

MINUTES
Henderson County
TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE
October 25, 2007

The Henderson County Transportation Advisory Committee met on Thursday, October 25, 2007 at 3:00 pm in the Commissioners' Meeting Room of the County Office Building.

TAC members in attendance were Jaime Adrignola, Steve Carter, Chair Jim Crafton, Bill Crisp, Chip Gould, Eddie Henderson, David Jones, Dennis Johnston, Lee King, Vice-Chair Renee Kumor, Jon Laughter, Keith Maddox, Hunter Marks, Matt Matteson and Tedd Pearce. Also in attendance were Transportation Planner Hope Bleecker, Planning Director Anthony Starr, Western Carolina Community Action Executive Director David White, NCDOT Assistant District Engineer Josh Lanning, and Larry Rogers.

CALL TO ORDER and APPROVAL of MINUTES

Chair Jim Crafton called to meeting to order and welcomed all in attendance. A motion was made, seconded and passed unanimously to accept the agenda as presented.

Chair Crafton presented the draft minutes of the August 23, 2007 meeting and the continuation of that meeting on September 5, 2007. A motion was made, seconded and carried unanimously to approve the minutes with direction to delete Keith Maddox from the members present on the 9-5-07 minutes.

UPDATE ON COMPREHENSIVE TRANSPORTATION PLAN

Hope Bleecker, Transportation Planner, informed the TAC that the changes on the CTP were presented to the TCC of the MPO TCC recently. The list of CTP projects as agreed upon by the TAC at its meeting on 09-05-07 is attached. (Attachment A). Some minor changes were made to that list at the MPO TCC meeting on 10-17-07. The MPO TAC will consider the list at its meeting on November 15th. Ms. Bleecker will provide to the TAC a copy of the list that is approved by the MPO TAC.

TRAFFIC IMPACT STUDY REQUIREMENTS IN NEW LAND DEVELOPMENT CODE

Ms. Bleecker briefly discussed the guidelines of the Traffic Impact Study Requirements of Article IV in the Adequate Public Facilities Regulations of the Land Development Code. The TIS evaluates the effect a proposed development will have on the County's existing traffic system and may require specific improvements by the developer to mitigate to that impact. (Attachment B).

APPLE COUNTRY TRANSPORTATION BLUE ROUTE FUNDING ISSUES

Ms. Bleecker informed the TAC the County had been notified by NCDOT Public Transportation Division that Henderson County is losing its federal grant funding at year end 2007 for the blue route that provides intercity public transportation service along US 25 from Hendersonville to Fletcher and Asheville Regional Airport. The blue route averages about 1900 passengers a year. Staff informed the Commissioners at their meeting on October 17, 2007 about that loss of revenue. The Commissioners directed staff to look for other funding sources and or talk with the City of Hendersonville and the Town of Fletcher to see if there were any additional dollars available to fund that route. Ms. Bleecker informed the TAC the Commissioners did not appear to favor providing additional County funds to sustain the blue route and it would be discontinued unless other funding sources could be obtained. When member inquired if the current fare of 75 cents one way per trip could be increased to offset some of the loss of revenue, Ms. Bleecker responded that a fare increase usually required some type of service improvement or enhancement and or increased ridership. The Commissioners gave staff direction to come back with a recommendation at its November meeting after they have met with Hendersonville and Fletcher. A public hearing would be required to increase the fare or to eliminate the route. (ATTACHMENT C).

ADJOURNMENT

The next meeting of the TAC is December 13th which is the 2nd Thursday to accommodate the Christmas holidays. Chair Crafton adjourned the meeting at 4:22 pm.

APPROVED BY:

ATTEST:

JIM CRAFTON, CHAIR

AVALINA B. MERRILL, SECRETARY