

**MINUTES**  
**LENOIR COUNTY TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE**  
**August 8, 2007**

The Lenoir County Transportation Committee met on Wednesday, August 8, 2007 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. Bruce Parson, GTP Authority Staff and Mr. Bill Whaley, Economic Development Director.

**Non-Voting members present included:** Mr. Scott Stevens, City Manager; Mr. Joey Bryan, County Manager's Office; Mr. Tommy Lee, City of Kinston Planning Board; Mr. Adrian King, Pride of Kinston, and Mr. Preston Hunter, NCDOT.

Also Present: Ms. Lashanda Aytch, Administrative Secretary and Mr. Scott Walston, NCDOT Planning Branch.

**Members absent included:** Mr. Chris Humphrey, County Commissioner; Mr. Anthony Mitchell, Mayor of Pink Hill; Mr. John Craft, Town Manager of LaGrange; Mr. Wayland Humphrey, Lenoir County Planning, Mr. Mark Pope, Economic Development Mr. Cam McRae, DOT Board Member; Mr. Van Braxton, State Representative, and Senator Charles Albertson.

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

Mr. Walston presented the Committee with the Kinston Comprehensive Transportation Plan (CTP). Mr. Walston stated the purpose of the plan was to identify existing and future transportation deficiencies. The primary objective is to reduce traffic congestion and improve safety. The CTP is an update from the Thoroughfare Plan. Mr. Walston briefly reviewed the Strategic Highway Corridors and Plan features. The major benefits of the CTP is the common long range vision for facilities between NCDOT, MPOs, RPOs and local governments, improved community buy-in, stronger ties to local priorities, improved emphasis on integrating all modes and better integration of land use with transportation planning. The Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP) is a 7-year planning document and funding schedule. The CTP has a 25-30 year time span and is not fiscally constrained. Projects would be selected from the CTP for inclusion in the Transportation Improvement Program TIP. The CTP has to be adopted and endorsed at three levels: Local Adoption (Kinston City Council), Regional Endorsement (Easter Carolina RPO), and State Adoption (State Board of Transportation). Upon a motion by Mr. Parson and a second by Mr. Ritch, the Committee endorsed the Comprehensive Transportation Plan.

Mr. Hunter stated NCDOT would like to use \$400,000 in economic development funds for planning, environmental studies and preliminary engineering services for a rail spur at the North Carolina Global Transpark. There are no funds in the budget to date, but the preliminary work will offer a head start. Upon a motion by Mr. Whaley and a second by Mr. Parson, the Committee agreed to support a resolution for the rail spur.

Mr. Lee gave the Committee a brief update on the US 70 Corridor Commission. The Commission wants to put major emphasis on a marketing program. Industrial Access to Alside was funded and construction should start next spring.

Adjourned at 9:20 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted by  
Lashanda Aytch  
Clerk to the Board