

**MINUTES**  
**WINSTON-SALEM URBAN AREA**  
**TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE (TAC)**  
**JULY 20, 2006**  
**4:15 P.M.**  
**FIFTH FLOOR, PUBLIC MEETING ROOM, CITY HALL SOUTH**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Dan Besse, Council Member, City of Winston-Salem  
Willa Lash, Mayor Pro Tempore, Town of Bethania  
Ed Brewer, Mayor, Village of Clemmons  
Larry Williams, Mayor, Town of Rural Hall  
Margaret Bessette, City-County Planning Board, TAC Secretary  
Jack Warren, Mayor, City of King  
Howard Futrell, Council Member, Town of Bermuda Run  
Allen Todd, Mayor, Town of Wallburg  
Evelyn Terry, Council Member, City of Winston-Salem  
Brenda Mabe, Alternate, Town of Walkertown  
Keith Snow, Mayor, Village of Tobaccoville  
Nancy Dunn, NCDOT Board  
Don Truell, Commissioner, Davidson County  
Tom Lawson, Alternate, Town of Lewisville

**PRESIDING:** Larry Williams, Chairman

**STAFF PRESENT:**

Stan Polanis, WSDOT  
Cary Gentry, FCEAD  
Greg Errett, WSDOT  
Wendy Miller, WSDOT  
Fredrick Haith, WSDOT  
Brett Abernathy, NCDOT  
Lynda Schwan, CCPB  
Russell Byrd, WS Engineering  
James Upchurch, NCDOT

**RECORDING SECRETARY:** Laura Whitaker, WSDOT

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

Judy Wallace, Safe Routes to School  
Jim Sparks, *Winston-Salem Journal*  
Robin Dean  
Sally Jones

## Action Items

### **1. Consideration of the May 18, 2006 Meeting Minutes**

MOTION: Ed Brewer moved for approval of the minutes.

SECOND: Jack Warren

VOTE:

FOR: Unanimous

AGAINST: None

## Information Items

### **2. Transportation Planning Staff Personnel Changes/Introductions**

Presented by Stan Polanis.

- Fredrick Haith was introduced as WSDOT's new civil engineer.
- Tim Walker was introduced as WSDOT's summer intern.
- Lakesha Dunbar has started a new position and Greg Venable has accepted a position with High Point.

### **3. Review of Proposed STP-DA Funded Projects for Fiscal Years 2007 and 2008 in the Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program (MTIP) for Intersection Improvements**

Presented by Greg Errett.

- The TAC amended the TIP to add some surface transportation program funds to the TIP to be used for intersection improvements.
- There is approximately \$2.4 million available over the next 6 years.
- Staff has planned to have a call for projects from all the municipalities and will then work with NDCOT to develop a plan.
- Please complete and submit requests to Lakesha Dunbar or Greg Errett by September 15, 2006.

### **4. Discussion of Possible Additional Modifications to Memorandum of Understanding for the MPO**

- a. Staff recommendation to reconvene TAC Task Force Report Regarding the TAC Voting Structure

Presented by Margaret Bessette.

- Additional changes to the MOU are required for compliance with the State open meetings law.
  - When MPO was expanded to include additional counties, a task force was organized to review voting system. At that time a weighted voting system was established.
  - As a suggestion, staff is recommending that the taskforce be reconvened to review possibilities for a voting system.
- b. Discussion of Options to Require Municipalities/Counties to Contribute to the Local Match for Transportation Planning (PL and Section 5303 Funds), and Supplemental Planning Projects (STP-DA Funds)

Presented by Margaret Bessette.

- Currently, there is a 50/50 split between Winston-Salem and Forsyth County for the required local match for projects.
- Issues of fairness have been raised with new counties being added to the MPO.
- There are a number of ways to fairly apportion the match, and staff has included some possibilities for the committee's review.

A discussion ensued regarding the various ways to apportion the match.

Margaret Bessette stated that she would review how other MPO's have handled this situation and report back to the committee.

Chair Williams asked if another member had replaced Fred Terry on the RPO.

Margaret Bessette stated that she would follow up to determine if a replacement was necessary.

