Wilmington Urban Area Technical Coordinating Committee Meeting Notes for September 22, 2010

Members Present:

Mike Kozlosky, City of Wilmington
Stephanie Ayers, NC State Ports Authority
Sam Burgess, New Hanover County
Robert Waring, Town of Leland
Chris Sammons, Town of Belville
Ken Vafier, Pender County
Eryn Moller, Town of Wrightsville Beach
Albert Eby, Wave Transit
Don Bennett, City of Wilmington
Helen Bunch, Brunswick County
Jill Stark, FHWA
Shane York, NCDOT
Patrick Riddle, NCDOT
Allen Pope, NCDOT
Coke Gary, NCDOT

Others Present:

Joshuah Mello, City of Wilmington Tara Murphy, City of Wilmington Bill McDow, City of Wilmington

1. Call to Order

Mr. Kozlosky called the meeting to order at 10:06 am.

2. Approval of Minutes

The motion to approve the minutes for the August 11, 2010 meeting carried unanimously.

3. Old Business

No items

4. New Business

a. Resolution Supporting Bicycle and Pedestrian Amenities on the Cape Fear Skyway

Mr. Kozlosky told members Mr. Howard Capps spoke during the public comment period at the last TAC meeting asking members to support the addition of bicycle and pedestrian amenities on the proposed Cape Fear Skyway. Mr. Kozlosky said the addition of these lanes is recommended in the draft Cape Fear Commutes 2035 Transportation Plan and also supported by the Bicycle/Pedestrian committee. Currently there is not a cost estimate for these improvements. The resolution is requesting the NC Turnpike Authority to consider the addition of these amenities during the review process and determine if there would be a significant financial burden to the project.

Mr. Eby asked if mass transportation lanes are being considered. Mr. Kozlosky told members they are looking at all modes of transportation for the bridge.

Mr. Pope made the motion to support the resolution and forward to the TAC for consideration. Mr. Burgess seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

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b. Resolution Supporting NCDOT Consider Airlie Road as a North Carolina Scenic Byway

Mr. Kozlosky told members a few months ago the MPO prepared a draft application asking the NCDOT to recognize Airlie Road as a North Caroling Scenic Byway. The Department requested a resolution of support from the MPO, the City of Wilmington and New Hanover County be submitted along with the final application for designation in 2012.

Mr. Bennett made the motion requesting NCDOT consider Airlie Road as a North Carolina Scenic Byway and forward to the TAC for consideration. Ms. Moller seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

5. Updates

a. Wilmington MPO/City of Wilmington

Mr. Kozlosky updated members on projects within the City of Wilmington. He told members one item not included on the report is the US17/NC210 Corridor Study. There have been two recent fatalities on the US 17 corridor in Hampstead. Staff received proposals from nine engineering firms and sent proposals to the NC Department of Transportation and the Pender County planning staff. The MPO requested scoring of the proposals by September 28th and plans to make the final selection once the scores are received. The target start date for the project is November 1st. The plan should be complete by the beginning of June 2011. Once the study is complete, it will be sent to the Department for the completion of designs.

b. Cape Fear Public Transportation Authority

Mr. Eby told members the new transfer center is within 5 days of the original construction deadline of November 26th and things are continuing to move along.

c. NCDOT Project Update

Mr. Riddle updated members on the projects for NCDOT. He told members it looks like the Wrightsville Avenue project should finally be complete in the middle of October. The Carolina Beach Road contractor is Cape Fear Paving and they will get started this fall. The Department will be holding a public information meeting some time during the second week in October for College Road improvements between Monkey Junction and Shipyard Boulevard.

d. Other updates

Mr. Kozlosky told members that staff plans to have a presentation on the long range transportation plan at next meeting.

Mr. Kozlosky said NCDOT released information on the Bicycle and Pedestrian Planning Grant initiative. There are funds available for municipalities to complete bicycle or pedestrian plans and the deadline for submission is December. If any municipalities are considering submission, please contact him as soon as possible so that he can have the information ready for the October meeting.

7. Announcements

8. Adjournment

With no further items, the meeting was adjourned at 10:35am