

MINUTES
LENOIR COUNTY TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE
April 9, 2008

The Lenoir County Transportation Committee met on Wednesday, April 9, 2008 at 8:30 a.m. in the Kinston / Lenoir County Chamber of Commerce Conference Room at 301 N. Queen Street, Kinston, NC 28501.

Voting members present included: Mr. Russell Rhodes, Chairman, Mr. Dan Sale, Lenoir County At-large; Mr. Chris Humphrey, County Commissioner; 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. Preston Hunter, NCDOT; Mr. Randy Robb, GTP Authority, Mr. Tommy Lee, City of Kinston Planning Board; and Mr. Mark Pope, Economic Development and.

Also Present: Mr. Len White, NCDOT; Mr. Alex Rickard, RPO Planner, and Ms. Lashanda Aytch, Administrative Secretary

Members absent included: Mr. Anthony Mitchell, Mayor of Pink Hill; Mr. John Craft, Town Manager of LaGrange; Mr. Scott Stevens, City Manager; Mr. Wayland Humphrey, Lenoir County Planning; Ms. Sue Powell, County Manager's Office; Mr. Adrian King, Pride of Kinston; 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 March 19, 2008 were unanimously approved.

US 70 Corridor Commission

Mr. Lee reminded the Committee of the next US 70 Corridor Commission meeting which will be held on May 8, 2008 in Morehead City; still a lot of issues to be discussed.

Industrial Access

Mr. Hunter stated the access road would be paved next spring and completed by summer 08'. Friendly Grocery is concerned with traffic leaving the Alside Manufacturing Plant; the traffic cuts through Friendly Grocery's parking lot for entrance and exit to the plant. Mr. Hunter stated NCDOT has proposed placing a turning lane at the intersection in hopes of alleviating the problem.

NC 11 Thoroughfare

Mr. Rhodes stated he attended an RPO meeting where he requested the project be put into the RPO's budget. The request was received favorably by RPO Board members. Mr. Rickard stated at this time the RPO's budget has not been completed.

Bridge Replacement

Nothing new to report at this time.

Draft Resolution (Support NCDOT Strategic Highway Corridors Initiative)

Will place on next month's agenda for Committee discussion and approval.

Carey Road Extension

After a brief discussion of the projects' importance to Lenoir County, a sub-committee was formed, consisting of Mr. Parson, Mr. Robb, Mr. Stevens and Mr. Hunter. This committee will obtain more information on the progress of the project and what steps to take next to see the project completed.

Enterprise Boulevard Extension

Mr. Pope stated he is still in talks with the property owners adjacent to Enterprise Boulevard. The property owners did not agree with the proposed layout of the extension. The matter will be tabled until an agreement can be made.

Relocation of Rail Crossing at US 70 Industrial Park

Mr. Pope stated this project is in conjunction with the Enterprise Blvd. Extension, and has been tabled until an agreement can be made.

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

Mr. Rickard presented the Committee with maps and data concerning routes used by truck drivers to get in and out of Lenoir County. Trucks can only travel on truck routes or have truck designations through applications approved. The committee discussed briefly these applications and the effects of designating truck routes throughout Lenoir County.

New Business

Mr. Rhodes stated Woodington Middle School was discussed at the last Committee meeting. Mr. Humphrey stated the Lenoir County School Board would be addressing this issue in the future.

Adjourned at 9:30 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted by
Lashanda Aytch
Clerk to the Board