February 19, 2015  WMPO Bike/Ped Committee Meeting Minutes

In attendance:

Adrienne Harrington, WMPO
Joe Boyd, Belville
Steve Whitney, Brunswick County
Matt Hogan, NC Board of Transportation
Patrick Riddle, NCDOT
Katie Ryan, Wrightsville Beach
Karin Mills, City of Wilmington
Trey Burke, Navassa
John Townsend, New Hanover County
Shawn Spencer, New Hanover County
Tom Campbell, Carolina Beach
Chris O’Keefe, Transit Authority/NHC
George Eckart, NCDOT
Megan O’Hare, Pender County
Wes McLeod, Holland Planning Consultants

1) Approval of Minutes – motion by J. Boyd, second by J. Townsend, approved unanimously

2) Old Business
   a. Cape Fear Transportation 2040 – Fiscally constrained bicycle and pedestrian projects –
      A. Harrington presented a list of 142 bicycle and pedestrian projects. The first 73
      projects are projects identified as high priority and currently proposed to be included in
      Cape Fear Transportation 2040. The remaining 68 projects identified as medium
      priority, but can not be included in CFT2040 due to fiscal constraints. A. Harrington
      informed the committee of the opportunity to make recommendations to the draft
      project list that most accurately reflects the priorities of the region. The committee was
      tasked with a ‘homework’ assignment to provide comments regarding the project list.
      Committee members should use the project identification numbers to determine which
      projects in green (high priority) should be in red (medium priority) and which projects in
      red should be green. The committee asked A. Harrington to provide these documents in
      electronic format and to also include the additional 816 projects identified by the
      committee during the development of the project list. This ‘homework’ assignment is
      due to A. Harrington 2 weeks after information is emailed to the committee.

3) New Business
   a. WMPO Bike/Suitability Map data review – A. Harrington and the Bike Suitability Map
      Subcommittee provided an update on the status of the development of the regional
      bike map. Roads have been identified and categorized by their bike suitability level. M.
      O’Hare mentioned opportunities for individual jurisdictions to use this map. T. Burke
      noted that the colors chosen for the map need to be legible during the day in the sun, as
      he has seen maps that are difficult to read in these conditions. C. O’Keefe asked about
      opportunities for the development of an app based on the GIS data. K. Mills noted an
opportunity to include the amount of time it might take to travel a certain distance. This could be illustrated using a bulls eye approach. G. Perkins asked about the crash data used for the development of this map. J. Townsend informed the committee about the data used (volume, volume to capacity ratio, speed limits), however crash data was not used. A. Harrington informed the committee that signalized intersections would be indicated on this map along roadways that were marked. C. O’Keefe suggested getting the various GIS departments together to share this data for future use. A. Harrington informed the committee of the significant amount of time and analysis that has been conducted to determine the suitability levels of the roads highlighted on the map. She invited the WMPO Bike/Ped Committee to comment on these recommendations, understanding that many of the roads could potentially fall under more than one category. She asked the committee to provide recommendations 2 weeks after an electronic copy is mailed out to the committee.

4) Other Discussion
   a. Oleander/Bradley Creek Bridge Crossing Options – W. McLeod gave a presentation about options for crossing Bradley Creek along Oleander Drive. He provided two options for including protected bike lanes with the existing pavement width. The WMPO Bike/Ped Committee agreed that the second option was more favorable in that it was more inviting to the “interested but concerned” group of cyclists, and that it did not provide the pedestrian conflict of the first option.
   b. Bike Month – C. O’Keefe informed the committee of the bike month events/activities including River to Sea Bike Ride (May 2), Bike to Work Week (May 11 – 15 with Bike to Work Day on May 15), and Bike to School Day (May 6). K. Ryan sent out registration information for Bike to School Day. K. Mills suggested bike buses/bike trains for this event. A River to Sea Bikeway Committee was created including K. Ryan, C. O’Keefe, A. Harrington, S. Whitney, G. Perkins, and S. Spencer.
   c. WMPO Bike/ped Official Voting Members Update – A. Harrington welcomed S. Spencer as the newly appointed representative for New Hanover County. She informed the committee that the City of Wilmington is finalizing their new appointee. M. O’Hare informed the committee that Pender County is also finalizing their appointee.