## **5. 2007-2013 Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program (MTIP)/Air Quality Conformity Determination Update**

### **a. Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) Call for Projects**

Presented by Wendy Miller.

- The Draft TIP is scheduled to be released August 2, 2006.
- No public meetings scheduled yet.
- Air Quality Conformity is important.
- No new CMAC projects.

Nancy Dunn questioned the release date for the TIP.

## **6. Bicycle and Greenway Facilities Planning Report**

Presented by Lynda Schwan.

Bicycle Lane Striping:

- WSDOT hired Toole Design Group of College Park Maryland to complete striping plans for Hawthorne Road (between Miller Street and Glade Street) and Liberty Street (between Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive and Wachovia Street).

Bicycle Lanes:

- WSDOT is also studying the following streets to receive bicycle lanes: Salem Avenue from First Street to the roundabout; Third Street from Metropolitan to MLK; and Perimeter Point between Patterson Avenue and Liberty Street, and Cleveland Avenue from 14th Street to MLK. Some of the issues they are studying include verifying adequate widths and on-street parking considerations.

Brushy Fork Greenway:

- Recreation and Parks intends for the Railroad R-O-W description to be to Real Estate by the end of this week at which point the request for easement will need to be delivered to the Southern Railroad office in Virginia.

#### Little Creek Greenway:

- Four property owner meetings need to take place. Recreation and Parks staff will arrange for those and may include Real Estate in those meetings.

#### Muddy Creek Greenway:

- Phase I (Meadowlark): Paving is complete on Phase I. As soon as it is dry enough, shoulder work will get started. Recreation and Parks is coordinating money for paving the parking lot and driveway; at which point Phase I will be officially open to the public.
- Phase II (to Robinhood): Construction plans are complete for this phase. Recreation and Parks will be taking the Wheeler property to City Council for approval to purchase property. Municipal Agreement is complete for this phase.
- Phase III (to Philips Bridge): STPDA for FY 06/07 is \$242,000; 20% local match still needed. This phase will include some R-O-W acquisition. We also need construction plans completed.

#### Salem Creek-Southeast Gateway:

- Bridge design was given to Lappas and Havener. It will be a wood bridge that will span 140 feet (strollway bridge). The second bridge at Salem College (Central Park) will be steel.
- The PARTF for the Strollway has been divided between two projects: \$60,000 will remain at the Strollway for completion of the section along Salem Avenue between Main and Marshall Streets. The remainder of PARTF has been moved to the Waughtown Connector.
- We are still in negotiations with the Catlett property (between old Waughtown Bridge and new Main Street bridge on north side of Salem Creek).

#### Waughtown Connector:

- Rock study is complete.
- Design is being outsourced to Civil Designs PA. There will need to be two bridges to span creeks.
- Currently we are awaiting timelines for construction from Civil Designs PA then we will be able to go out for bid for construction.
- Construction conceivably could start as early as October 2006 but will need to be completed by July 2007 to comply with PARTF.

#### Piedmont Regional Greenway:

- Recreation and Parks have laid out the preferred route. One property owner will need to be contacted for easement.
- NCDOT has placed the feasibility study on-hold until the City of Winston-Salem has completed the hydrology study of the culverts under Business 40. Recreation and Parks is working on a contract for that study.

#### Salem Creek Greenway Extension:

- The City of Winston-Salem is working with NCDOT to complete a feasibility study for an extension of the Salem Creek Greenway to Forsyth Tech. NCDOT has been to Winston Salem twice to look at the site, review the bridges and analyze the intersections.

#### Shallowford Park-Warren Park Greenway Connector:

- This greenway is located in the town of Lewisville.
- A proposed route has been mapped but we are still reviewing options. They are approaching property owners for easements.
- There is still plenty of work to do before we are ready for construction of this greenway.

A discussion ensued regarding the timeframe for Phase II of Muddy Creek.

#### **7. Update on the Draft Amendments to the Thoroughfare Plan Map and Technical Report**

Presented by Greg Errett.

- Staff is working with Kernersville and High Point on regional road connection.
- Staff is working with consultant on study of corridors and waiting for Heart of Triad (HOT) meeting information.
- Will keep posted as new information develops.

