshuah Mello, City of Wilmington
Anthony Prinz, City of Wilmington
Bill McDow, City of Wilmington

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 January 14, 2009 meeting carried unanimously.

3. Old Business

None

4. New Business

a. Resolution requesting the City of Wilmington to amend the Transportation Official Corridor Map Act for the Cape Fear Skyway

Mr. Kozlosky told members in January of 2006 the City of Wilmington filed the Transportation Official Corridor map to preserve the Cape Fear Skyway corridor from the encroachment of Madison Place Apartment complex. Due to the possibility of other encroaching developments in the corridor, the MPO staff recommends encouraging the City of Wilmington to amend the existing Transportation Official Corridor Map Act and preserve a corridor from the intersection of Carolina Beach Road/Independence Boulevard to the Cape Fear River. Once staff gets the support to move forward with the amendment to the map, the corridor will be identified, surveyed and then move forward with the filing process or amendment process. Ms. Ayers made the motion to recommend approval of the resolution and forward to the TAC for consideration. Mr. Eby seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

b. Resolution requesting the North Carolina General Assembly amend NC G.S. 136-45-50 to permit the Wilmington MPO to file a Transportation Official Corridor Map for the Cape Fear Skyway in Brunswick County

Mr. Kozlosky told members per NC General Statute 136-44.50, only municipalities, the Board of Transportation, regional public transportation authorities, NC Turnpike Authority and the Wilmington MPO have the authority to file a Transportation Corridor Official Map. Due to the possibility of encroaching developments within the Skyway corridor in Brunswick County, the

Wilmington MPO would encourage the North Carolina General Assembly to amend G.S. 136-44.50 to permit the Wilmington MPO to file the Transportation Corridor Official Map for the Cape Fear Skyway in Brunswick County. Mr. Eby suggested making it more general by requesting the General Assembly grant the authority to file a corridor map anywhere within the MPO planning boundaries.

Mr. Eby made the motion to recommend the approval of the resolution with the change noted that it is for any project within the MPO's planning area boundary and Mr. Eggert seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

c. Resolution requesting NCDOT amend the 2009-2015 STIP for bike/pedestrian improvements on Blue Clay Road, River to Sea Bikeway and Cross-City Trail

Mr. Mello told members the Department of Transportation suggested that staff ask the Board of Transportation to amend the STIP to include the bike/pedestrian improvements on Blue Clay Road, River to Sea Bikeway and Cross-City Trail in preparation for submittal as bicycle and pedestrian stimulus package projects.

Mr. Kozlosky said staff will begin the 30-day public comment period on all projects submitted for the stimulus package and that will encompass projects received from all the municipalities.

Mr. O'Keefe made the motion to recommend approval of the resolution and forward to the TAC for consideration. Ms. Ayers seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

d. Resolution supporting a statewide TAC Chair Association

Mr. Kozlosky told members there are numerous transportation issues across the state and several RPOs and MPOs have endorsed a resolution of support for the creation of a TAC Chair organization. The organization will provide MPOs and RPOs with a state-level forum to develop joint legislative agendas, share best practices and address state and federal issues. The resolution indicates that the Wilmington MPO supports this initiative creating the TAC Chair Association. Mr. Eggert made the motion to recommend approval of the resolution and forward to the TAC for consideration. Ms. Ayers seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

5. Project Updates

a. Market Street Corridor Study

Mr. Kozlosky told members staff met with Kimley Horn and Associates last week. They reviewed the conceptual layout for the entire 11-mile corridor from Colonial Drive to the New Hanover County/Pender County line. The next public meetings will be held on February 18th at the New Hanover County Government Complex and February 19th at Ogden Elementary School. Mr. Mello told members all documents from the plan are on the WMPO website under the Market Street Corridor page.

b. Draft Walk Wilmington: Comprehensive Pedestrian Plan

Mr. Mello told members the final plan draft should be delivered today. The plan will be sent to the Transportation Planning Branch and the Division of Bicycle and Pedestrian Transportation in Raleigh for review. Staff anticipates bringing the plan to the TAC, the Wilmington Planning Commission and City Council some time in early April.

c. Wrightsville Avenue Bike Lanes

Mr. Mello told members the TAC passed a resolution for the installation of bike lanes along Wrightsville Avenue at their last meeting. The project should begin this summer in conjunction with the NCDOT resurfacing work, once the budget issues are addressed. It is currently "on hold". Staff met with the NCDOT Division 3 Staff and they have agreed to let the City provide a

pavement marking plan for Wrightsville Avenue that includes continues bicycle lanes from Oleander Drive to Eastwood Road. They also agreed to not put in any pavement lines on N. 23rd Street. Once the City of Wilmington takes over the street, the City can add bicycle lane markings.

d. Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC)

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

e. Bike/Pedestrian Committee

Mr. Mello updated the group on Bicycle/Pedestrian Committee activities.

f. NCDOT Project Update

attached

g. Dow Road

Mr. Kozlosky told members the TAC directed staff to move forward with the corridor study for its existing location. The estimated cost for the project is \$37,000 and it is being coordinated with the streetscape project that is currently being developed by the Town of Carolina Beach for Lake Park Drive. It will include land use, planning initiatives and access management, as well as how to soften the curve at the intersection with K Avenue.

h. 3rd Street Streetscape Project

Mr. Kozlosky told members staff met with the designers of the project. They identified the types of street furniture, receptacles and street lighting is preferred for the corridor. They also met with the utility companies last week. The consultant plans to have the 60% design plans complete by the end of February, with the full set of plans ready by April.

i. Safe Routes to School

Mr. Mello told members staff submitted an application for Holly Tree Elementary School for sidewalks on Greenhow Drive last month. With the help of Mr. O'Keefe, a group of residents also submitted an application for Ogden Elementary. The city will be installing sidewalks along St. Nichols Drive connecting to Blair/Noble Schools in the coming months. The Greenville Loop Road sidewalk design has begun. Staff is meeting with adjacent property owners to secure easements in efforts to get the sidewalk further away from the road. The project should be under construction this summer.

6. Announcements

- a. **WMPO BikePed Committee meeting- February 12th**
- b. **National Multi-modal Transportation Steering Committee meeting- February 12th**
- c. **National Multi-modal Transportation Steering Committee meeting- February 13^h**
- d. **WMPO Citizen Advisory meeting- February 18th**
- e. **Market Street Corridor Public Workshop- February 18th**
- f. **Market Street Corridor Public Workshop- February 19th**
- g. **C4 (Pine Valley) Neighborhood Traffic meeting- February 24th**

7. Adjournment

With no further items, the meeting was adjourned at 10:41 am.