

Transportation Advisory Committee

Minutes of Regular Meeting

August 26, 2014, 6:00 pm
Dunlap Classroom
80 East St, Pittsboro



Voting Members Present

Erik Broo
Keith Gerarden
Scott Evenson
Matt Alexander
Matt Barnes
Tammy Phillips
Ed Regan
Phil Bors
Susie Moist

Non-Voting Members Present

Larry Cheek (Siler City)
Michael Fiocco (Pittsboro)

Others Present

Dan Stroupe- Chatham Transit
Brendan Merithew- NCDOT
Jason Sullivan, Chatham Co.
Jim Elza, Board of Comm.

- 1 1. Purpose and Agenda for today's meeting
2 Matt Alexander 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 June 10th, 2014 Regular Meeting
7 Ed Regan moved to approve the minutes as presented. The motion was seconded and unanimously
8 approved.

9 Information & Discussion

- 10 4. Welcome of New TAC Members
11 New members Susie Moist and Matt Barnes were welcomed to the committee.

- 12 5. Chatham Transit Overview- Dan Stroupe
13 Dan Stroupe gave the committee an overview of the history of and services offered by Chatham
14 Transit (a handout with additional details was provided to committee members). Chatham Transit
15 provides a subscription transportation service available to county agencies, a medical transportation
16 service, two fixed-route public transportation routes, and county-wide curb-to-curb service to the
17 general public. Some services are fixed-rate, some are on a sliding scale. Committee members
18 asked a number of questions of Mr. Stroupe to learn more about Chatham Transit's offerings.

- 19 6. Chatham's CTP Update- Brendan Merithew, NCDOT
20 Brendan explained to the committee that the maps and report are complete but the plan is awaiting
21 internal review in the DOT. After the internal review is completed, public input meetings can be
22 held and finally the plan can be presented to the Board of Commissioners for approval. The
23 Pittsboro section of the map is now added in and can be reviewed later since it is already an
24 adopted plan. This inclusion may result in additional attention at public input meetings but it will
25 help streamline and move things along for Chatham Park development and the CTP.
- 26 Matt Alexander asked a question about strategic highway corridor plans: should 15-501 be
27 upgraded from a boulevard to an expressway to comply with SHC initiative? Brendan and Jason
28 Sullivan said that adding 15-501 to the SHC list is under consideration.
- 29 7. SPOT 3.0 Update- Jason Sullivan, Chatham County Planning Department
30 Several bike projects were not initially scored in the SPOT 3.0 process; a request was submitted for
31 them to be scored. Upon scoring, two projects in Chatham County did well: Mann's Chapel Rd. and
32 Mt. Carmel Church Rd. The Board of Commissioners agreed to submit a letter of support for the
33 project, promising the required 20% funding match. These projects still have to go through another
34 layer of assessment, so they may not happen soon or even at all, but they are better off being on
35 the list now than they were due to initially not being ranked.
- 36 8. TAC Strategic Plan Update- Hillary Pace
37 Hillary is out, so this agenda item will be moved to the next regular committee meeting.
- 38 9. Chatham Resurfacing List- Hillary Pace
39 Hillary is out, so this agenda item will be moved to the next regular committee meeting.
- 40 10. Updates from Staff and/or the Executive Committee
41 15-501 corridor study update- Jason Sullivan reviewed with the committee that this study has been
42 in progress for about a year and is a bit overdue. The company performing the study has released a
43 draft report considering several possible treatments for 15-501 roughly from Chapel Hill to
44 Pittsboro. These include signalization changes, intersection improvements, and even adding
45 additional lanes from Mann's Chapel Rd. to the 15-501/54 bypass around Chapel Hill. Committee
46 members discussed several areas of concern, notably the James Taylor Bridge and whether it could
47 handle the additional traffic flow in its current configuration. The comment period for this study
48 runs through Friday, August 29th.
- 49 11. Announcements and New Business
50 Keith brought up a safety concern regarding the area on and surrounding the James Taylor Bridge.
51 While recognizing that it is outside Chatham County's boundaries, the paint demarcating lanes in
52 that area is largely worn away and it is difficult to discern proper lane position in low-light or
53 inclement conditions. Brendan said that he would be meeting with a group in the DOT to which he
54 could mention this concern.
- 55 10. Adjourn
56 The meeting adjourned at 7:30 PM.

57 Next meeting: October 28th, 2014 at 6:00 pm in the Dunlap Classroom (across the parking lot
58 from the Agricultural Building Auditorium) in Pittsboro