

**Outer Banks Transportation Task Force  
Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee  
Draft Minutes  
March 17, 2006**

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Kermit Skinner at 9:00 a.m. in the Outer Banks Chamber of Commerce Office Building. In addition to Skinner, those present included Megan Gregory, Mary Helen Goodloe-Murphy, Bill Brobst, Greg Loy, Sue Cotellessa, John Walsh, Brian Willoughby and Seth Lawless. Mr. Lawless agreed to keep the minutes.

**Minutes** – Bill Brobst moved to approve the minutes from the February 17th meeting. The motion was seconded by Greg Loy and passed unanimously.

**Outer Banks Scenic Byway Committee** – Mary Helen Goodloe-Murphy representing the Scenic Byway Committee presented plans currently being developed for bike and pedestrian off road paths on NC 12 in several areas, including the area between South Nags Head and Coquina Beach, in Salvo from residential neighborhoods to retail businesses and on Hatteras Island. Public input is being gathered and the group hopes to make recommendations to the Dare County Commissioners in summer, 2006. Some challenges facing the group include the variation in NC D.O.T. right of way width from 60ft. to 100ft. in the proposed project areas, environmental concerns, and historic structures located along the route. The path would vary from 6ft. to 8 ft. wide depending upon available right of way. Ms. Murphy displayed aerial photos that included more detailed information regarding the location of the routes under consideration.

Ms. Murphy addressed financing the estimated \$1.2 million construction cost. The Outer Banks Visitor's Center has pledged a total of \$500,000 over five years toward the project. While matching funds have not yet been secured, the Committee has several fund raising ideas under consideration. Maintenance will be contracted out with monies generated from the sale of trail maps and groups that pledge to take care of designated, or "adopted" sections of the path. The entire plan will be available for public review at an Open House to be held April 1 at the Rodanthe, Waves, Salvo Community Building from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

**Mission Statement** – Chairman Skinner asked the group if any one had prepared thoughts on the Bike and Pedestrian Committee Mission Statement. Bill Brobst read a draft statement he prepared. General discussion ensued, and while several minor alterations were suggested, all agreed that Mr. Brobst had captured the essential elements of the Committee's purpose. Mr. Brobst offered to revise his draft and present it at the April 21 meeting. All agreed.

**Establishing Priorities** – A general discussion took place regarding the Committees priorities. The group consensus was that a narrow list of objectives should be targeted for completion by a given date. All agreed that creating a document that mapped existing

facilities and identified opportunities to link existing bike and pedestrian facilities with new paths was the top priority. The possibility of the Town governments co-sponsoring an intern to work on the project was discussed and agreed to by all. Sue agreed to try and locate an intern to work on the project.

**Review Existing and Planned Facilities** – Brian Willoughby from Currituck County, Seth Lawless from Nags Head and John Walsh from the National Park Service all presented maps of bike and pedestrian facilities with their respective jurisdictions and discussed planned routes not yet constructed. The Committee spent a good deal of time discussing the proposed new paths to be constructed by NPS on Ocracoke Island. Chairman Skinner asked all of those in attendance to send him electronic copies of mapped facilities.

**Adjournment** – Upon a motion by Greg Loy, seconded by John Walsh, the meeting adjourned at 11:00 a.m. Next meeting will be April 21, 2006.