

# Transportation Advisory Committee

## Minutes of Regular Meeting

January 22, 2013, 5:30pm  
Dunlap Classroom  
80 East St, Pittsboro



### Voting Members Present

Matt Alexander  
Tammy Phillips  
Keith Gerarden  
Dennis Geiser  
Dale Chodorow  
Phil Bors  
Scott Evenson  
Chuck Gillis

### Non-Voting Members Present

Michael Fiocco, Pittsboro

### Others Present

Brendan Merithew, NCDOT  
Matt Day, TARPO  
Hilary Pace, Chatham Co.  
Jason Sullivan, Chatham Co.  
Darius Sturdivant, NCDOT Div. 8  
Scott Walston, NCDOT  
Dan Stroupe, CTN

- 1 1. Purpose and Agenda for today's meeting  
2 Mr. Bors called the meeting to order. A voting 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 October 23, 2012 and December 4, 2012 regular meetings  
7 Minutes from both meetings were approved with no edits.

### 8 Information & Discussion

- 9 4. Chatham's Comprehensive Transit Plan, Brendan Merithew (NCDOT)  
10 Mr. Merithew updated the group on progress between the December meeting and now. There was  
11 discussion of Siler City's options for bypassing 64- a boulevard would work as a current  
12 recommendation. 64 bypass in Siler City is potentially recommended to stay close in to make it a  
13 more attractive alternative for local traffic, lessening congestion through town. There is some  
14 question about the spacing of intersections along the proposed bypass. Building the bypass would  
15 allow leaving the existing 64 through SC as it is now rather than upgrading it to handle more traffic.  
16  
17 However, simply adding a median to existing 64 would take care of currently-forecast traffic  
18 deficiency so that the bypass would not be needed in the span of the current CTP. This would make  
19 existing 64 a boulevard, making it more pedestrian- and bike-friendly, and when the bypass is  
20 eventually built through traffic will naturally route onto the bypass, leaving only local traffic using  
21 currently-existing 64. 64 bypass will be included in CTP due to strategic highway corridor guidelines,

22 but based on current and projected traffic volume, it will not be needed until farther into the future  
23 than the current CTP plan projects.

24

25 The group looked at and discussed the Siler City pedestrian and bike maps. Recommendations from  
26 public input at Siler meetings focused on new sidewalks for school access for both pedestrian and  
27 bike access as well as requests for connections to the community college for bikes.

28

29 The group looked at the public transport/rail map including suggestions from the public, Chatham  
30 Transit Network, and existing fixed routes in the county. This map is different from the others we  
31 looked at since it is a map of services rather than infrastructure. The point was made that this map  
32 shows the routes but not individual stops along those routes due to scale and complexity.

33

34 Discussion of recommendations for freeway routes like 64 through the county. Where would we  
35 want to recommend placing interchanges versus non-access-granting grade separations, etc.? 64  
36 doesn't look like it will have to transition fully to a freeway in the 30-year CTP, but we need to plan it  
37 all out regardless. There was considerable discussion of how many intersections/interchanges  
38 should be made on 64- we are deciding a policy of how the road is oriented: more interchanges  
39 allow easier access for local residents, whereas fewer are better for high-speed and longer-distance  
40 travel like commuters going to Raleigh, Cary, etc.

41 The group marked off 751 and Mt. Gilead Church for interchanges, and Farrington, Big Woods, and  
42 other roads on the east side of Pittsboro for grade separations, with a suggestion of allowing bike  
43 access from Big Woods Rd. onto 64 for the purpose of crossing the lake on the propose multi-use  
44 path paralleling 64 in that stretch. There was also some discussion of where to recommend  
45 interchanges between Pittsboro and Siler City; NCDOT will work to identify these recommendations  
46 further at a later date.

47 The group also identified possible interchange locations along 421 south of Pittsboro.

48 The DOT intends to study 15-501 in the coming years; if results of that study show needed changes,  
49 they can be added to the CTP.

50 The group looked at the Pittsboro bike map, and a question was raised about the Town Lake Park  
51 area having both multi-use path and road improvement recommendations to accommodate bikes.  
52 Asked DOT representatives whether we should eliminate one or the other. Sounds like multi-use  
53 path is less likely to be built, so leaving road improvement recommendation intact for now is a  
54 better idea. Additionally, the multi-use path can be seen as a pedestrian improvement where the  
55 road improvements are aimed at bikes.

56 Next steps in CTP process: DOT will work with TAC to create narrative to accompany the CTP report.  
57 Once that's complete, it will be shown to elected officials; if approved for public presentation, it will  
58 then be presented to the public for input. TAC should think about how we'll present the plan to the  
59 public when we reach that stage.

## 60 5. Update from Bicycle and Pedestrian subcommittee

61 At its meeting prior to the TAC meeting, the subcommittee looked at the bike and ped maps and  
62 discussed further the project of updating the county bike map to include the original official county  
63 bike routes as well as adding a layer of recommended shorter loop routes within the county. Matt

- 64 Alexander suggested combining the online version of the bike map with the detailed Chatham  
65 County GIS data available from the Chatham Preservation Partnership group.
- 66 6. Updates from Staff and/or the Executive Committee  
67 Hilary Pace is the new Chatham County planner who will support the TAC.
- 68 7. Announcements and New Business  
69 Matt Alexander noted that the DOT and other individuals who presented at the Chatham  
70 Preservation Partnership meeting did a great job.
- 71 Darius Sturdivant explained that the DOT sees a need for the divisions to have planning engineers on  
72 the ground to plan long-range views in a local setting rather than having all planning come from  
73 state headquarters in Raleigh.
- 74 8. Adopt 2013 meeting calendar  
75 Proposed meeting calendar was adopted with the change of May 28 meeting to May 21, and moving  
76 all meetings to 6:00 from 5:30.
- 77 9. Appoint officers for 2013  
78 Officers were elected for 2013 as follows; each was nominated, seconded, and voted in  
79 unanimously:  
80 Chair: Scott Evenson  
81 Vice-chair: Tammy Phillips  
82 Secretary: Keith Gerarden
- 83 \* Dan Stroupe, new director of Chatham Transit Network, introduced himself to the group after arriving  
84 late to the meeting.
- 85 10. Adjourn  
86 The meeting adjourned at 7:00 PM.
- 87 Next meeting: Feb. 26, 2013 at 5:30pm in the Dunlap Classroom in Pittsboro