

Henderson County
TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE
May 4, 2011

The Transportation Advisory Committee met on May 4, 2011 at 4:00 p.m. in the King Street Meeting Room at 100 North King Street, Hendersonville. Members present were Chairman Jim Crafton; Sue Anderson, City of Hendersonville; Eddie Henderson, Town of Fletcher; Robert Vickery, Town of Laurel Park; Renee Kumor, at-large; Keith Maddox, at-large; Don Farr, Village of Flat Rock; Josh Lanning, NCDOT; Paul Black, MPO; and Commissioner Bill O'Connor. Henderson County Staff members included Anthony Starr, Planning Director; Hope Bleecker, Transportation Planner; and Kathleen Scanlan, Secretary.

Approval of Minutes:

Ms. Kumor called the meeting to order and asked for the approval of the minutes for March 2, 2011. Eddie Henderson made a motion to approve the minutes as noted. Don Farr seconded the motion and all members voted in favor.

NCDOT Update:

Josh Lanning reviewed the following:

- Upward Road** – Construction is in process. A temporary bridge is being built over I-26 and one at South Allen Road.
- US 64** – To be completed August, 2011
- US 25** – Ahead of schedule. To be completed July, 2011
- Howard Gap Road** – 1st Phase from Fletcher to Brookside Camp Road, let contract for December, 2011. 2nd Phase from Brookside Camp Road to US 64 will be let, December, 2012
- Crail Farm Bridge** – Completed
- Stoney Mtn. Road** – Under construction. Graded and stoned by mid-June, 2011. Pavement in new fiscal year.

Staff Reports:

Priority Needs List. Ms. Bleecker reviewed the French Broad River MPO priority needs list which will be looked at during the next few TAC and TCC meetings. She said the priority needs list forms the basis of the improvement plan and in essence NCDOT's budget. She described the priority needs list as our mechanism as a local government for communicating at the MPO level to NCDOT that these are the County's priorities and that we would like to have these priorities make it into the TIP list. Mr. Starr introduced Paul Black, MPO coordinator for our region, working with Land of Sky Regional Council. Mr. Black explained his position and reviewed the projects on the SPOT list and said if the Committee wants to consider any additional projects on the draft list, they will be considered as well as the projects already on the list.

She reviewed the draft list of Henderson County Projects for long-range transportation plan and asked the Committee if any projects that do not appear highlighted (the highlighted items were the top 5 chosen by the Committee previously) need to be considered for placement on the top 25 priority needs list. After some discussion on the process, it was decided among Committee members that the following be considered to add to the priority needs list:

- # 6 – Brickyard Road, from US 64 to NC 280
- # 9 – Blythe Street, from NC 191 to US 64

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8 – White Street, from US 176 to Kanuga Road

13 – Rutledge Drive (segment in Flat Rock), from NC 225 to Erkwood Drive

15 – Butler Bridge Road, from US 25 to NC 280

Bill O'Connor made a motion to approve the above additions to be considered by the SPOT ranking system on the needs priority list. Sue Anderson seconded the motion and all members voted in favor. It was also considered as a back-up or an alternate, adding # 10, State Street, from Hebron to Kanuga Road, in case one of the five that was added is dropped from the list.

Transit Update. Ms. Hope informed the members of the proposed Apple Country fare schedule. She said that this proposal will be presented to the Board of Commissioners on June 6, 2011. There will be a discussion at that time on a proposed fare increase for the bus system and also a potential service cut. She stated that as a Federal requirement, the County has to re-bid on a yearly basis our contract with the bus system. She said for a number of years, it has been WCCA and through a bidding process, WCCA was the most qualified and the lowest bidder, but their contract rates increased by 15% due to fuel and maintenance costs. She added that in order to raise revenue, they need to increase the fares.

Municipal Issues:

Laurel Park – Barbeque and Blue Grass Event on Jump Off Rock sponsored by the Civic Association of Laurel Park. There will be a shuttle service to eliminate any traffic problems on the roads leading to Jump Off Rock.

Fletcher - St. John's Road project is finished, complete with all cuts.

City of H'ville. - In the process of acquiring easements for sidewalks along NC 191

Other Business:

Ms. Kumor mentioned the extreme curve and grade in a portion of Country Road in Hendersonville. She asked the Chairman if a letter could be submitted to NCDOT so they could evaluate whether the extreme bend in a section of that road would qualify for SPOT Safety Funds to consider realignment. Renee Kumor made a motion to send a letter to NCDOT regarding this matter and Keith Maddox seconded the motion. All members voted in favor.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:25 p.m.

Jim Crafton, Chairman
Henderson County Transportation Advisory Committee