

Minutes
Lenoir County Transportation Committee
Lenoir Economic Development Board Room
Scheduled Meeting
April 8, 2015 – 8:30 a.m.

Attendance:

Voting	Non-Voting	Absent
Gordon Vermillion, Lenoir County at Large, Chair	Adrian King, PRIDE of Kinston	John Rouse, Division Engineer, NCDOT
John Craft, Manager, Town of LaGrange	Jeff Cabaniss, NC DOT	Eric Rouse, Lenoir County Commissioner
Bill Whaley, Lenoir County Economic Development Board	Mark Pope, Executive Director, Lenoir County Economic Development	Patrick Flanagan, RPO
Mary Jane Westphal, NC GTP Authority	Rob Will, RPO Planner	Joe Albright, Town of Grifton, Manager
Dan Sale, Lenoir County, Member-At-Large	Tony Sears, Manager, Kinston	Barry Seay, Lenoir County Planning Board
		Brian Lucas, City of Kinston
		BJ Murphy, Mayor, City of Kinston
		Adam Short, City of Kinston
		Chris Harper, County Transport
		Mike Jarman, Manager, Lenoir County
		Aaron Bullard, District Engineer, NC DOT
		John Marshall, Kinston-Lenoir County Chamber of Commerce
		Donald King, Town of Pink Hill

Chair Vermillion called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. Quorum was present.

Update:

TIP Projects – Jeff Cabaniss, NC DOT

- **B-4565:** Bridges #42 and #43 over Neuse River on US 70 Business (Queen St.), Awarded to Thalle Construction Co., Inc.
 - prep work (signage/traffic control)
 - temporary signal (May) testing
 - Closure after July 4th. Expected to close July 6th
- **W-5202K:** NC 11- Construct 21 left turn lanes at existing median openings from Highland Ave to North of Odham Rd, Anticipated Let date June 2015.
- **EB-3314D:** Kinston Riverwalk, multi-use path from downtown through Pearson Park to the Power plant, currently in final design stage, awaiting R/R approval for ROW, anticipated Let date June 2015.

Non-TIP Projects – Jeff Cabaniss, NC DOT

- **Smithfield Way** (49005) - extend road from SR 1548 Hill Farm Rd to US 258, state forces to complete box culvert and grade work, paving to be done by Barnhill Contracting Co.
- **Hill Farm Rd** (48102) - extend existing turn lane on SR 1548 (Hill Farm Rd) past Kinston FD Station 3 to 465 ft north of SR 2021 (Smithfield Way), awarded to Barnhill Contracting Co., available March 16, 2015, completion date of December 31, 2015.

Resurfacing - Jeff Cabaniss, NC DOT

- **NC 55:** from NC 11 to the Craven Co line, contract awarded to Barnhill Contracting Co., work planned for Spring, completion date June 30, 2015
- **Castle Oaks Subdivision:** resurface roads and reconstruct shoulders, contract awarded to Barnhill Contracting Co., available March 15, 2015 with a completion date of November 15, 2015

- **Secondary Roads:** awarded to Barnhill Contracting Co., available July 1st with a completion by November 13, 2015
 - SR 1116 Jonestown Rd from NC 11 to US 258, widen from 18' to 24' and resurface
 - SR 1578 Airport Rd from 2 lane section to NC 58, mill and resurface
 - SR 1569 Carey Rd from US 70 Bus. (Vernon Ave) to SR 1571, mill and resurface

Mr. Dan Sale asked if the median on Hill Farm Road would be altered or if land would be acquired to help with the traffic. Mr. Mark Pope stated that conversations have been had with NC DOT and property owner Mr. Ely Perry to work on this issue.

Old Business:

Approval of Minutes – Gordon Vermillion, Chair

- A quorum was present. The minutes were reviewed by the committee for March 11, 2015. Mr. Bill Whaley made a motion to approve the minutes. Mr. Dan Sale seconded the motion. All voting members were in favor of this motion. The minutes were approved by the committee.

