

MINUTES
LENOIR COUNTY TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE
September 9, 2009

The Lenoir County Transportation Committee met on Wednesday, September 9, 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. John Craft, Town of LaGrange; 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. Scott Stevens, City Manager; Mr. Adrian King, Pride of Kinston; Mr. Alex Rickard, RPO Planner; and Mr. Greg Smith, City of Kinston.

Also Present: Ms. Lashanda Aytch, Administrative Secretary

Members absent included: Mr. Buddy Ritch; Mayor of Kinston; Ms. Treva Brigman, Mayor of Pink Hill; Mr. Dan Sale, County at Large; Mr. Wayland Humphrey, Lenoir County Planning; Amanda Engesether, City of Kinston Planning Board; Ms. Sue Powell, Lenoir County Manager (Transit), Mr. Van Braxton, State Representative, and Senator Charles Albertson.

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

Upon a motion by Mr. Howard and a second by Mr. Whaley, the minutes of August 12, 2009 were unanimously approved.

NCDOT Update – Ms. Caldwell stated the following: Crescent Road project was awarded to PLT Construction of Wilson; construction to begin August 2009 – estimated completion October 2012. Spirit Way and Aerosystem Blvd. is under construction, awarded in February to Atwell Construction – anticipated completion date is December 2009. Kinston Global Trans-Park Freight Rail Improvements – Provide planning and preliminary engineering services for the proposed freight rail system – anticipated completion February 2010. Bridges #42 and #43 over the Neuse River on US 70 Business – anticipated Right of Way to begin in March 2010 – anticipated construction to begin March 2011. Mr. Stevens raised concerns regarding the U-turn leaving Golden Corral heading Hwy. 70 East. Ms. Caldwell stated safety is a concern for the Hillfarm Rd. project. To date there have been no revisions on how to make the intersection safer. US 70 West of US 258 South and NC 58 North (Queen St.) to NC 58 South – construct a 12' raised concrete median with left turns at Queen Street and Meadowbrook Drive and resurface – anticipated completion October 2010.

RPO Report – Mr. Rickard stated the RPO meets next week to adopt 25 projects to the TIP listing; 2-3 highway projects must be dropped in order to complete the list. The list will be put in a database in October and the state will add to the list in January with possible completion in May 2010.

Old Business –

North Lenoir Road Access – Mr. Hunter stated that Neil Lassiter would be reviewing the road access way; information will be provided at a later date.

GTP Rail Spur– Mr. Howard stated the rail spur plan would go to the FAA in the next couple of weeks for review and approval.

US 70 Corridor Commission – Mr. Rhodes stated attendance has dropped; Lenoir County needs two (2) members for representation on the Committee. Mr. Jarman will address this issue at the next Board of Commissioners' meeting.

Carey Road Ext. – Mr. Rhodes stated that other communities are concerned with the ranking of Carey Road Ext. as a #1 project on the TIP Listing. Mr. Greg Smith, Public Safety Director, stated the connector is needed so that emergency personnel can reach Spirit Aerosystems in a timely manner in case of an emergency.

MLK and King St., Roundabout – No updates at this time.

Kinston Median Project – Mr. Rhodes stated he would like to see the crash data that on used to determine that the median was needed; he would also like to see the design work for the median project.

Adjourned at 9:30 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted by
Lashanda Aytch
Clerk to the Board