#### **8. Sidewalk and Pedestrian Facilities Planning Report**

##### a. Update of the Sidewalk and Pedestrian Facilities Plan

Presented by Lynda Schwan.

- Working with Judy Wallace on this project.
- Reviewing comments received at public meetings.
- 120 attended public meetings.
- Most requests were regarding specific sidewalks, not specific to the actual plan.
- Kernersville sidewalk plans need further review, will be requesting that the funds be reassigned.

##### b. Safe Routes to Schools Program

Presented by Judy Wallace.

- The objectives of the National Safe Routes to School Program include fighting obesity and diabetes by making it possible for more children to walk or ride their bikes to school, to work with local government, schools, parents and interested community people to make routes safer and to develop a plan for each school that includes engineering, education, enforcement and encouragement strategies for improving biking and walking conditions around schools.
- The program structure is usually a one-day course but can be adapted to each situation.
- Generally taught by two nationally certified instructors, who present information and serve as facilitators.
- A local person is asked to serve as coordinator to pull together appropriate representatives of each interest group, to make logistical arrangements for the course and to issue the invitation.

- Begins with a group session where information is presented on basics of the 4 E's (education, engineering, encouragement and enforcement) with examples from around the country through a PowerPoint presentation.
- Second part of the program takes smaller groups on a site visit to examine routes around the school during arrival or departure to identify what is currently happening and how it might be improved.
- Small groups return to the meeting room to discuss their ideas and possible strategies, then present them to the large group.
- Desired outcomes are for a clear plan of action for the group that they begin to work on immediately after the course, follow-up by the coordinator who holds people accountable for promises made, an increase in the number of students biking and walking to school, if students are driven an increase in carpools and a reduction in traffic congestion and air pollution around schools.

Judy Wallace responded to Dan Besse stating that the workshop would be held sometime in September but would confirm a specific date. Ms. Wallace further stated that government or non-profit agencies could apply for funds.

## **9. NCDOT Division 9 Report**

Presented by Brett Abernathy.

- US 421 Business 40 from US 158 to Linville Road – project is complete.
- Hanes Mall Bridge Construction and Roadway Widening – construction started on November 2, 2005. Contractor has completed the culvert extension and the sewer line relocation. Project is 7% ahead of schedule. Completion date is November 1, 2007.
- Old Yadkinville Road Bridge Replacement – traffic was shifted to the final traffic pattern on Monday, July 10, 2006. The contractor is in the process of removing the detour structure. The completion date is 495 days from the start of construction, which makes the completion date September 22, 2006.
- Sedge Garden Road – Construction began on March 6, 2006. The road is closed to thru traffic and an off-site detour is being utilized. The contractor has 180 days to complete the project. This makes the completion date September 1, 2006. Goal is to have the project open to traffic by August 21, 2006. Project is currently on schedule.
- Harper Road Interchange at I-40 – Project began on June 26, 2006. Clearing is near completion, and grading and bridge work will begin once clearing is finished. Completion date is July 1, 2008.

## **10. Forsyth County Environmental Affairs Department Air Quality Report**

Presented by Cary Gentry.

- DAQ provided comments to EPA on the new PM 2.5 standards.
- DAQ recommended that EPA follow the recommendations provided by their own scientific advisory board (CASAC) that reviewed the standard.
- The final attainment demonstration modeling for the Triad PM 2.5 non-attainment areas is ongoing. DAQ expects to share the results in October and will open to public comment in January.
- EAC have met their milestones to date. Based on current data, attainment looks favorable by December 21, 2007, when the EAC expires.
- As of July 19, there have been 6 Ozone code orange days and 2 PM 2.5 code orange days.
- Air awareness in partnership with PART is advertising on billboards the advantages of alternative transportation.

A discussion ensued on working with the Winston-Salem Journal for better public awareness.

**11. Piedmont Authority for Regional Transportation**

No staff member was available to present the report.

**12. Review of Calendar of Activities**

Presented by Greg Errett.

- Next meeting will be held on September 21, 2006.

**13. Other Business/Next Meeting**

- Fredrick Haith discussed and distributed the transportation survey that WSDOT will be conducting regarding transportation needs in urban areas.

Adjournment 5:27 pm