

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

Members Present:

Mike Kozlosky, City of Wilmington
Sam Burgess, New Hanover County
Ken Vafier, Pender County
Robert Waring, Town of Leland
Claudia Bray, Town of Navassa
Brian Chambers, City of Wilmington
Don Bennett, City of Wilmington
Shane York, NCDOT

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 10:07 am.

2. Approval of Minutes

The motion to approve the minutes for the February 11, 2009 meeting carried unanimously.

3. Old Business

None

4. New Business

a. Resolution supporting the new proposed route for the Beach to Battleship event

Mr. Prinz told members due to the number of complaints regarding traffic delays during the Beach to Battleship, the event coordinators are working to adjust the route in order to reduce the number of potential conflict points between triathlon participants and traffic. NCDOT has requested a resolution of support from the MPO before considering the new route. Mr. Prinz told members more organizations are being involved in the decision making process this year. They have done a lot more due-diligence this year. Mr. Kozlosky told members the Beach2Battleship event staff is willing to make a presentation to the TAC when the resolution is considered. Mr. Burgess made the motion to support the resolution and forward to the TAC for consideration. Mr. Bennett seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

b. Resolution amending the 2008-2009 Unified Planning Work Program

Mr. Kozlosky told members the MPO has until March 31st to amend our Planning Work Program based on the current expenditures for the fiscal year. Mr. Kozlosky said staff has evaluated the current expenditures and has recommended reducing the special studies line item. Staff does not anticipate hiring a consultant to complete a collector street plan or utilize the funds for on-call engineering services. Mr. Burgess made the motion to recommend approval of the resolution to amend the 2008-2009 Unified Planning Work Program and forward to the TAC for consideration. Mr. Bennett seconded it and the motion carried unanimously.

c. Resolution adopting the 2009-2010 Unified Planning Work Program

Mr. Kozlosky told members the Planning Work Program for the MPO planning area boundary must be adopted annually and submitted to both NCDOT's Transportation Planning Branch and the Public Transportation Division. It includes the use of PL funds, as well as the use of Section 5303 funding. We have included in the PWP \$50,000 to hire a consultant to assist with the development of the Long Range Transportation Plan; specifically the transit needs analysis and the financial aspect of the plan. The PWP also includes a Section 5303 budget of \$73,715.

Mr. York made the motion to recommend approval of the resolution and forward to the TAC for consideration. Ms. Bray seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

d. Resolution certifying the Transportation Planning Process for FY 2009

Mr. Kozlosky told members the MPOs are required annually to certify that we are conducting transportation planning in a continuous, cooperative and comprehensive manner. We are required to submit this to NCDOT and Federal Highway Administration. Mr. Burgess made the motion to support the resolution and forward to the TAC for consideration. Mr. Bennett seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

e. Resolution supporting amendments to the 2009-2015 Metropolitan and State Transportation Improvement Program to include the Cross-City Trail (EB-5121) and Roadside Environmental (ER-5100)

Mr. Kozlosky told members there is an opportunity for stimulus funds to be used for the Cross-City Trail. NCDOT has agreed to appropriate \$2 million for the Cross-City Trail in Wilmington, which will connect Halliburton Park with the Wrightsville Beach drawbridge. There will be a local match of \$1 million and so we need to amend our Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program to include this project. NCDOT has also identified \$5.5 million for road-side environmental enhancements and we need to amend the STIP to include that project as well. Staff opened the 30-day public comment period on February 25th until March 25th and then the item will be brought to the TAC for consideration on March 26th. Mr. Bennett made the motion to support the resolution and forward to the TAC for consideration. Ms. Bray seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

5. Project Updates

a. Market Street Corridor Study

Mr. Kozlosky told members he received the draft land-use element of the study and he will forward it to members for review. The plan is anticipated to be completed in April. Staff is currently working with NCDOT on an intersection improvement project for Kerr Avenue and Market Street. NCDOT currently has a widening project for Kerr Avenue from Randall Parkway to the Martin Luther King, Jr. Parkway. NCDOT has the Categorical Exclusion and if any improvements are made outside the right-of-way with NCDOT funds, they would have to go back and open up the Categorical Exclusion, which could delay the project for 1 to 1 ½ year. Staff is working with the Department and Federal Highway Administration to take those intersections improvements out of the categorical exclusion and to move forward with the widening so we can complete the widening and then come back in to make those intersection improvements.

Mr. Kozlosky stated that staff has received positive feedback from citizens at the public meetings held in March on the plan.

b. Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC)

Mr. Mello updated the group on CAC activities.

c. Bike/Pedestrian Committee

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

d. NCDOT Project Update

attached

6. Announcements

a. WMPO BikePed Committee meeting- March 12th

b. WMPO Citizen Advisory meeting- March 18th

c. "Cape Fear Commutes" media kickoff – March 20th

7. Adjournment

With no further items, the meeting was adjourned at 10:28 am.