

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

Members Present:

Mike Kozlosky, City of Wilmington
Sam Burgess, New Hanover County
Robert Waring, Town of Leland
Stephanie Ayers, NC State Ports Authority
Shane York, NCDOT
Coke Gray, NCDOT
Allen Pope, NCDOT
Tim Owens, Carolina Beach
Travis Barnes, Town of Navassa
Jill Stark, FHWA
Ken Vafier, Pender County
Albert Eby, WAVE Transit

Others Present:

Joshuah Mello, City of Wilmington
Anthony Prinz, City of Wilmington
Chris O'Keefe, New Hanover County
Andy Koeppel, WAVE Board of Directors

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 September 16, 2009 meeting carried unanimously.

3. Old Business

a. Resolution Supporting the Beginning of Discussion to Bring I-20 to Wilmington

Mr. Kozlosky told member at last month's TCC meeting Mr. Gray was asked to research weight limits restrictions on Interstate designated highways for TAC members.

Mr. Gray told members there should not be any problems on weight. The only problems may be with the bridge decks. They may need to be upgraded. Mr. Kozlosky asked about the exemptions for weight restrictions on Interstate facilities compared to US highways. Mr. Gray said he talked with inspectors and the bridge structures are more than sufficient for the weight.

Mr. Pope told members the facility will need to be upgraded because there are some areas that do not have paved shoulders. Bridges will be an issue because of the width to accommodate Interstate design. Mr. Pope stated that North Carolina General Statute has exceptions for weights and allows some tolerances that are not allowed by the federal government on Interstate facilities. There are other exceptions for such things as trucks hauling wood chips to Riegelwood. He suggested giving the TAC members a copy of the general statutes so they may review the exceptions that are listed.

Mr. Pope pointed out that the resolution states that we will begin conversations. Mr. Owens made the motion to move the resolution to begin discussions on bringing Interstate-20 to Wilmington forward to the TAC. Ms. Ayers seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

4. New Business

a. Resolution Adopting the Dow Road Corridor Study

Mr. Kozlosky told members the Dow Road Corridor study recommends making improvements to the shoulders along Dow Road and some intersections. The study also recommends continuing the multi-use path on the eastern side of Dow Road and improvements to the curvature at K-Avenue. Mr. Owens told members that the Town of Carolina Beach adopted a resolution supporting the findings of the study.

Mr. Pope asked why add bicycle lanes if you are going to have a multi-use path. Mr. Kozlosky explained that it was for the two different types of users. The recreational users will utilize the multi-use path and the more experienced bicycle users will utilize the bicycle lane for commuting.

Mr. Burgess made the motion to support the resolution adopting the Dow Road Corridor Study and forward it to the TAC for consideration. Mr. Owens seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

b. Resolution Adopting the Wrightsville Beach Bicycle Plan

Mr. Mello told members during the year-long study process, staff met with residents of Wrightsville Beach, Division staff and town representatives. The North Lumina section has been removed from the original scope of the bicycle plan at the request of the town. The plan now focuses on Salisbury Street and Pelican Drive from the draw-bridge to the Johnnie Mercers Pier parking area. The Town of Wrightsville Beach adopted the plan on September 10th. Staff used some of the elements in the plan to apply for the TIGER grant through USDOT.

Mr. Barnes made the motion to support the resolution adopting the Wrightsville Beach Bicycle Plan and forward it to the TAC for consideration. Ms. Ayers seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

c. Resolution Adopting the List of Potential Enhancement Projects within the Wilmington MPO Planning Area Boundary

Mr. Kozlosky told members staff solicited comments from the towns, municipalities and TCC member for the list of potential enhancement projects. There has not been a call for enhancement projects at this point. Staff is trying to be proactive in case funding does become available for projects. Projects are currently being handled by the Program Development Unit and not by NCDOT's Enhancement Unit.

Staff compiled the following list for submittal to the Board of Transportation in the event that they are able to identify funding for enhancements projects:

- Purchase of the rail corridor from New Hanover County Public Schools
- Landscaping at the west side of the Cape Fear Memorial Bridge
- Landscaping at Johnny Mercer's Pier in Wrightsville Beach
- Separate bicycle/pedestrian facilities over the waterways (Bradley Creek, Wrightsville Beach and Navassa)
- Landscaping at I-40/I-140 interchange
- Landscaping at Blackwell Road in Belville
- Streetscape project in Castle Hayne
- Bike/Pedestrian Connection between Castle Hayne and Holly Shelter
- Landscaping at the Monkey Junction intersection

- Bicycle/Pedestrian Improvements from *Walk Wilmington: A Comprehensive Pedestrian Plan*
- Retro-fit the Snows Cut Bridge to facilitate bicycle and pedestrian access
- High visibility crosswalks at designated locations in Carolina Beach
- Multi-use path along the entire length of Dow Road
- Sidewalk Improvements along East Lake Park Boulevard within Carolina Beach
- Davis Park Greenway in Navassa
- Cedar Hill Road Roundabout in Navassa
- Environmental Stormwater Mitigation at Cedar Hill & Old Mill Intersection
- Cedar Hill Road multi-use path in Navassa
- Environmental Stormwater Mitigation at Broadway and Main Streets
- Sidewalks along Main Street in Navassa
- Improvements at the Wilmington Railroad Museum (to include the casket cart, observation platform, stationmaster tower and 1920's office)

Mr. Kozlosky told members the list has not been prioritized because there is no funding right now, but staff was advised to have a list of projects ready in case funding does become available. Mr. Kozlosky said the list will be reviewed every two years.

Mr. Burgess asked if funding does become available, will there be an opportunity to add to this enhancement list. Mr. Kozlosky said it depends on how the Department wants to move through the process. If they have a call for projects, then there will be an opportunity to add to this list. But, if there is no call, they may move forward with enhancement projects. Mr. Kozlosky stated that the MPO's have been told to submit any enhancement projects with this prioritization process.

Mr. Burgess made the motion to support approving the resolution adopting the list of potential Enhancement Projects within the Wilmington MPO Planning Area Boundary for 2009 and moving it forward to the TAC for consideration. Mr. Barnes seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

5. Updates

a. Cape Fear Commutes 2035 (Citizen Advisory Committee)

Mr. Mello updated the group on Citizen Advisory Committee activities.

b. WMPO Bike/Pedestrian Committee

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

c. NCDOT Project Update

attached

6. Announcements

a. WMPO BikePed Committee meeting- December 10th

b. Cape Fear Commutes - October 21st

7. Adjournment

With no further items, the meeting was adjourned at 10:38 pm.