

# US 70 Corridor Commission



## COMMISSION SPECIAL MEETING

Thursday, March 4, 2010 @ 2:00 PM

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Gate Community Development Center,  
201 E Gordon Street  
Kinston, NC

1. Welcome – Introduction of New Participants
2. Update/Revisions to 5-Year County MOU
3. Discussion of Potential Executive Director Position
4. Review of Proposed 2010 Budget
5. Next Steps / Next Meeting

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*Next regular business meeting: March 18, 2010, Carteret County*

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### Meeting Notes

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*Next regular business meeting: March 18, 2010, from 2:00 - 4:00 p.m. at the **Center for Marine Sciences and Technology (CMAST)** building, Room 305, on the Carteret County Community College Campus, 3505 Arendell Street, Morehead City, NC*



## Minutes

- Chuck Allen - Welcome and Introductions
- “MOU”- Lee Smith went through changes from original agreement. Changes include:
  - 4 reps per county
  - Funding per county
  - Clarification of consultant agreement notification
  - Annual renewal
  - Membership of NCDOT and Ports- non voting
  - Year-to-year agreement
  - To be presented at March 18<sup>th</sup> meeting
- Wade - Is this an open meeting, publicized with contact to media?
- “Executive Director Position”- Lee Smith
  - Steve suggested bringing in Marc Finlayson in to talk with Commission at March 18<sup>th</sup> meeting
  - Jack- We need someone to represent us with NCDOT and Legislature
- 2009 Accomplishments- Lee Smith
  - Lee reviewed over 50 tasks and accomplishments (see attached)
  - Mike/KHA to send digital copy of accomplishments
- Steve will ask Marc Finlayson to March 18<sup>th</sup> meeting
- Tom Steepy and Jack met with Jim Trogdon. He asked us to look into an Executive Director to represent the commission’s interest.
- Jack met with BOT Reps (McNairy/Overholt/Tulloss). They suggested a smaller subset of commission to check into Executive Director to determine if our objectives are being met in Raleigh. They understand that US 70 is the economic engine for eastern North Carolina
  - Chairman has okayed the establishment of a subgroup of US 70 Commission
  - US 70 needs to be in direct contact with BOT member, Conti and Jim Trogdon to help push our agenda
  - New priorities for TIP projects will be established in April
  - With 4 military bases and deep-sea port and COTA as momentum
  - We need to be transparent
  - Need to establish 6 sections of US 70 between bypasses
  - No in-fighting
- Jack- we need to look at US 70 between US 17 Bridge to Thurman as one project
  - Subcommittee members- Steve, Wade, Stewart, Chuck, Tom
- Frank Price- The equity formula was used up by Clayton Bypass
- Chuck- we need to push our priorities into the 6-10 year prioritization plan
- Wade- with that plan, how is the subcommittee going to priorities on projects that are controversial
- Lee Smith- Priorities have been established
  - We need to push our priorities thru the pipeline and NCDOT

- Roadway priorities will be sent (PDF) to all US 70
- Russell- If we make a decision on an Executive Director in April, wont we miss the opportunity for TIP prioritization
- Rick- Where do the safety projects come from?
- Mike Rutkowski- There are several “Pots” of funding sources available (Example Spot Safety, Hazard Elimination, ETC). Each funding source has a specific requirement to justify a project
- Russell- Help us with the fact that we don’t know where the Kinston bypass is heading (i.e. North and South). US 70 and subcommittee needs to be sensitive to that
- Jack- We need to build a ribbon for commerce. This is our last chance. DOT has told us to push them
- Danny- Why was \$125 million spent on a foreign-owned GTP as opposed to putting it into US 70
- Rick Hester- Would like to revisit Johnston County priorities
  - Mike will contact Rick to meet
- Wade- There are only exceptions in Johnston
  - If there is a fatality
  - Or, if congestion is the problem
- Chuck- Send committee the DOT Priority List
- Russell- Do these plans have to go through full NEPA Assessment? What teeth do they have?
- Mike Rutkowski- Should we ask Mark Sutherland (MGTF) to March 18<sup>th</sup> meeting – yes Mike ask
- Lee- Asked that the US 70 Commission members endorse the \$25 thousand per county at March 18<sup>th</sup> meeting
- Russell- Request US 70 Representation at the next Lenoir County Transportation Commission Meeting- next Wednesday, March 10

# US 70 Corridor Commission

## 2009-2010 Accomplishments

### Part I: Meetings/Workshops/Presentations/Field Reviews

Typical reoccurring monthly activities facilitated by the Commission members and/or consultant include the following:

- Project administrative duties
- Website updates and maintenance
- Client communications for requests and questions
- Responses to citizen inquiries at project email address
- Coordination with NCDOT, local, and RPO contacts on project progress, status and meetings
- Continued development of Super 70 email list for citizens/public inquiries
- Continued design revisions to US 70 Access Management and Conceptual Freeway maps in preparation for US 70 Master Plan document; conversion of design data to GIS format

Specific monthly activities administered by the Commission members and/or the consultant are listed below:

#### January activities

- Coordination, preparation, travel, and attendance at US 70 Corridor Commission business meeting (01/27/09)
- Coordination with Wayne County on development on Keen property
- Coordination and document preparation on Legislative Breakfast and Governors Packets
- Development on Winter 09 commission newsletter
- Revisions to US 70 Access Management and Conceptual Freeway maps in preparation for US 70 Master Plan document

#### February activities

- Coordination with Wayne County and design work for development on private development property
- Coordination, document preparation, emails, invitations, and meetings on Legislative Breakfast and Governors Packet
- Continued design revisions to US 70 Access Management and Conceptual Freeway maps in preparation for US 70 Master Plan document

#### March activities

- Development of priority projects for stimulus package/legislative breakfast
  - Coordination, preparation, emails, logistics, attendance and wrap-up on Legislative Breakfast (3/11/09)
  - Coordination, preparation, emails, attendance and wrap-up on Commission business meeting in Morehead City (3/12/09)
  - Coordination with Lenoir representative Rhodes in preparation for his local cable interview on US 70 (3/18/09)
  - Coordination with Wayne County on grant application
  - Development of 2008-9 Commission accomplishments and 2009-10 Business plan
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- Preparation and meeting with Wilsons Mill mayor and planning board members on Wilsons Mill Rd interchange (3/19/09)

#### April activities

- Preparation and attendance at Wayne County Board of Commissioners meeting (4/07/09)
- Data entry and analysis for corridor crash data update for June 2007 – May 2008

#### May 2009 activities

- Preparation and revisions of meeting minutes for March 2009 business meeting
- Coordination, preparation, emails, attendance and wrap-up on Commission business meeting in Kinston (5/15/09)
- Coordination with Wayne County on rezoning application for site at US 70 and NC 581
- Coordination with Wayne County for Goldsboro MPO meeting

#### June 2009 activities

- Coordination with Carteret County and NC Ports authority on Gallants Channel bridge issues

#### July 2009 activities

- Finalized design revisions to US 70 Access Management and Conceptual Freeway maps in preparation for US 70 Master Plan document; conversion of design data to GIS format
- Coordination and preparation on Commission business meeting in New Bern

#### August 2009 activities

- Coordination, preparation, emails, attendance and wrap-up on Commission business meeting in New Bern (8/06/09)
- Assistance to Chairman to prepare for meetings with local officials and BOT members
- Coordination with Goldsboro staff in relation to LRTP development (8/13/09)

#### September 2009 activities

- Coordination with Wayne County officials on comments on Draft US 70 master plan mapping (9/30/09)
- Coordination calls with local officials and Chairman

#### October 2009 activities

- Work planning for 2010

#### November 2009 activities

- Coordination calls with local officials and Chairman
- Development of Craven County resolution
- Preparation, travel, attendance, and wrap-up for business meeting (11/12/09)

#### December 2009 activities

- Coordination with NCDOT and Havelock on US 70 median and NC 101 improvements

*Individual meetings requested by Counties and/or NCDOT to meet on specific development issues not included.*

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## **Part II: Projected Deliverables:**

Two (2) **US 70 Pilot Projects** were conducted by the US 70 Corridor Commission (in partnership with NCDOT) that focused on the retrofit (to freeway standards) of specific sections of the US 70 corridor. These project locations include:

- Kinston – NC 11/55 Square Loop Interchange
- James City – Williams and Airport Road Ramp-overs

The scope of the projects involved extensive public outreach and coordination with Steering Committee members, visualization techniques, traffic operations and environmental assessment, and alternative analysis and functional design plans. Each report and associated design plans were submitted to NCDOT as well as the US 70 Corridor Commission upon their completion.

**Note:** *each feasibility study document and design plans will be available on the US 70 Corridor Commission website [www.super70corridor.com](http://www.super70corridor.com) (as of March 5<sup>th</sup>). See “Corridor Projects” link.*

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