Highway 70 Bypass (Havelock) Discussion/Resolution of Support – Mark Pope, LC Economic Development

- Mr. Mark Pope stated that Wayne County submitted a resolution to support the Havelock Bypass. Other counties have also prepared resolutions supporting this effort knowing it will help business and military in the area. Mr. Mark Pope stated that if Lenoir County chooses to support the Havelock Bypass, it would need to come through the Lenoir County Transportation Committee and presented to the Board of Commissioners.
- Mr. Gordon Vermillion stated that he felt it would benefit Lenoir County to have this Bypass. He recommended to the committee should prepare a resolution supporting the Havelock Bypass.
- Mayor BJ Murphy made a motion for the Lenoir County Transportation Committee to develop a resolution supporting the Havelock Bypass. Mr. John Craft seconded the motion. All voting members were in favor of this motion.

TIGER Grants – Mark Pope, LC Economic Development

- Mr. Mark Pope stated that the TIGER Grant information came from the Corridor Commission yesterday and he thought the committee would like to review. Mr. Gordon Vermillion asked if this is a new program. Mr. Rob Will stated that this was a federal program that organizations apply for. He stated that Goldsboro was awarded money from this program to assist with their downtown revitalization.
- Mr. Gordon Vermillion stated that Mr. Stephenson Durwood sent an email stating that \$5 million dollars is being made available for surface transportation projects by the US DOT. The grants are highly competitive and the deadline for pre-application is May 4. Mr. Durwood went on to say that RPO/MPO's should be encouraged to assist with this process.
- Mr. Adrian King stated that Goldsboro received \$10 million dollars for renovations for downtown area and railroad. Mr. Adrian King stated that they had a plan in place to support their grant request.
- Mr. Mark Pope stated that the City of Kinston could benefit to resurface roads that they own. He stated that webinars are available to assist people with the application process.
- Mr. Rob Will stated that the City would be responsible for applying and the RPO would support the application with a resolution. Mr. Gordon Vermillion asked who would be responsible for the City to apply for the TIGER grant. Mayor BJ Murphy stated that it would be Mr. Adam Short. Mr. Adam Short agreed to review the webinar sessions and application to see if it would be feasible for the City of Kinston and its current plans. He stated that he would report back to Mr. Gordon Vermillion.

RPO Important Dates – Rob Will, Eastern RPO Planner

- Mr. Rob Will stated that the listing provided for the board was more of an administrative timeline. He told the Committee that they would need to review the SPOT 4.0 in July. He also stated that Mr. John

Rouse is on that committee. Mr. Rob Will stated that he would provide a specific timeline for the Eastern RPO at the next meeting.

- Mr. Jeff Cabaniss stated that the scoring will be separate this year for division, region, and state.
- Mr. Gordon Vermillion asked to place the division pairing information on the agenda for the next meeting that Commissioner Eric Rouse discussed during the March 11, 2015 meeting.

Strategic Transportation Investments PowerPoint – Rob Will, Eastern RPO Planner

- Mr. Rob Will discussed the importance of each slide. He stated that slides 2-3 deal with who deals with the methodology. The most seen slide is number 4, detailing how STIP works. Slide 5-6 shows the pairings for funding purposes. Slides 10-11 define eligibility requirements. Slides 13-15 cover highway scoring criteria and weights. Mr. Rob Will stated that there is flexibility with applying these points. Mr. Rob Will stated that the rest of the slides are schedules for the 2014 scoring year. Mr. Rob Will stated that he would bring updated information for this year's scoring deadlines.

New Business:

Mr. Adam Short announced that the City of Kinston would be hosting a public meeting/open house to discuss Queen Street and MLK Boulevard tomorrow night at 6:00 pm. Mayor BJ Murphy asked if Mr. Adam Short would bring this information back to the committee for the May meeting. Mr. Adam Short agreed to present this information at the next meeting.

Ms. Mary Jane Westphal stated that there are prospective clients coming to the GTP. She wanted to make the committee aware that funding has been cut again for the GTP. Mrs. Mary Jane Westphal stated that Segrave operation is up and running and ready to expand. The GTP is looking into different grant or matching sources for incentivizing potential clients. Mayor BJ Murphy stated that even Kinston residents do not know what is going on with the NC GTP. He stated that several business students at East Carolina University, sitting in on a speaker session with him, have never heard of the NC GTP. Mayor BJ Murphy would like to see this change.

Mr. Gordon Vermillion stated that Representative John Bell sent him the gas tax schedule for the next two years. He stated that this was a short term fix for the low revenue issue.

The next transportation meeting will be Wednesday, April 8, at 8:30 a.m.

Much discussion followed

The meeting was adjourned at 9:35 a.m.