

**MINUTES
WINSTON-SALEM URBAN AREA
TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE (TAC)
NOVEMBER 19, 2003**

4:15 P.M.

WINSTON ROOM AT THE LAWRENCE JOEL COLISEUM

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Dan Besse, Council Member, City of Winston-Salem
Ed Brewer, Mayor, Village of Clemmons
Nancy Dunn, NC Board of Transportation
Mike Horn, Mayor, Town of Lewisville
Billy Joe Kepley, Commissioner, Davidson County
Willa Lash, Commissioner, Town of Bethania
Richard Linville, Commissioner, Forsyth County
Nelson Malloy, Council Member, City of Winston-Salem
Walter Marshall, Commissioner, Forsyth County
Chris Murphy, City-County Planning Board, TAC Secretary
Keith Snow, Councilman, Village of Tobaccoville
Tom Southern, Mayor, Town of Walkertown
Curtis Swisher, Mayor Pro Tem, Town of Kernersville
Ted Titsworth, Council Member, Town of Bermuda Run
Larry Williams, Mayor, Town of Rural Hall, TAC Chairman

PRESIDING: Larry Williams, Chairman

STAFF PRESENT: Chris Murphy, Greg Errett, Greg Turner, Stan Polanis

OTHERS PRESENT: Lakesha Dunbar (WSDOT), Bill Marley (FHA), Wendy Miller (WSDOT), Greg Venable (WSDOT), Pat Reagan (FCEAD), Van Sullivan (FCEAD), Pat Ivey (NCDOT), Brent McKinney (PART), Robin Dean

RECORDING SECRETARY: Shelly Stewart, City-County Planning Board

Action Items

1. Consideration of Minutes from the September 18, 2003 Meeting

MOTION: Billy Joe Kepley moved approval of the minutes.

SECOND: Tom Southern

VOTE:

FOR: Unanimous

AGAINST: None

2. Consideration of the 2004 TCC and TAC Schedule of Meetings, and Review of Calendar of Activities

Presented by Greg Errett

- Mr. Errett reviewed the 2004 TCC and TAC Schedule of Meetings, and Review of Calendar of Activities.
- In response to a query from Mr. Errett, no members expressed concern about the time frame or day of the week for the TAC meetings.
- Larry Williams asked if the Regional Forum for Strategic Corridors would be a conflict with the January 15th meeting.
- Greg Errett indicated that the Forum is scheduled from 9:30 to noon in Greensboro, so that should allow staff and TAC members time to attend the Forum and the TCC/TAC meetings.
- Greg Errett noted that a one on one meeting with NCDOT to discuss our Transportation Needs Report priorities is scheduled for March 4.
- Nancy Dunn indicated that the date is good, but the time may need to be adjusted slightly.

MOTION: Dan Besse moved approval of the Schedule of Meetings and the Calendar of Activities.

SECOND: Willa Lash

VOTE:

FOR: Unanimous

AGAINST: None

Information Items

3. Endorsement of Prioritized Funded, Partially Funded and Unfunded Street and Highway Projects in the 2004-2010 State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) for the 2003 Transportation Needs Report

Presented by Wendy Miller.

- The Endorsement of Prioritized Funded, Partially Funded and Unfunded Street and Highway Projects in the 2004-2010 State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) for the 2003 Transportation Needs Report will be brought to you in January 2004 for your consideration.

4. Review of the 2003 Transportation Needs Report Projects

Presented by Wendy Miller.

- Distributed list of highway projects submitted by the communities for the 2003 Transportation Needs Report.
- We're still working on the safety section. We'll have a full list to send to you before the January 2004 meeting, where you will consider the item.

- The Community Investment score was not in the last assessment, so a direct comparison between the two years cannot be made.
- Air quality scores have changed fairly significantly because the full spectrum of pollutants is being considered this year. Previously it was just the carbon monoxide that was considered.
- Bicycle and pedestrian projects will be ready for your review and consideration in January 2004.

5. Review of the Vehicle Occupancy Count (VOC) Study

Presented by Greg Venable.

- The rider-occupancy rate per vehicle dropped between the 1999 study and the 2003 study. A contributing reason may be the relatively low cost of petroleum products and the convenience of automobiles.
- Dan Besse: Do we have any reason to believe that the difference in months may have impacted the numbers?
- Greg Venable: The first study (1999) was done in June just before school let out. The 2003 study was done just after school started again. We did wait until school was in session, but don't feel that the different months would be a significant factor in the lower rider-occupancy rate.
- Willa Lash: Have you done a study on University Parkway?
- Greg Venable: That was not done in 1999 or 2003. I will check about previous years.

6. Review of the Prospectus for Transportation Planning

Presented by Greg Errett.

- Mr. Errett distributed copies of the draft Prospectus for Transportation Planning
- The Prospectus is the basis for our annual work program.
- The document reflects the changes necessary as a result of our new members which have joined our MPO.
- This item will be on the January 2004 agenda for your consideration.

