

MINUTES
LENOIR COUNTY TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE
July 15, 2009

The Lenoir County Transportation Committee met on Wednesday, July 15, 2009 at 8:30 a.m. in the Lenoir County Administration Conference Room at 101 N. Queen Street, Kinston, NC 28502.

Voting members present included: Mr. Russell Rhodes, Chairman; Mr. Buddy Ritch; Mayor of Kinston; Mr. Joe Bower, Kinston-Lenoir County Chamber of Commerce, Mr. Bill Whaley, Economic Development Board; and Mr. Don Howard, GTP Authority.

Non-Voting members present included: Mr. Preston Hunter, Ms. Betty Caldwell and Mr. Len White; NCDOT; Mr. Mark Pope, Economic Development; Mr. Adrian King, Pride of Kinston and

Also Present: Ms. Lashanda Aytch, Administrative Secretary

Members absent included: Mr. Woody Gurley, Mayor Town of LaGrange; Ms. Treva Brigman, Mayor of Pink Hill; Mr. Dan Sale, County at Large; Mr. Wayland Humphrey, Lenoir County Planning; Mr. Tommy Lee and Amanda Engesether, City of Kinston Planning Board; Mr. Scott Stevens, City Manager; Ms. Sue Powell, Lenoir County Manager (Transit), Mr. Alex Rickard, RPO Planner, Mr. Van Braxton, State Representative, and Senator Charles Albertson.

Mr. Rhodes called the meeting to order at approximately 8:30 a.m.

Minutes were tabled due to the lack of a quorum.

NCDOT Update – Ms. Caldwell stated a partial TIP Project listing has been completed. US 70 at Hill Farm Rd is being considered as one of the potential projects. Mr. Hunter stated DOT is planning to have another Public Hearing to discuss Bridges No. 42 and 43. The hearing will discuss whether to close the bridges or make detours while they are being repaired. Work as begun on Parrott Dickerson Road. Mr. Rhodes stated that Ms. Leigh McNairy has replaced Mr. Cam McRae on the State NCDOT Board. An invitation will be sent out for her to attend the next committee meeting.

Old Business

Mr. Ronald Dunn of the North Lenoir High School (NLHS) Parents, Teachers, and Students Association (PTSA) addressed the Committee regarding traffic issues at the school. Mr. Dunn stated NLHS has made several improvements to access the school better for students and parents. Those improvements still have not hindered parents from parking across the street from the school to pick up their children in the afternoon. Law enforcement is needed at the school in the afternoon to prohibit parents from parking illegally. The traffic speed is also an issue in front of the school. The PTSA would like to see “rumble strips” placed in front of the school or before approaching the school to slow down traffic. Mr. Hunter stated rumble strips may not be an option because in front of the school would not be an appropriate place for them. Mr. Hunter stated enforcement of the laws should be first priority. Mr. Rhodes asked the committee’s permission to endorse law enforcement being placed in the area for ticketing and prohibiting illegal parking. The committee members agreed with Mr. Rhodes request. Mr. Dunn thanked the committee for their time and support of the issue.

GTP Rail Spur– Mr. Pope stated the project is slated to be completed by 2012.

US 70 Corridor Commission – Mr. Rhodes stated the Commission meeting has been cancelled for the month of July.

Industrial Access – Mr. Hunter stated the project remains on the two (2) year plan; project may be funded in the upcoming fiscal year.

NC 11 Summit – Mr. Rhodes stated the Summit went very well and was a very good start to the NC 11 Corridor efforts. More meeting will be scheduled in the future.

Carey Road Ext. – No updates to report.

Harvey Parkway - Mr. Pope stated construction of the parkway will begin in August.

Adjourned at 9:10 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted by
Lashanda Aytch
Clerk to the Board