

# Transportation Advisory Committee

## Minutes of Regular Meeting

June 23, 2015, 6:00 pm  
Dunlap Classroom  
80 East St, Pittsboro



### Voting Members Present

Dennis Geiser  
Matt Alexander  
Scott Evenson  
Ed Regan  
Phil Bors  
Keith Gerarden

### Non-Voting Members Present

Diana Hales, Ch. Co. BoC  
Anna Testerman, Chatham  
Transit

### Others Present

Brendan Merithew, NCDOT  
Darius Sturdivant, NCDOT  
Matt Day, TARPO  
Curt Devereux, Triangle Rails to  
Trails

- 1 1. Purpose and Agenda for today's meeting
- 2 Ed Regan welcomed attendees. A quorum was reached.
- 3 2. Public Comment
- 4 No one from the general public provided comment.

### 5 Action Items

- 6 3. Approval of Minutes from April 28<sup>th</sup> Meeting
- 7 Matt Alexander moved to approve minutes, Phil Bors seconded the motion. Minutes were
- 8 approved unanimously with no changes.

### 9 Information & Discussion

- 10 4. Chatham's CTP- Brendan Merithew
- 11 Brendan is finalizing the problem statements and is just about ready to start scheduling public input
- 12 meetings. They are likely to be held in September. Meetings are still planned for three locations:
- 13 Moncure, Pittsboro, and Siler City.
- 14 If significant public input is received, issues raised will be addressed before moving forward.
- 15 Otherwise, the affected boards have all seen the draft CTP. Next step would be to present the
- 16 finalized plan to those boards for approval/adoption.
- 17 Matt Alexander asked if the draft report can be posted somewhere for public review prior to the
- 18 input meetings. Matt Day offered to post the draft report on the TARPO or county website since the
- 19 DOT website can only show the draft maps and not the full report.
- 20 5. Additional Agenda Item- Curt Devereux of Triangle Rails to Trails presented to the TAC
- 21 regarding the O'Kelly Chapel Road American Tobacco Trail crossing. A 9-day traffic study

22 was performed on this spot and showed significant traffic load. 35 MPH warning signs have  
23 been installed, but they're not legally enforceable. Rails to Trails suggests installing solar-  
24 powered flashing amber lights in this location and asks for the TAC's support. Phil pointed  
25 out that this approach has identified a potential solution but might need to look at the  
26 problem more fully to determine whether other solutions may be more appropriate.  
27 Brendan offered to check with the DOT's ped/bike group to see what the best practice for  
28 this sort of intersection would be. Depending on the scope of the solution settled upon, it  
29 might be feasible for the county to fund it, or it might be bigger and need to go through the  
30 MPO process. Darius and Matt Day suggested that Mr. Devereux contact Rob Stone,  
31 NCDOT Div. 8 engineer, to discuss potential solutions. Once the appropriate treatment is  
32 determined, Mr. Devereux and Rails to Trails may return to the TAC to ask for support in  
33 moving forward.

34 6. Updates from County Staff- Hillary Pace

35 a. Hillary informed the committee that Ed Regan and Matt Alexander presented to the Board of  
36 Commissioners at their June meeting and were well-received.

37 b. TAC appointments- Erik Broo, Matt Barnes, Tammy Phillips, Phil Bors, and one other committee  
38 member have resigned; five new people have applied and are expected to begin service on the  
39 committee in the coming months.

40 c. Chatham Transit PX route- Anna Testerman presented to the committee. Chatham Transit will  
41 take over the full route schedule for the PX route starting on 7/1/15. A new bus has been ordered  
42 to serve this route. Slight service tweaks may occur, but service will continue. Growth is expected  
43 depending on route utilization. About 40 people are currently riding, but ridership will change when  
44 school begins in the fall. UNC employment and school programs likely will draw additional riders.  
45 The new bus for this route will accommodate bikes.

46 d. Legislative Update- Matt Day presented to the committee. The HB44 bill, which includes a clause  
47 related to road diets, has recently resurfaced in worse form. It would prevent road diets on roads  
48 carrying certain designations and traffic loads. Matt recommends that individuals contact their  
49 representatives and perhaps work with other advocacy groups. Keith proposed a motion to express  
50 the TAC's concern to the Board of Commissioners, allowing them to decide whether to object to it.  
51 Phil seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved. The committee's secretary will draft a  
52 memo to be passed to the Board of Commissioners.

53 e. SPOT 4.0- Hillary Pace explained that the SPOT 4.0 process is beginning. This time, TARPO must  
54 clear all existing projects from past SPOT processes and start over. Considerable discussion ensued  
55 regarding the list to submit to TARPO in order for them to prioritize projects, provide the list back to  
56 committees for approval, and then go to final TARPO approval in October. Discussion resulted in  
57 choosing to rank only the county-only projects, leaving municipality ones for the municipalities to  
58 submit separately. After discussion, Dennis proposed a motion that the TAC rank the county  
59 projects in order of priority. Scott seconded the motion, which was then unanimously approved.  
60 Projects are: 1. Widening and bike lanes on Hamlets Chapel and Jones Ferry; NC 87 widening to  
61 provide 12-foot lanes and 4-foot shoulders; Old Graham minor widening from NC 87 to Chicken  
62 Bridge; 4. NC 751 multi-lane widening plus bike lanes; 5. Upgrade Pittsboro-Moncure Rd. Matt Day  
63 suggested updating the wording of project #5 to be more precise.

- 64 7. TAC Strategic Plan Discussion  
65 Phil Bors, Ed Regan, Matt Alexander, and Jennifer Park are working as a task force/temporary  
66 subcommittee to revise the TAC's strategic plan. Meetings will be announced ahead of time per  
67 county committee policy.
- 68 8. Bike/Ped Items  
69 The MPO has our two Chatham County MPO area bike projects on their list, and engineering of  
70 those projects begins this year. Those are Manns Chapel from 501 to Poythress and Mt. Carmel  
71 Church from near Governor's Club to the Orange Co. line.
- 72 9. Announcements and New Business  
73 Hillary informed the TAC that the RFP for the Chatham County Comprehensive Plan is going out and  
74 its budget has been approved.
- 75 10. Adjourn  
76 The meeting adjourned at 7:40 PM.
- 77 Next meeting: August 25<sup>th</sup>, 2015 at 6:00 pm in the Dunlap Classroom (across the parking lot  
78 from the Agricultural Building Auditorium) in Pittsboro