7. Review of Proposed "SAFETEA" Federal Transportation Bill

Presented by Bill Marley, Transportation Planning, Federal Highway Administration, and coordinator for the Winston-Salem MPO

- Reviewed proposed provisions of SAFETEA (Safe Accountable Flexible and Efficient Transportation Equity Act) bill of 2003.
- Proposed to be a six-year, \$247B bill for highway safety and transit, more than doubling the money for safety from the previous bill.
- There is a web-site with further information. That address is www.fhwa.dot.gov
- As of the date of this meeting, the SAFETEA bill has not been adopted.

8. NCDOT Division 9 Report (Pat Ivey)

Presented by Pat Ivey.

- a. General Report
 - US 421/Bus. 40 between US 158 and Linville Road: The weather has set us back from June 2005 to late 2005 or spring/summer of 2006.
 - Section of Bus. 40 from MLK to US 158 is going much better. Anticipate all lanes open prior to Christmas since things are a little bit ahead of schedule. Phase two (continuing toward US 158) will probably begin in the spring. We still have a couple of years of one-lane traffic in this area of Bus. 40.
 - The Old Salem Roundabout on Main Street is finally going much better.
 - Lewisville-Clemmons Road is ahead of schedule. The completion date is June 2004. We've finished the majority of the work now. We will have some final surfacing and islands that will be installed in the spring, along with the pavement markings.
 - Relocation of US 311 north of Walkertown has been delayed by rain. The contractor is doing the paving on the new section of roadway and it should be completed by spring 2004.
 - There has been no change in the status of the Beltway. We anticipate public hearings on corridor selection for the eastern extension, probably next summer.
- b. Possible Lane Restrictions for Trucks on US 52
 - At our last meeting, someone asked that we consider restricting trucks on US 52. The statistics for US 52 indicate only about 3% of the 1,200 accidents on US 52 over the last three years involved trucks. By State law, we typically don't restrict trucks unless there are at least three lanes of traffic in each direction. We feel restricting trucks to one lane may actually increase the accident rate where trucks are involved. We see no real benefit to anyone by doing that, so we would not recommend doing so at this time.

9. Piedmont Authority for Regional Transportation (PART) Report

Presented by Brent McKinney

- The PART Board of Trustees met last week. They approved a resolution regarding a statewide initiative for legislative and funding support for enhanced and improved passenger rail service for the State of NC.
- In consideration of Park and Ride programs, we have focused on the folks in urban areas; however, folks in rural areas drive further, therefore running a higher risk of accidents and contributing to congestion and higher VMT's. As a result, the PART Board of Trustees approved going outside the urban core to review the possibility of park & ride services.
- Ridership continues to grow every month on the bus system.
- The High Point Depot will have a dedication at 10 on Friday, November 21.
- Dan Besse: What will this stage of the study be and what will the timetable be?

- Brent McKinney: We need to look at monorail. Although we considered it previously, we didn't do cost estimates or an in-depth study. We would consider additional roadway improvements, what positive impacts that would make on the area and how would it impact our ridership. We would also compare types of transportation, hold more public meetings, and then apply for a preliminary engineering grant.
- Walter Marshall: Could you provide bus service for the National Black Theatre Festival?
- Brent McKinney: Yes, we can do it if we run a fixed route. We are not allowed to vary from that route, but are allowed to run specific routes.

10. Forsyth County Environmental Affairs Air Quality Report

Presented by Pat Reagan

a. Review of Early Action Compact Ozone Reduction Strategies and Control Measures

- Hoy Boyhanon had a presentation to DAQ regarding the EAC and the modeling of projections out to 2007. Addressed how the NOX emissions from industry were looked at in 2007 and beyond. His contention is that the decrease of industries in Forsyth County would result in lower NOX emissions and therefore the projections were too high. While the presentation was accurate in predicting the NOX emission reduction from industries, both DAQ and our office felt that taking credit for those emissions reductions and projecting no growth for industry/industrial emissions over the next several years was not likely or smart. Forsyth County is still attempting to attract industry and we would rather err on the side of conservatism and not end up being designated as nonattainment.
- Dan Besse: The stakeholders group original intent was to take one round of comments in October and early November and make modifications, send out for second round of comments in December, after that begin circulating approval resolutions to local governments. However, the comments were so favorable in the first round, we have begun circulating the approval resolution now. We will submit the draft to EPA by the end of 2003 and get their feedback.
- The resolution is not asking each community to promise to implement each strategy. It is seeking approval for the overall strategy, with a commitment to reference those strategies as policy guidelines as each community makes decisions.
- Nancy Dunn encouraged everyone to look at the Strategic Corridors brochure and plan to attend one of the sessions.

b. Air Quality Report

- We had seven code orange and/or code red days which is down considerably from previous years. We definitely benefited from cooler temps and rains during the summer.

MOTION: Richard Linville moved that the meeting be adjourned.

SECOND: Tom Southern.

VOTE:

FOR: Unanimous

AGAINST: None

Meeting adjourned.