

**MINUTES**  
**LENOIR COUNTY TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE**  
**August 13, 2008**

The Lenoir County Transportation Committee met on Wednesday, August 13, 2008 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; Mr. Chris Humphrey, County Commissioner; Mr. Dan Sale, Lenoir County At-large; and Mr. Bill Whaley, Economic Development Director.

**Non-Voting members present included:** Mr. Preston Hunter, NCDOT; Mr. Tommy Lee, City of Kinston Planning Board; Ms. Sue Powell, Lenoir County Transit; Mr. Randy Robb, GTP Authority, Mr. Mark Pope, Economic Development; and Mr. Adrian King, Pride of Kinston.

Also Present: Ms. Amanda Engesether, City of Kinston, and Ms. Lashanda Aytch, Administrative Secretary

**Members absent included:** Mr. Anthony Mitchell, Mayor of Pink Hill; Mr. John Craft, Town Manager of LaGrange; Mr. Wayland Humphrey, Lenoir County Planning; Mr. Scott Stevens, City Manager; Mr. Van Braxton, State Representative, and Senator Charles Albertson.

Mr. Rhodes called the meeting to order at approximately 8:35 a.m.

Upon a motion by Mr. Whaley and a second by Mr. Parson, the minutes of June 11, 2008 were unanimously approved.

**NLHS – PTSA Request for School Access Improvements**

Mr. Rhodes presented the Committee with a letter from NCDOT to Dr. Terry Cline, Superintendent regarding the proposed road improvements at North Lenoir High School. The letter stated, “As part of our review, traffic counters that measure traffic speeds and volume were placed in the existing school speed zone along Wheat Swamp Road on two separate occasions. The data from these counters indicated that vehicle speed through this area was significantly lower during the typical times that students were being picked up or dropped off. The largest groupings of vehicles were driving less than 35 mph when the posted 45 mph school speed limit was in effect.” 71% of travelers obeyed the school speed zone. NCDOT does not recommend turn lanes; it was also not recommended to change the current operations of Miller Creek Road.

**US 70 Corridor Commission**

Mr. Lee stated the US 70 Corridor Commission will hold their next meeting on September 11, 2008 at the GATE Center in Kinston.

**Industrial Access**

Mr. Hunter stated the Historic Preservation Group is in the process of doing geological and archaeological studies on the proposed industrial access. This will delay the project for at least two (2) months.

## **Bridge Replacement**

No updates to report.

## **NC 11 as a thoroughfare from Greenville's SW 264 Bypass in Ayden to US 70**

Mr. Rhodes stated the RPO Board is still working very hard on this project.

## **Carey Road Extension Sub-Committee**

Mr. Parson reported that the project is not on any listing for funding leaving the City of Kinston to make some financial decisions regarding the project. The project will cost at a minimum of \$15 million, with one-third coming for the City.

## **National Truck Route Data for Lenoir County – 53' and Tandem Trailer Limitations**

Mr. Rhodes stated new legislation has been adopted by the State of North Carolina, making this issue less of a concern.

## **New Business**

Felix Harvey Parkway – The right-of-way has been acquired; the project will be going out for bids in October and awarded in December.

Respectfully Submitted by  
Lashanda Aytch  
Clerk to the Board