

MINUTES
Henderson County
TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Thursday, March 27, 2008

The Henderson County Transportation Advisory Committee met on Thursday, March 27, 2008 at 3:00 pm in the Henderson County King Street Building at 100 North King Street.

TAC members in attendance were Chair Jim Crafton, Fletcher representative Eddie Henderson, Terry Hicks, Public Schools representative David Jones, Vice-Chair Renee Kumor, Commissioner Chuck McGrady, Laurel Park representative Keith Maddox, Flat Rock representative Dennis Johnston, Mills River Mayor Roger Snyder and Hendersonville City Council member Barbara Volk. Commissioner Bill Moyer was absent.

REVIEW OF REVISED BYLAWS AND CHARTER:

Chair Crafton reminded the TAC that the Henderson County Board of Commissioners had revised the TAC charter and bylaws recently. The TAC reviewed those revisions and had discussion regarding the TAC's goals and objectives.

The **TAC's purpose** is to advise the Board of Commissioners and the members of the French Broad River MPO on matters related to transportation within Henderson County and to promote intergovernmental cooperation on transportation issues. Chair Crafton informed the TAC there are seven representatives on the MPO TAC from Henderson County and the municipalities and a total of eighteen entities represented on the MPO. Henderson County's seven votes have a significant block vote on the MPO. Chair Crafton reminded the TAC of the importance of working together as a cooperative team in sending items to the MPO and NCDOT for consideration.

How will the future tasks of the committee be determined? The TAC will be working with the MPO on the comprehensive transportation plan, long-range plan and the T.I.P. Other duties of the TAC would be recommending transportation enhancements on safety projects and provide public input on the public transit system. The TAC must abide by the Open Meetings Laws; thereby all TAC meetings are open to the public. The TAC will provide periodic reports to the Board of Commissioners and the LGCCA.

What is the makeup of the committee? The TAC is made up of five representatives of the municipalities, one each for each municipality and preferably an elected representative and if possible that representative from that municipality who also sits on the MPO TAC. The charter provides that when a TAC member cannot attend a TAC meeting, a staff person representing the municipality could attend and be an active participant with voting privileges. In addition to the five municipality representatives, there are two representatives from the county, Chuck McGrady and Bill Moyer, and four members at large, David Jones, Terry Hicks, Renee Kumor and Jim Crafton.

Goals: Chair Crafton invited the TAC members to share their ideas on kinds of issues to bring to the TAC, kinds of resources to draw on, stakeholders, etc. Hope Bleecker listed the information on a chart and the Planning staff will develop a work plan for the TAC.

- The TAC wanted to know more about the different types NCDOT funds and how to utilize them to get projects completed whether it is to fix a pot hole or get a five-lane roadway, etc.

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- Identified stakeholders:
 - Sheriff's Department
 - Chamber of Commerce
 - Partners for Economic Progress
 - Partnership for Economic Development
 - WCCA-Public transportation
 - Vocational Solutions
 - Public School Systems
 - Fire Departments
 - City/Town police departments
 - EMS
 - Emergency Management
 - LGCCA

These organizations will be given the TAC meeting schedule and invited to bring any transportation related issues they may have to the TAC for help in getting them resolved.

- Review the Comprehensive Transportation Plan and the T.I.P. process.

Meeting schedules: The TAC discussed a meeting schedule that would also synchronize with the meeting schedules of the MPO TAC and the TCC so the information from the MPO meetings could be shared at the TAC meetings. Hope Bleecker distributed a chart she had prepared showing that synchronization of the meetings. A motion was made: "I move that we adopt this in the yellow with the change of September 11th. The motion received a second. All voted in favor and the motion carried. The TAC adopted the meeting schedule accordingly.

CHUCK MCGRADY UPDATE ON NCDOT REFORMATION

Commissioner Chuck McGrady informed the TAC he had been appointed by the governor to the State's 21st century transportation committee. The committee has 24 members, has been meeting since November 2007 and its mission is to provide some interim recommendations to the general assembly and the upcoming general assembly session but then to do something far more comprehensive for the new governor and the new general assembly next year. There are four members on that committee from Western North Carolina with Commissioner McGrady and Asheville Mayor Terry Bellamy being from the most far western part of the state. He informed the TAC that during the last session of the general assembly the law was changed to allow counties to have responsibility for roads. NCDOT has a huge funding backlog of \$67 billion and deemed this as a way to lighten that backlog. Many of the legislators' views are that property taxes aren't high enough and this is a way to get counties to put property taxes where they need to be by giving them responsibility and control of roads. Also the restructuring of NCDOT is being considered. Mr. McGrady will keep the TAC updated on the 21st Century Transportation Committees activities.

The next TAC meeting will be held May 22nd. The meeting was adjourned at 4:30 pm.

Jim Crafton, Chairman