

Minutes

Traffic Solutions Committee Transportation Task Force May 12, 2006

Kitty Hawk Town Hall

Attendance: Carl Classen (chairman); Cheryl Byrd; Gwenn Cruickshanks; Suzanne Godley; Jerry Jennings; Buster Nunemaker; Ken Pagurek; Robert Palombo; Dave Schindel; Joe Walter.

Mr. Classen called the meeting to order at 2:00 pm, thanked the Town of Kitty Hawk for allowing the meeting to be held in their facility, and thanked everyone for attending. He reviewed the agenda and, hearing no requests for amendment, he proceeded.

Transportation Planning: Mr. Classen reported that progress had been slow to build a geographic information systems (GIS) database of State and local transportation projects due to a lack of GIS-compatible information and a lack of existing staff time to work on the project. The Committee discussed mapping that was being done by the Bicycle/Pedestrian Committee, but the Traffic Solutions Committee need was for a broader level of data coordination – proposed projects; population trends, building permit issuance, traffic flows, and other factors necessitating transportation improvements. The Committee discussed the need for a regional transportation planner to provide data coordination and to keep track of /help coordinate State/local transportation projects -- but the Committee also noted the lack of funding/local organization for such a position.

Corridor Subcommittees: At the request of the Task Force leadership, Mr. Classen stated that the Committee had been asked to address and make recommendations on various transportation problem areas. After substantial discussion, the Committee reached a consensus to create corridor subcommittees to work on the following corridors:

- **North Beach/Currituck:** This corridor subcommittee would examine and make recommendations on the north beach transportation corridor (Kitty Hawk/Southern Shores to Virginia border) and mainland Currituck. The subcommittee would use the Task Force's ITRE report, the NCDOT on-going Parson's Brinkerhoff study, and other materials to make their recommendations. Cheryl Byrd agreed to lead this subcommittee. Bob Palumbo, Gwenn Cruickshanks, and Joe Walter agreed to assist and they mentioned other people who could assist.
- **Beach Road (NC12)/Bypass (US158):** This corridor subcommittee would focus on the Beach Road (NC12) and Bypass (US158) through Kitty Hawk, Kill Devil Hills and Nags Head and make recommendations for improvements. The Committee suggested that Task Force representatives from the three affected municipalities chose among themselves to appoint someone to co-chair this subcommittee. The Committee discussed how to coordinate with other

committees (e.g., bike/pedestrian; trolley) and with the many entities and organizations affected. Buster Nunemaker agreed to help lead this subcommittee and the Committee suggested additional names to help gain input from the many affected entities.

- **Colington Road:** Ken Pagurek agreed to lead this corridor subcommittee. Jerry Jennings, NCDOT, reviewed newly-released Colington Road improvement plans with the Committee but discussed funding problems facing this project. Ken Pagurek said he would help NCDOT obtain more local input on the plans.
- **Roanoke Island:** Suzanne Godley and Dave Schindel agreed to lead this corridor subcommittee. Suzanne gave an overview of the transportation planning that has been underway on Roanoke Island and how the funding agencies had involved many people and groups in the planning process. Suzanne Godley talked about the special signage and branding efforts that have been included in the Roanoke Island Task Force project. She said their report would be released soon. Mr. Classen asked that Suzanne give a report on the Roanoke Island Task Force report at the next Committee meeting.
- **Hatteras Island:** The Committee discussed transportation issues on Hatteras Island and suggested people who might serve on this corridor subcommittee.

The Committee also discussed problems (structural condition, funding, timing) with the Bonner Bridge over Oregon Inlet and with the Mid-Currituck Sound Bridge.

Work Program: The Committee discussed its work program and reiterated the need for a transportation planner to assist the State and local governments to jointly study existing and needed transportation systems and to help pull the various local entities together. The Committee would view the Roanoke Island Task Force report at its June 8 meeting, plus continue devilment of the subcommittee corridors.

Next Meeting: The Committee agreed to meet on the second Thursday of each month at 8:30 AM. The chairman will confirm the location.

The meeting adjourned at 3:45 pm.

Prepared by: Carl Classen